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# Introduction

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Dear Student Activist:

Thank you for joining the 10th Annual National Week of Student Action! We're excited that you've joined us, because Amnesty students have proven time and again how deeply you care for human rights in Darfur. The 2007 National Week of Student Action will demonstrate yet again how deeply students can make an important difference in this initiative.

Since 2003, the conflict in Darfur, Sudan has led to some of the worst human rights abuses imaginable, including systematic and widespread murder, rape, torture and displacement.

Recently the Government of Sudan agreed to back the UN plan that would allow peacekeeping forces to provide needed security in the region. But the plan has yet to be fully implemented. That's where YOU, the activist, come in. We need your voice and your activism to make this vision a reality. We can make a big impact on human rights in Darfur when we speak and act with one voice.

You, along with 1,500 plus groups and individuals, will tackle the issue of stopping human right abuses in Darfur. We hope this tool kit can be a starting point for your actions and activities during the week.

In this tool kit you will find:

Background information on the issue

- Actions to lobby your Congressional Representatives
- Ideas for activities to raise awareness
- Media guide
- Coalition building tips
- Tips on where to find more resources

We hope you will use the tool kit to take action and raise awareness on your campus and in your community. Please visit [www.amnestyusa.org/nwsa](http://www.amnestyusa.org/nwsa) for more information. The time to act is now!

Let's get it started!

National Student & Youth Program | National Youth Advisory Committee





# Getting Started

## WHY THE NATIONAL WEEK OF STUDENT ACTION (NWSA) IS IMPORTANT:

During the NWSA your group will join hundreds of other Amnesty International USA student groups working to make an impact on the situation in Darfur. By joining forces and voices, you and other student activists can generate the kind of noise and power that can not be ignored! While working on this issue you will also be helping to build the human rights movement by encouraging people to join your Amnesty group and educating people about the situation in Darfur and China's link to the crisis.

### 10 Steps to a Successful Week of Action Guide

THE FOLLOWING STEP-BY-STEP PLANNING GUIDE SHOWS YOU HOW TO ORGANIZE YOUR GROUP'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE NWSA.

#### Step 1 *Review the Resources*

This Organizing Kit includes all the basic information and materials you need to participate successfully in the NWSA. Take some time to review this kit and the materials online so you can feel knowledgeable about the crisis in Darfur, our plans for the week, and where you might find the tools and information you need. This kit and additional information can also be found online at [www.amnestyusa.org/nwsa](http://www.amnestyusa.org/nwsa)

#### Step 2 *Select Your Actions*

Because our main focus for the NWSA is to take action, your first step is to select how your group would like to implement the plan. Refer to the Take Action Section and check out the Action Planning Ladder for a list of all available actions, ranging from easy to medium, to challenging, you can choose depending on the amount of time and resources your group has available.

Remember, we have a chance to make a real impact if thousands of students participate, so it makes a difference even if your group can only do one thing.

#### Step 3 *Choose Additional Activities to Raise Awareness*

If your group can take on an additional challenge, choose one or more Activities to Raise Awareness (pages 18-23). The more comprehensive your approach to the issue, the better results you will get! Your group should also feel free to be creative and develop your own ideas.

## Step 4 *Involve Other Groups*

The NWSA is a great opportunity to include other student or community groups that are interested natural allies in your human rights work. Remember, if you want other groups to get involved and actively participate, you need to include them early enough so they can help develop ideas and plans. Check out the Coalition Building section (page 17) for more ideas.

## Step 5 *Set Goals*

Develop a set of goals for your week and activities. Include goals related to how you can have an impact on human rights issues and how this event can help build and strengthen your group.

Make sure you try to quantify your outcomes. Some examples include:

- Gather 500 signatures on your petition
- Motivate 100 students to participate in the call-in week to Congress
- Get 25 students to attend one of the rallies on March 30
- Get an article, editorial, or letter to the editor published in your school and local newspaper.

## Step 6 *Develop A Work Plan*

Develop a list of all the components and steps that will help you accomplish your goals. Then make clear assignments, designate who will be responsible for each aspect, and set clear deadlines. Some broad categories of items to cover are: Logistics, Outreach and Recruitment, Media, Tracking and Documentation, Evaluation and Follow-Up. Check out a sample workplan at: [www.amnestyusa.org\NWSA](http://www.amnestyusa.org\NWSA).

## Step 7 *Take Action!*

Once the Action Plan is complete and tasks are delegated, it's time to kick-off your great events! This is a week of action so make sure that you're vocal and visible on-campus, in the media, and with Congress as often as you can from March 26 to March 30.

## Step 8 *Evaluate and Celebrate!*

Once you have completed your action or event, evaluate how it went and use the information to improve future planning efforts. Also, don't forget to celebrate your accomplishments and thank those who helped make your week a success!

## Step 9 *Report Back*

Make sure your successes are counted along with those from schools around the country. Your work is not complete without reporting back to the National Student & Youth Program about what you accomplished during the National Week of Student Action. Complete the NWSA Report Back form online by April 15. Please send any digital photos to [youth@aiusa.org](mailto:youth@aiusa.org).

Send thank-you letters to all of the people who helped make your Week of Action a success: Senators and their staff who were responsive and helpful, teachers and faculty who helped facilitate, groups who partnered with you for the campaign, and especially all of your fellow students who helped.

Finally, take the extra steps to get new people involved in your group right away. Within two weeks of your events, contact the new people who attended and ask them to continue to stay involved. You should be clear about exactly what they can do next and why it is important, whether it's coming to your next meeting, collecting signatures on a petition, or helping plan your next event.

## NATIONAL WEEK OF STUDENT ACTION SUGGESTED TIMELINE

### One month before the National Week of Student Action

- Sign up online; encourage other groups and schools to sign up.
- Put the NWSA on your school's activity calendar (Week of March 26).
- Keep checking the NWSA website and blog for updates, activity ideas, etc.
- Contact other organizations on your campus and in your community that might like to work with your group on Darfur issues.
- Figure out if your group will be taking part in the March 30 rallies at the Chinese consulates.

### Three weeks before the National Week of Student Action: Week of March 5

- Plan which actions and activities your group will do.
- Get your school's permission for all events.
- Assign tasks and responsibilities to members of your group.
- Have members of your group sign up to be delegation leaders/ part of a delegation for the Washington and District Lobbying week.
- Reserve space for the movie night, a teach-in, and/or your chosen speaker.
- Scout out visible locations for any creative actions.

