



Additional Ways Legislators Can Help the Darfur Region

The conflict in the Darfur region of Sudan has led to some of the worst human rights abuses imaginable, including systematic and widespread murder, rape, abduction and displacement. Hundreds of thousands of civilians have been killed by both deliberate and indiscriminate attacks, and over 2.5 million civilians have been displaced. Amnesty International USA encourages elected officials to:

- 1) Fully support peacekeeping operations in Darfur by providing an additional \$186 million to the PKO account, with transfer authority to CIPA, in the FY08 Senate Foreign Operations Appropriations bill.
- 2) Co-sponsor Senate Resolution 203, calling on the Government of China to use its unique influence and economic leverage to stop the violence in Darfur, Sudan.
- 3) Sign Amnesty International's global petition to: (1) set a timeline and benchmarks for the deployment of the AU-UN hybrid force in Darfur; (2) protect displaced civilians in neighboring eastern Chad and support a UN presence there; and (3) ensure sufficient support for AMIS and UN peacekeepers in Darfur.
- 4) Call China's Ambassador in Washington to encourage the Government of China to use its diplomatic influence to press the Government of Sudan to admit UN peacekeepers to join an AU-UN hybrid peacekeeping mission with a full protection mandate.
- 5) Contact the office of the UN Secretary General to direct his attention to the urgent plight of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Darfur, eastern Chad and northern Central African Republic, and encourage him to move forward with both the implementation of the AU-UN hybrid peacekeeping force in Darfur and a UN protection presence in eastern Chad.
- 6) Call Secretary of State Rice, Assistant Secretary Frazer, or Special Envoy Natsios to reemphasize the need for intensive diplomatic pressure on Khartoum, targeted sanctions (an assets freeze) against Sudanese officials and a comprehensive arms embargo in Sudan, and a timeline and benchmarks for phased implementation of the AU-UN hybrid force.
- 7) Call the Ambassador of the Government of Sudan to strongly encourage Sudan to admit UN peacekeepers into Darfur (under phase II) and agree to phase III of the AU-UN hybrid force.
- 8) Call the Ambassador of the Government of Chad to strongly encourage Chad to invite a UN presence to protect civilians in eastern Chad.
- 9) Make a statement in the Congressional Record calling for a verifiable timeline and benchmarks for UN peacekeepers to join a robust AU-UN hybrid peacekeeping force.
- 10) Include information on human rights concerns in Darfur, eastern Chad and northern CAR in newsletters that are mailed to constituents.