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REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE
AGENDA OF THE FORTY-FOURTH SESSION

OPERATION LIFELINE SUDAN

Note verbale dated 15 September 1989 from the Permanent
Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Sudan to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to request, in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Operation Lifeline Sudan" in the agenda of the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly for priority consideration by the Assembly in plenary.

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, an explanatory memorandum concerning my Government's request is attached hereto.

ANNEX

Explanatory memorandum

Operation Lifeline Sudan was officially launched in Khartoum during the first week of April 1989. The priority was given to the transport of emergency food and non-food items to all areas where civilians were facing potential starvation. Mr. James Grant, Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund, was appointed by the Secretary-General as his personal representative for Operation Lifeline Sudan and led the efforts in mobilizing the international community to support the plan of action for emergency assistance. The plan was agreed upon at a high-level meeting at Khartoum convened jointly by the Government of the Sudan and the United Nations on 8 and 9 March 1989.

The Governments of the Sudan, Kenya and Uganda, organizations of the United Nations system, the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Sudan People's Liberation Movement, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the donor community and many non-governmental organizations have contributed to the implementation of Operation Lifeline Sudan. The Government of the Sudan established a Ministerial Steering Committee to function as a policy-making body and a technical committee to review operational outputs and problems and to give direction to the operation. The total cost of Operation Lifeline Sudan envisaged in the plan of action is nearly \$US 133 million, of which \$77 million has been estimated as available. However, further requirements have been identified during the implementation process.

Although Operation Lifeline Sudan was envisaged to wind up by 31 October 1989, its emergency relief activities will continue during 1990 to enable displaced persons to become self-reliant. Thus, the second phase will be for rehabilitation with more emphasis on non-food items in order to achieve self-sufficiency in basic food production and provide essential social services to the displaced persons. The contribution of the donor community will be essential for the success of the rehabilitation programme.