### Two weeks before the NWSA - Week of March 12

- Time your article or letter to the editor so that it runs during the NWSA.
- Start to publicize your events; make posters and flyers.
- Figure out the best way for your group to participate in the call-in week.
- Confirm your speaker; send her or him directions.
- Gather student support; get people excited about the event.
- Check in with your group to make sure everything is on target.

### One Week before the NWSA - Week of March 19

- Send media advisories to your local and campus newspapers.
- Confirm all of the rooms and spaces you reserved.
- Send invitations to your events.
- Write an article about Darfur for your school newspaper.
- Review your plans: are you ready?

# Background on Darfur

The conflict in Darfur, Sudan, has led to a human rights catastrophe of unimaginable proportions, including systematic and widespread murder, rape, abduction and displacement. Hundreds of thousands of civilians have been killed as a result of both deliberate and indiscriminate attacks, and more than 2.5 million civilians have been forced to flee their homes. The situation on the ground has worsened considerably over the past few months, with renewed violence, by the *Janjawid* militia and aerial bombing by the Sudanese military. Currently, the Government of Sudan is resisting the UN Security Council mandated peacekeeping operation that is desperately needed.

## Historic Roots of Conflict

- **Early in 2003**, two Darfur rebel groups, the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) and the Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) began an armed campaign against the Government of Sudan (GOS). JEM and SLM took up arms to fight against what they characterized as “extreme discrimination against the people of Darfur by the Sudanese Government.” These complaints evolved from long-standing socio-economic problems in Darfur (such as access to water and other resources)
- **By April 2003** full scale fighting had broken out and rebel groups gained ground against the government.
- **By Summer 2003** the government began pouring military resources into Darfur and surrounding areas, heavily arming *Janjawid* as paramilitary forces to quash the uprising.
- **By Spring 2004** the government-armed *Janjawid* gained the upper hand against Darfur rebel movements and thousands of people, mostly civilians, were killed, and over one million people were forcibly displaced.

## More than an Ethnic Conflict

- All sides of this conflict have committed human rights violations. However, the government-funded *Janjawid* forces have committed the most atrocities, including widespread kidnapping and rape of women and girls, the indiscriminate killing of civilians—including elderly men and young boys unable to take up arms—and the coordinated destruction of large swaths of Darfur through the use of terror tactics.
- Despite the ethnic/communal aspects of this highly complex conflict, it is important to note that it is a political and economic conflict, grounded primarily in historic socio-economic problems. By arming the *Janjawid* and unleashing them on the population of Darfur, the government is primarily responsible for this violence.

## Unrealized Peace and Insecurity

- **April 8 2006-Humanitarian Ceasefire Agreement** - This was the first attempt at peace, which was supposed to guarantee the delivery of humanitarian aid (food, water, shelter).
  - ❖ But the ceasefire fell apart quickly and fighting intensified. The number of displaced people and the number of people dependant on humanitarian aid ballooned into the millions and African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) was unable to guarantee the security of aid workers or civilians.
- In the meantime, neighboring Chad became a very dangerous place for more then 200,000 Darfuri refugees who had fled to Chad. Not only did the *Janjawid* begin launching attacks

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inside Chad, but Chadian rebels launched attacks there as well.

- This cross-border rebel activity further deteriorated the relationship between the Governments of Chad and Sudan, each accusing the other of supporting rebel movements in their countries.
- The Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA) May 5, 2006, was the international attempt at peace. Despite intensive negotiations, the DPA was signed by only one of the several main rebel groups.
  - ❖ The Government of Sudan intensified operations against the remaining rebel groups, further worsening the security situation in Darfur and making humanitarian aid provision exceptionally difficult, in certain areas impossible.

### **Considered The Worst Humanitarian Crisis in the World.**

- Aid organizations have frequently been forced to interrupt operations or stop them altogether in response to the kidnapping and killing of aid workers, the stealing of provisions by *Janjawid* forces and the Darfur rebel groups, and the persistent administrative harassment of aid workers and organizations by the Government of Sudan.
- In an attempt to open up the conflict to international aid, the UN Security Council (UNSC) passed Resolution 1706, which calls for the deployment of a UN force to protect civilians, provide access to humanitarian aid workers, and to monitor a ceasefire.
- The Government of Sudan immediately rejected UNSC Resolution 1706 and has since refused to allow the deployment of any UN force. Instead, it intensified military operations in Darfur, bombing villages and indiscriminately attacking civilians as well as rebel non-signatories of the DPA.
- Despite Sudanese President Bashir's stonewalling, then UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan was able to negotiate a compromise to allow a joint UN-AU hybrid force in Darfur. Bashir agreed in principle, but specifics regarding troop numbers, command and control responsibility, and a timeline were not resolved.
- On December 31, 2006 a major deadline passed. Both UNSC Resolution 1706 and U.S. Government officials, particularly Presidential Special Envoy Andrew Natsios had indicated that the UN force must reach Darfur by this date.
- Implementation of the hybrid force agreed to in December was to progress in three phases. As of mid-February only phase I (the so-called "light support package," including advisors and some logistical assistance) has been partially implemented. It is believed that phase II (the so-called "heavy support package" of some thousands of UN personnel and greater logistical support) will not be full implemented until May or June at the current rate. This means that the full UN force of some 20,000 additional peacekeepers and police (phase III) is not expected until at least the end of summer 2007. Such lengthy delays are unacceptable considering the enormity of the conflict and the desperation of millions of Darfuri (and now Chadian) civilians.
- So another option is also being considered. A second UN assessment mission is due to return to New York City in mid-late February to offer recommendations for a possible peacekeeping mission in Chad. But the mandate, troop numbers and contributors, and funding for such a mission are all still to be determined.

## Talking Points

The points below will prove useful as you talk with people about the importance of UN peacekeepers in Darfur, and China's influence in making this happen.

### 1 There is a humanitarian and human rights crisis in Darfur.

- For more than four years (since 2003) the Government of Sudan and its proxy militias (known as the *Janjawid*) have carried out a devastating war against civilians in Darfur, western Sudan. Rebel groups (including the Sudanese Liberation Movement, Justice Equality Movement and the National Redemption Front) have also committed atrocious human rights violations. All told, these warring parties have claimed the lives of 300,000-400,000 civilians and displaced upward of 2.5 million more.
- Women have paid a tremendous price—suffering mass rape and other forms of sexual violence, as well as mass displacement, abduction and killing targeting the entire population.
- Some four million Darfuris (an estimated two-thirds of the total population) have no access to humanitarian assistance at this time.
- The conflict has poured over the border into Chad (with more than 100,000 displaced) and the Central African Republic (with some 50,000 displaced).

### 2 The most important step toward resolving this crisis is bringing security to Darfur.

- The African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) has provided the only barrier between Darfuri civilians and all warring parties, but with only 7,000 troops AMIS has been unable to provide adequate protection to civilians or humanitarian workers.
- For this reason the United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 1706 authorizing more than 20,000 UN peacekeepers in Darfur by the end of 2006.
- This deadline has passed.
- Getting UN troops on the ground is the most important thing we can do for the people of Darfur.

### 3 At the same time we must ensure access and funding for humanitarian operations assisting the most vulnerable in Darfur.

- The U.S. and the international community must provide adequate funding for refugees and internally displaced peoples, and all vulnerable groups in Darfur.
- The Government of Sudan must be pressed to ensure free access for humanitarian operations, human rights workers and journalists in Darfur.

### 4 Although United Nations Security Council Resolution 1706 and other agreements have approved a UN peacekeeping presence in Darfur, the Government of Sudan continues to block UN action.

- Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir continues to obstruct the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1706 and all efforts to place significant numbers of UN peacekeepers on the ground in Darfur
- In November, then UN Secretary General Kofi Annan negotiated an agreement in Abuja, Nigeria for the creation of a hybrid African Union /United Nations (AU/UN)force to which Bashir agreed *in principle*.
- Since that time Phase I of three phases of that agreement has been partially implemented, but there are serious concerns that Phase II (to add hundreds of UN advisors and critical equipment to the AU/UN force) will be significantly delayed.

- Sudanese government officials are blocking UN peacekeepers in Darfur in part because they are afraid that UN peacekeepers may collect physical evidence to support the arrest of Sudanese officials under International Criminal Court indictments.

## 5 **The United States plays a big role in getting UN boots on the ground in Darfur.**

- To date the U.S. Congress and the Bush administration have provided significant financial assistance for humanitarian operations and peacekeeping in Darfur, but it is not yet enough.
- The U.S. must exert more consistent diplomatic pressure on Khartoum, as well as U.S. allies who are also key economic and political partners of Khartoum.
- The U.S. Government championed UN Security Council Resolution 1706 and the Darfur Peace Agreement.
- President Bush appointed Ambassador Andrew Natsios as his Special Envoy for Sudan in September 2006. Mr. Natsios recently visited Beijing to discuss China's influence in Darfur.

## 6 **Khartoum's economic and political allies have enormous influence as well.**

- These allies include the African Union and Arab League partners such as Egypt, Yemen, Morocco, Djibouti, Jordan and Qatar.
- They also include UN Security Council members China and Russia, whose investments in Sudan's oil industry and other economic projects have filled the gap left by U.S. sanctions, minus any human rights conditions.
- Although Khartoum would prefer U.S. oil industry technology, it has become heavily dependent on China.

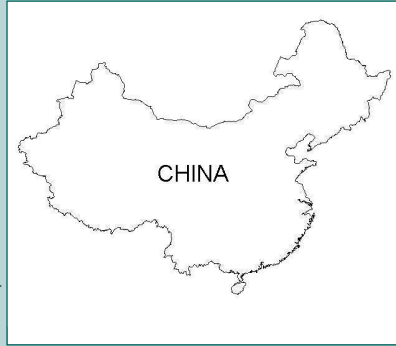
## 7 **China is one of Khartoum's most important economic allies.**

- China could exert significant influence on Khartoum to admit UN peacekeepers into Darfur.
- But China's main action regarding Darfur was to insist on a provision in UN Security Council Resolution 1706 that called for Khartoum to invite UN peacekeepers into Darfur (which it wasn't going to do).
- However, as the months have passed and Sudanese military and militia violence has only escalated in Darfur, the Government of China seems to be changing its position.
- China supported UN Secretary General Kofi Annan's compromise agreement on a hybrid force in November 2006.
- Actor George Clooney, Olympic champion Joey Cheek, and Andrew Natsios and others have visited Beijing pleading for Chinese support for UN peacekeepers in Darfur. Members of the U.S. Congress (encouraged by their Amnesty International USA constituents) have been emailing, writing and calling the Embassy of China in Washington, DC.
- All indications are favorable that China may do the right thing.

## 8 **We must continue to encourage China to press Khartoum to allow UN peacekeepers into Darfur.**

## Why Target China?

China is the leading foreign investor in Sudan, with an annual trade value of roughly \$1 billion. In the past several years, China has developed a number of oil fields, built a 900 plus mile pipeline, as well as a refinery and a port. Sudan represents



China's largest overseas investment, worth at least \$3 billion, and Sudan is the third largest supplier of oil to China.

China's trade in oil with Sudan has close connections with arms dealing. Many of the helicopter gunships used by Khartoum were purchased from China using expected revenues from oil extracted in South Sudan. Amnesty International has documented the effect of China's arms exports to Sudan, noting that Chinese equipment has been used by the Government of Sudan and *Janjawid* in operations in Darfur [AI Index: ASA 17/030/2006, June 2006].

In addition to the enormous effects of China's arms deals with Sudan, China, as the key trading partner of Sudan, is in a unique position to affect the atrocities in Darfur. UN Security Council Resolution 1706, which called for the deployment of UN peacekeepers to replace the isolated and ineffective African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) was not supported by China which, along with fellow permanent member Russia and rotating member Qatar, abstained from the vote. The result was a mixed message to Khartoum about the international community's commitment to finding a viable security arrangement for the people of Darfur and eastern Chad.

It is incumbent upon China, as much or more than any other international actor, to do all it can to address the tragedy in Darfur and Chad. As a key supplier of arms and funds to the Khartoum government, it is especially responsible for continued violence in Darfur at the hands of the Government of Sudan and the *Janjawid*. Further, by virtue of its close relationship with the Government of Sudan China is one of only a few actors that can exert pressure to end the targeting of civilians in Darfur, and fulfill commitments Khartoum has made to disarm the *Janjawid* and adhere to its responsibility to protect civilians in Sudan.

While China has generally chosen to support its allies in Khartoum over human rights in Darfur, as time has passed, and Sudanese military and *Janjawid* violence has only escalated, indications are that the Government of China is changing its position. With its growing economic status come demands on China to live up to its new position as a world leader, and there are signs it is beginning to take its international image more seriously. These include a growing frustration with Khartoum's unwillingness to end its blatant human rights violations. It seems that Beijing is worried about guilt by association in Darfur and China's President Hu Jintao is losing patience with Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir.

In November 2006, China supported then Secretary General Kofi Annan's compromise agreement on a hybrid (AU/UN) force in Darfur. In late January Hu visited Bashir in Khartoum.

China thus far, however, has not shown a commitment to ending the atrocities in Darfur and eastern Chad. The international community and those concerned with the plight of civilians in Darfur must encourage China to fulfill its obligations as a responsible world power and, through its unique relationship with the Government of Sudan, take all possible steps to secure a viable peacekeeping operation to protect the people of Darfur.

— Taking Action- You Can Make a Difference! —

The week of March 26-30 is our national call in week, you and students across the nation will make a collective push

to

convince your Senators and Representative to urge the Government of China to support human rights in Sudan.

Please join us in this collective effort.

Call (202) 224-3121

**We need to take action now!**



If you need any help with any of your activities please don't hesitate to contact the National Student and Youth Program office. You can e-mail us at [youth@aiusa.org](mailto:youth@aiusa.org) or visit our website at [www.amnestyusa.org/nwsa](http://www.amnestyusa.org/nwsa). You can also receive help from your local area field organizers by calling 1-866-A-REGION or your local student area coordinators (SAC) by emailing [ncac@aiusa.org](mailto:ncac@aiusa.org).

# ACTION PLANNING LADDER

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## LEVEL 1

Any of these Actions will take a mere **15 minutes** of your time.

- Distribute flyers and fact sheets to tell your classmates about human rights in Darfur.
- Write a letter to your Congressional Representative and Senators.
- Participate in Amnesty's Online Actions on Darfur.

## LEVEL 2

Requires a bit more time, planning and resources — **approximately 2-4 hours**.

- All of the Activities in Level 1, plus,
- Host a film night.
- Participate in the Darfur Call-in Week.
- Host an educational table.
- Host a vigil with other groups on Darfur.

## LEVEL 3

Requires significant planning — **approximately 5-10 hours**.

- All of the Activities in Levels 1 and 2 and,
- Host a teach-in or arrange for a speaker (speaker's list available at the NWSA homepage).
- Participate in the Washington and District Lobbying Week.
- Get 15-50 others to write letters to their Members of Congress.
- Create an informational display board at your library or community center.
- Get your group to attend the March 30th rallies at Chinese consulates nationwide and the Chinese embassy in Washington.
- Develop and implement a creative action such as a Guerrilla Theater event on your campus. Check out the NWSA website for more information, and ideas.

Amnesty's Legislative Coordinators are available to assist you with your lobbying plans and to help you coordinate with other groups during the National Week of Student Action. Most states have one Legislative Coordinator who is responsible for conducting and facilitating legislative activities in the whole state.

### *How do I get in touch with my Legislative Coordinator (L.C.)?*

Call your Regional Office toll free at 1-866-A-REGION. Regional office staff can connect you with your state's L.C. and answer any other questions you may have.

### *What do Legislative Coordinators (L.C.s) do?*

L.C.s work with Amnesty's professional legislative advocates in Washington, D.C., other volunteers, and staff to achieve AIUSA's legislative goals. They can provide information, advice, and training on working with members of Congress. They can also help you coordinate your group's legislative agenda and work with other groups in your congressional district and state.

## Letter to China

President Hu Jintao  
People's Republic of China  
Xhongnanhai, Xichengqu, Beijing  
People's Republic of China

Dear President Hu:

I am deeply concerned about the continued suffering of civilians in Darfur, Sudan and eastern Chad. The Government of China is not yet adequately using its considerable influence in Sudan to resolve the human rights catastrophe in Darfur. I therefore urge the Government of China to take immediate steps to help protect these vulnerable people.

As you know, the conflict in the Darfur region of western 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 more than 2.5 million civilians have been displaced. Humanitarian assistance is frequently blocked and aid workers increasingly threatened, leaving some one million civilians without any access to relief.

The conflict has also spread to eastern Chad, and parts of the Central African Republic, where insecurity is creating new humanitarian disasters. Tens of thousands have been forced to leave their homes and aid organizations face grave risks to operate in such insecure environments. Refugees and internally displaced people are vulnerable to attacks and recruitment by armed groups in camps and settlements established for their protection.

I therefore urge you to bear the responsibility of a world leader to respect and actively work to protect human rights in Darfur.

Thank you for your urgent consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

*[Your Name]*  
*[Address, including city and state]*



## China Should Support Human Rights in Darfur

Dear President Hu:

We, the undersigned, are deeply concerned about the continued suffering of civilians in Darfur, Sudan, and eastern Chad. We therefore strongly urge the Government of China to take steps to protect these vulnerable people. The Government of China is not yet adequately using its considerable influence to end this human rights catastrophe in Darfur. The conflict in the Darfur region of western Sudan and eastern Chad 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 more than 2.5 million civilians have been displaced. We urge China to bear the responsibility of a world leader to respect and actively work to protect human rights in Darfur.

Name

Address

City, State

Signature

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Please mail completed petitions to: "China Should Support Human Rights in Darfur" Amnesty International USA, 600 Pennsylvania Ave SE, 5th Floor, Washington DC 20003 or fax to 202-546-7142.

## Participate in Amnesty International's Darfur Call In Week March 26 - 30!

We need your help to call both of your Senators and your Representative and ask them to press the Government of China to support human rights in Sudan.

*Janjawid* and Sudanese Government offensives targeting rebel groups and civilians in North, West and South Darfur have claimed the lives of hundreds of thousands and displaced over 2.5 million. Millions of Darfuri civilians are still facing grave risk every day. For some one million of them humanitarian access is cut off completely.

Urge your Senators and Representative today to press China to help ensure the safety of civilians in Darfur. Leave a message or speak to a congressional staffer using the following talking points. You can reach all Senators and Representatives by calling (202) 224-3121 and asking to be connected with their office. Once connected, you can ask to speak with or leave a message for the staffer who handles African foreign policy. Always remember to be polite.

### TALKING POINTS:

- My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am a constituent of [*your elected officials' name*]. I am calling to strongly urge [*your elected officials' name*] to actively want to protect civilians in Darfur.
- The conflict in the Darfur region of western 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, more than 2.5 million civilians have been displaced.
- I ask specifically that you call the Ambassador of the Government of China to urge China to take an active role in protecting civilians in Sudan. I am concerned that the Government of China is not adequately using its considerable economic influence in Sudan to end the human rights catastrophe in Darfur.
- I also urge you to take every possible step to protect civilians in Darfur (including support for robust international peacekeeping, peacekeeper funding, humanitarian assistance, and strong diplomatic efforts to protect civilians).
- I would appreciate you letting me know how you intend to address this issue.

Have additional questions? Call Amnesty International's Washington DC office at (202)544-0200.

### CALL YOUR U.S. SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVEJ15

You can reach all Senators and Representatives by calling (202)224-3121. For a list of your congressional representation please visit [www.house.gov/welcome.shtml](http://www.house.gov/welcome.shtml).

## Lobbying Tips (The ABCs of Contact with Members of Congress)

Amnesty International activists are natural advocates because they are dedicated and well informed. By following a few simple rules, you can achieve great results, just as thousands of other Amnesty International activists like you have. Make no mistake, to change U.S. policy — to do battle with the bureaucracy and the high-priced lobbyists of foreign governments — is hard work. Don't be intimidated or discouraged.

### THE ABCs OF CONGRESSIONAL CONTACTS

We'll be asking Representatives and Senators to press China to use its significant influence in Sudan to help protect civilians in Darfur. In order for us to be successful in enlisting the aid of your elected officials, you'll need to be committed to following up with their offices (and they'll often need several courteous reminders to move them from just being informed to actually taking action). Following these ABCs will help.

#### PLEASE BE

**ACCURATE:** To build a working relationship and get action, you need to be a credible source of information. Never bluff. If you don't know something, just say so. Tell them you will find out and get back to them. Call Amnesty's Grassroots Lobbying office in Washington, DC for help finding the answers at (202) 544-0200. This is a great opportunity to demonstrate to your legislator's staff person that you will follow up!

**Brief:** Members of Congress and their staff are incredibly busy (and so are you). Most Members of Congress represent over 600,000 people. They appreciate it when you get to your main point and respect their time. Because your meeting or call might be interrupted, get to your main request in the first few minutes. Also, remember that many staffers are already very knowledgeable about Darfur and may not need your whole presentation.

**Courteous:** Always, always be courteous. A "How are you?" after the initial hello works wonders! On the other hand, being abrasive is almost always counterproductive, and it provides a good excuse to ignore your request.

In addition to the above ABCs, remember the following:

#### GAUGE THEIR INTEREST

Make an effort to learn your Representative or Senators depth of interest and match your requests to their level of interest. You may need to begin with an easy initial request. Ask them to write a letter. If they do, write your own letter to the local papers saying how much you appreciated their efforts and call the staffer to express your thanks. The next time you may be calling to ask them to do even more.

#### BE SPECIFIC

In your communications with Members of Congress, make a point to mention your specific request, and also let them know that you are a constituent.

#### BE PERSISTENT

If you find that the staff you need to speak with are out of the office, leave a message for them with your name and number. If they don't return your call within two to three days, then call again. Keep track of your calls, but remember that they are very busy so it's important not to call too frequently.

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## The ABCs of Follow-up

After meeting with a Member of Congress or staff from their office, keep in mind the following additional ABCs:

**Appreciate:** Thank your elected official for listening to your concerns, especially if they take action. Commend them publicly with letters to the editor or items in newsletters. (Be sure to share these with their staff.)

**Build a relationship:** Get the name of the staff person you speak to and try to speak with the same person each time. Remember that if your elected officials are helpful and you praise them publicly, next time they may help even more. The ultimate goal is to build a positive, long-term relationship.

**Coordinate:** Work with other Amnesty International groups in your district (or throughout your state if you are contacting a Senate office) and with other non-governmental organizations as appropriate. (Individuals belonging to other organizations in the Save Darfur Coalition would be fine). Please be sure to use Amnesty talking points in meetings.) Make sure to fill out an Amnesty International Member of Congress Meeting Debrief Form at: (<http://www.amnestyusa.org/debrief>) and return it to the Amnesty International Washington DC office so that we know how your meeting went, and can help coordinate future efforts.

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## Lobby Congress to Pressure China to Protect Civilians in Darfur

The United States Government continues to have enormous influence in the world and since you are participating in Amnesty International's National Week of Student Action in the United States, you are in an incredibly powerful position to help spark change. By enlisting the help of the two U.S. Senators in your state and the Representative for your congressional district you can magnify your voice by many times.

Through your elected officials, you have an opportunity to really make an impact! Use it. During the week of April 9-13, we'll engage U.S. elected officials to enlist their help to protect civilians in Darfur. Amnesty International has the resources to help you learn how to work with your elected officials most effectively to press China to use its significant influence in Sudan to protect civilians in Darfur.

Learn more and sign up to be on a lobbying delegation here:  
<http://darfur.amnestyusa.org>

## Save the Date: Friday, March 30 Urge China to Help Protect Civilians in Darfur!

**What:** Start gathering your local student groups together to plan for a rally at your nearest Chinese Embassy or Consulate. It's time to urge China to do its part to protect civilians in Darfur, Sudan.

**Why:** China is the leading foreign investor in Sudan, with an annual bilateral trade of roughly \$1 billion. This means China has the potential to exert significant economic and diplomatic influence on the Government of Sudan — a government that continues to resist international pressure to admit a United Nations peacekeeping force into Darfur. As the most important step to resolving this crisis, peacekeepers are critical to bringing security and protection to civilians and humanitarian workers in Darfur. China is in a unique position to press the Government of Sudan to stop targeting civilians in Darfur, fulfill its commitments to disarm the *Janjawid*, and to adhere to its responsibility to protect civilians throughout Sudan.

While China has generally chosen to support its allies in the Government of Sudan over human rights in Darfur, as time has passed and the violence has escalated, indications are that the Government of China is changing its position. If we can keep up the pressure, all indications are favorable that China will pick up its pressure on the Government of Sudan to allow UN peacekeepers into Darfur.

**Tell China: It's time to protect civilians in Darfur!**

**Where:** Rally outside the Chinese Embassy in Washington, DC or Consulates in:

Chicago • [Houston](#) • Los Angeles • [New York](#) • San Francisco

**Contact:** E-mail any questions to [youth@aiusa.org](mailto:youth@aiusa.org) and stay tuned for more details.

## Tips for Coalition Building

The NWSA is a great opportunity to join/include other student and community groups in working to end human rights abuses in Darfur. This will not only be an opportunity to reach out to groups that might be natural allies in your human rights work, but also to meet new groups with whom you have yet to work.

Below are strategies and tips to get you on your way.

- **Brainstorm** a list of groups who might be interested in working with you on this issue.
- **Develop a strategy** for inviting them to join you in the very beginning stages of your planning. Think about how your work might appeal to their organization's own interests. Remember - if you want other groups to get involved and actively participate, you need to include them early enough so they can help be an active and real participant in developing ideas and plans. Find out whether anyone in your group has existing contact or access to the group. Also, be sure there is discussion about a long-term partnership with the organizations. Organizations don't want to feel that you are only reaching out to them to satisfy your own goals and will discontinue your relationship once your goals are fulfilled or your project has ended.
- **Make contact** by having a member of your group meet with a representative of the other group. Be clear and upfront about your expectations, and also remember to listen to their interests and expectations.

Once you clearly understand the nature of the collaboration, you can begin working on the **Action Plan!**

**When carrying out your plan, keep in mind these important tips:**

**Be specific:** When defining your goal and planning your task, try to be as specific as possible. For example, instead of saying "I will keep you updated," say "I will call you by 7p.m. tonight to let you know." That way, everyone has concrete expectations, which are easier to fulfill than more general ones.

**Assign responsibilities:** Help everyone fulfill their potential by making sure everyone has tasks to do. After each meeting, make sure that tasks are divided according to each person's abilities and interest.

**Establish a budget and deadlines:** This will give concrete dimensions to your project. Decide the budget as soon as possible, and determine which group is responsible for which portion. Then, set a timeline and refer to it regularly throughout your work.

**Maintain communication:** Keeping all participating groups updated and involved in the decision-making process is key to collaboration. Remember that one of the advantages to working with other groups is that it can multiply resources.

**Celebrate/evaluate together after the project:** Congratulate each other for having accomplished your project! In evaluating your work, here are a few questions to think about: were your expectations met? What lessons might you take away from this experience? Would you collaborate with the group on another project? If yes, remember to keep in touch for future collaborations.

For more tips and information, visit the activist tool kit at:  
[http://www.amnestyusa.org/activist\\_toolkit](http://www.amnestyusa.org/activist_toolkit)

# Activities To Raise Awareness

- ▶ **AT EVERY EVENT MAKE SURE THAT YOU:**
- Have a sign-in sheet. Follow up with people and invite them to other NWSA events and to join your group.
  - Have NWSA actions for people to take at your event. Have your petition and letters to Congress available, and provide fact sheets to go along with both.
  - Keep a camera handy to record your event and share with your regional office.
  - Promote youth membership! Urge participants to help make a change and join AIUSA as dues paying members for only \$15.00.

▶ **HOST AN INFORMATIONAL TABLE**

This is one of the many great ways to educate your classmates about human rights in Darfur. Tabling can also provide students with an opportunity to get involved. You can set up tables before, during, or after school, outside of dining halls or the cafeteria, the student union, school library, or any place where students gather. (You may need to get permission beforehand.)

## Table Setup:

- Check to see if you need to reserve a table.
- The appearance of the table should invite passers-by to stop and check it out.
- Make sure people can see that it is an Amnesty International table.
- It is important to create a “self help” space where people can walk up and easily find a general Amnesty International brochure and a clear example of Amnesty’s work (a petition or postcard with background information).
- Use music or video to draw attention to your table. Show the short version of the Amnesty membership video or play music .
- Don’t be afraid to approach people who walk by – tell them who you are and ask if they want to learn more about Darfur.

▶ **HOST A MOVIE NIGHT**

(See page 20 for more information)

▶ **HOST A TEACH-IN**

This is a great way to inform people about an issue and provide them with opportunities to take action. Hold your teach-in at a school, college, house of worship, or community center that provides an educational, informal, and accessible setting. Once you have secured a time and a place, begin to plan the program. Decide who will be facilitating and/or speaking at the event. Figure out the best way to convey the importance of the need to protect civilians in Darfur. Make the teach-in as interactive as possible; people will respond better to your message when they are personally involved. Don’t forget to plan on distributing informational handouts that are useful, both as a take-home guide and as a resource list for participants. This will ensure that your participants will continue to actively support human rights in Darfur after your event. Visit: [http://www.amnestyusa.org/activist\\_toolkit/planevents/teachin.html](http://www.amnestyusa.org/activist_toolkit/planevents/teachin.html) for more tips and tools for hosting a successful teach-in.

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▶ **HOST A VIGIL**

Vigils are a powerful way to get your message out to students. It is also a great way to get the attention of the media. Decide upon a specific focus about human rights in Darfur you would like to talk about and then find a speaker to educate the public about your focus. You may want to connect with your regional Amnesty International field organizer and student area coordinator (SAC) to organize this event.

▶ **CHALK**

Want to grab attention on Darfur? Use fluorescent colors of sidewalk chalk on the ground to grab your classmates' attention. Use the ground as if it were an empty flyer and fill it up with facts, information, and where to go to take action. Refer to the background pages for facts and information. Make sure you get permission first (if needed)!

▶ **HOST AN OPEN MIC/POETRY SLAM**

*(You may want to include your SAC and/or regional office on this.)*

An open mic/poetry slam is an excellent way to end a week of action and reach a diverse audience. Keep things fun by integrating music and art. Encourage people to share their voice and opinion, but also allow people to perform the work of others, like reciting a favorite poem or singing a popular song. Have action materials readily available. Take advantage of the various intermissions to share and present facts about the situation in Darfur. Make sure you advertise. Be sure to reach out to students and groups interested in the performing arts and multiculturalism. You can also set up an informational table where people can take action and learn more about your group.

▶ **SET UP AN "EXPRESS YOURSELF" BULLETIN BOARD**

Obtain some wall space on campus and design a bulletin board that will feature Amnesty's Human Rights work in Darfur. You could include action items, a copy of an urgent action, and/or NWSA posters and stickers. Make sure to include contact information for your group as well as information about other events that are happening that week. Make a section where individuals can post their thoughts and opinions about Darfur. For example, "stop the abuses," "stand up and make some noise," etc.

▶ **HOST A SPEAKER**

Invite someone to come speak to students about Darfur. Speakers could include, but not be limited to: professors, students who have studied the issue, a local activist or official, or anyone who has a story to tell about their experience with Darfur and the need for action. Allow them to create their own presentation (but do let them know what you would like it to include) and encourage a question and answer period at the conclusion of their speech. Feel free to host multiple speakers, as a panel or as individuals, and remember to thank them after the event.

Your field organizer and/or SAC will be able to put you in touch with someone who can speak in your area, as well as help guide you along in this process. Visit <http://www.amnestyusa.org/nwsa> for a list of potential speakers.

## Movie Guide

### Host your own *On Campus Film Festival* movie screening

A film screening is a fun and interesting way to educate others about the crisis in Darfur. It provides you with a concerned audience to whom you can explain Amnesty's goals and actions. Best of all, much of the educational work is done for you thanks to the film you will be showing!

#### **About the film** — *Darfur Diaries: Message From Home*

*Darfur Diaries* is a 57 minute documentary that captures the lives of civilians and fighters resisting the Sudanese Government. These include child soldiers, teachers, students, parents, children, and other Darfur civilians. The film focuses on these people's experiences, fears, expectations, and hopes for a better future. It shows interviews and shots of different regions of Darfur that have been attacked by *Janjawid* militia forces. This film allows viewers to gain a better understanding of the conflict in Darfur.

**Where to obtain a copy** — *Darfur Diaries: Message From Home* is available online, at your local video stores, and in your local libraries. Check with stores and groups in your area to learn where you can obtain a copy.

### How to Conduct Your On Campus Film Festival Movie Screening

- 1 Choose a time and place for the movie screening that is most accessible for your audience.** A place that has a more sociable atmosphere and comfortable chairs than a classroom is ideal. Remember to set aside time at the event to introduce Amnesty and our goals and actions for Darfur.
- 2 Advertise:** Get the word out through flyers and posters or announcements at assemblies. You could also put an announcement in the campus newspaper. Make sure you announce the event at least a week in advance. When describing the event be sure to tell people there will be discussion and an opportunity to take action afterwards.  
*Tip: The promise of food, even something simple like popcorn or cookies, always brings a bigger crowd.*
- 3 Setting up the event:** Make sure you have a sign-in sheet near the entrance. After the event email or call those who came with information about other NWSA events or Amnesty in general. Set up a table with fact sheets, the petition, and letters to Congress that your audience can write. Have a camera to record the event and take pictures to send to your members of Congress. Also include some general information about Amnesty and how to join.
- 4 Introduction and screening:** Once everyone has arrived; start with a short spiel about Amnesty International and the National Week of Student Action. Because this film was not made by Amnesty International, it is important to give a brief introduction to the film that tells your audience how it fits in with Amnesty's goals and actions concerning Darfur and human rights in general. Following is a sample introduction that you can read at the beginning of the evening to introduce the film.

## Sample Introduction

### [*Darfur Diaries: Message From Home*]

The conflict in Darfur, mainly between Sudanese Government sponsored *Janjawid* militias, and the local population began in 2003. Since that time, hundreds of thousands of civilians have lost their lives due to the conflict and over 2.5 million civilians have been displaced.

The government of Sudan is currently resisting desperately needed UN peacekeepers in Darfur. Concerned citizens around the world are demanding UN troops in Darfur immediately for the protection of civilians.

The movie you are about to see, *Darfur Diaries: Message From Home*, takes you into the land of Darfur. You will come face to face with displaced civilians who are struggling to get through each day. You will see images of burned homes and the destruction of villages. This film will discuss the horrible atrocities that many Darfuri civilians have had to face, including, murder, rape, widespread violence and abduction.

*Darfur Diaries: Message From Home* was filmed in October, 2004 by a team of independent film makers, Aisha Bain, Jen Marlowe, and Adam Shapiro. The film spotlights, Darfuris whom the filmmakers met. These people have lived through devastating loss, but still possess strength and hope for a better future.

After the film there will be an opportunity for you to ask questions and we will have a brief discussion. If you have to leave early please remember to sign a letter and leave it here before you go.

**5 Discuss the film:** Tie the film and its subject matter to the crisis in Darfur. Allow your audience to ask questions and share their thoughts and reactions to the film. If you have a large group, try to divide into smaller groups of 4-6 people to allow each person the opportunity to speak and be heard.

Once you have finished talking over initial reactions you can move on to some more structured discussion questions. You can choose to do these either as one large group or in smaller groups before coming back to the larger group at the end. The questions are a only a guide; feel free to add your own questions. Also you should not worry too much if you don't get to all the questions or even most of the suggested questions. The important thing is to facilitate discussion and get people thinking about Darfur.

#### Discussion Questions

You can start out by asking a few general questions

- How did the film affect you?
- What scenes and images stand out as you think back over the film?
- The film reveals a lot of information about the crisis in Darfur. Which parts struck you as new or important?

## More specific questions about the film

- What new information or new understandings did you gain while viewing this film?
- What did you learn about the lives of Darfuri citizens?
- How do you think education can be improved for the refugees of Darfur?
- What do you think we can do to improve the situation in Darfur?

## CONCLUSION

In closing the session you might want to help the group summarize or reflect upon the themes or important points that emerged during your discussion. It is important to close the session with an action, be it a petition, postcard or letter. Make sure they sign the petition or write a letter to their members of Congress. Let people know about other NWSA events and general Amnesty events your group is organizing and be sure to follow up after the event. And give them a few resources to take with them.

If this is an activity that you're interested in, check out Amnesty's On Campus Film Festival program for more information on how you can hold screenings on your campus more often! Head over to the On Campus Film Festival website at [http://www.amnestyusa.org/youth/campus\\_film/](http://www.amnestyusa.org/youth/campus_film/) to get started.

## Jamnesty

### CONCERTS

Hold a "Make Some Noise" for Darfur concert to raise money for the cause. AIUSA's "Make Some Noise" Campaign brings together some of today's top artists like Snow Patrol and the Black Eyed Peas to join their voices for human rights. These artists perform some of John Lennon's most beloved songs and have donated their efforts to Amnesty International for an upcoming compilation album. To find out more about the "Make Some Noise" campaign, head over to [www.amnestyusa.org/noise](http://www.amnestyusa.org/noise).

Whether you're a musician or not, you can organize a "Make Some Noise" benefit concert on your campus or in your community.

Some things to keep in mind when planning your concert:

- All promotional materials should make it clear that proceeds will be donated to Amnesty International for its critical work on Darfur and other human rights crises around the world.
- Use different mediums; posters, the internet, phone calls, etc., when publicizing your show to achieve the best turn out.
- Have information about Amnesty International and the crisis in Darfur available at the concert so that people understand what you're fighting for. It might also be helpful to have sign up sheets at your event for people who are interested in hearing more about Amnesty International or in joining your group!

Keep your eyes on <http://www.amnestyusa.org/nwsa> for exciting music-related prizes that will go to the organizer and band that generate the most money for AIUSA.

## CONTESTS (and Prizes!)

1. Create a “Darfur in 30 seconds” commercial. Let your inner director out! Make your most compelling and persuasive argument for why people should join Amnesty International to stand up for the people of Darfur. Use images, music, language, or anything else you choose, edited into a 30-second video, using whatever tools you have at your disposal.

A few tips that will be helpful:

- Please make sure to get permission to use any copyrighted material that you might want to include.
- Go to <http://www.amnestyusa.org/countries/sudan/index.do> for the most up-to-date information on the crisis. If you're going to include statistics, please make sure they come from Amnesty International.
- If you wish to include the Amnesty logo, you can find it at <http://www.amnestyusa.org/members/tools/ailogos.html>. (Important note: Please don't alter or obscure the logo itself in any way.)

Instructions for submitting your commercial can be found at [www.amnestyusa.org/nwsa](http://www.amnestyusa.org/nwsa).

The winner will be chosen by AIUSA's advertising staff, and will receive a free iPod Nano, along with a gift certificate for \$50.00 at the AIUSA merchandise store.

2. Create a t-shirt design to show the world you care about the people of Darfur! Don't forget to incorporate the Amnesty International name and/or logo somewhere. (Again, if you choose to use the logo, please do not alter or obscure it in any way.) The helpful tips listed above apply to this project as well. And you don't need to produce the shirt itself, just the design.

Submissions should be sent to Zeke Johnson at [zjohnson@aiusa.org](mailto:zjohnson@aiusa.org) or mailed to:

Amnesty International  
Attn: Zeke Johnson  
5 Penn Plaza, 16th Floor  
New York, NY 10001

A winning design will be chosen by the AIUSA Merchandise Team, produced as a t-shirt, and sold through AIUSA's online store. The designer will also receive a free copy of the upcoming Amnesty CD - featuring today's best musical talent covering the songs of John Lennon - and a gift certificate for \$50.00 at the AIUSA merchandise store

# Media Tips Activist Tools for Generating Local Media

The following information will help you reach out to local media outlets during the National Week of Student Action (NWSA). We encourage you to use the following information and take your media work to the next level.

## TIPS

- Look for community events calendars in local newspapers and web sites. Ask calendar editors to post the time and location of your event, including your regular meetings.
- Ask a local radio or television station reporter to cover your event (a college or local NPR station will probably be the best outlet).
- Ask an interested newspaper columnist to participate.
- Pitch your event with a media advisory!

Please send a copy of any clippings or other media coverage to [media@aiusa.org](mailto:media@aiusa.org). Other activists can get ideas and encouragement from examples of your success.

## *Media Planning Ladder*

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### LEVEL 1

**REQUIRES MINIMAL PLANNING, EVEN 1 PERSON CAN DO IT!**

Writing letters to the editor is a great way to educate people in your community about the conflict in Darfur. Submit a letter to the editor of your school and/or local newspaper. Put it into your own words and link it to issues in recent articles in your local newspaper. Check the NWSA website for a sample.

### LEVEL 2

**Requires 2-5 hours of planning.**

Write an opinion-editorial (op-ed) piece about the importance of getting UN peacekeepers on the ground in Darfur and submit it to your school or local paper. Here are a few suggestions for writing and submitting your op-ed:

- Use the online sample on the website as a starting point for your op-ed. Generally, op-ed pieces should be 500-700 words long.
- As with letters to the editor, follow your local newspaper's submissions guidelines for letters to the editor and op-ed pieces (these can be found on the newspaper's website), and remember to link the issues in your op-ed to recent articles in your local newspaper or recent event.

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**MEDIA ADVISORIES** (see sample below) are used to let the media know about your event and will help you generate coverage. They should be sent to various news outlets 3-5 days before your event, and you should follow up by calling editors to make sure they received the information.

#### A MEDIA ADVISORY CONTAINS:

- An attention-grabbing headline
- A short description of the event and the issue (including date, time and location)
- A list of speakers
- A quote from a group member working on the issue
- The name, telephone number and e-mail address of your group spokesperson

*Check Online for a sample.*

#### WHAT TO DO WITH THE ADVISORY:

- Send the advisory to the attention of Assignment Desk Editors. They decide whether or not to send one of their reporters to cover a story.
- When you send media advisories to the Associated Press (AP), be sure to address them to the Daybook Editor. Assignment Desk Editors review the AP daybook to get story ideas.
- ALWAYS make follow-up calls. Call to make sure that assignment editors and targeted reporters received the advisory. Then, offer to answer any questions.
- Always be considerate of a reporters' time. Try to be brief, and call between 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M., when journalists are less likely to be on deadline.

#### WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?

- Call in to an "open phones" session on a local radio show.
- Speak to relevant classes at your school or university about the topic.
- Comment on an online article or blog post.

# Follow-up Next Steps after the NWSA

Have you enjoyed this year's National Week of Student Action? We really appreciate your hard work on this year's National Week of Student Action! We know that this will be an experience you will remember for a long time to come. But this is only the beginning. We suggest you continue focusing on human right issues in Darfur and get even more involved in Amnesty's thematic work on Darfur!

## **Help stop the violence against women in Darfur and Chad.**

Since 2003, thousands of girls and women have been raped and subjected to other forms of sexual violence in the Darfur region of Sudan and Chad. They often have little or no recourse and as a result of that, women rarely report rape, even to medical staff. Humanitarian organizations have had to pull out of many areas of Darfur.

Go to <http://www.amnestyusa.org/women/darfur> and take action now.

## **Support the International Criminal Court's work in Darfur.**

The crimes against humanity committed in Darfur have thus far gone unpunished and The International Criminal Court (ICC) - created to prosecute the world's worst crimes when domestic courts are unable or unwilling to do so- is working to change that. The ICC can establish a public record of the truth, promote reparations for victims, be a catalyst for reform of Sudan's courts, and break the cycle of violence by assigning responsibility to individuals.

Go to [http://amnestyusa.org/international\\_justice](http://amnestyusa.org/international_justice) and take action now.

## **Help by volunteering at local NGOs that work with refugees in Darfur.**

Amnesty International USA will be organizing a mass membership mobilization in June for World Refugee Day. Students can get involved in our activities, or plan their own centered on Darfur refugees. Watch the films "*Witnessing Darfur*" and "*Darfur Diaries*" with friends and learn more about refugees in Darfur. Learn more about Amnesty's refugee work at:

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/refugee>

**When we work together, we do make a difference!**

# Resources for Further Information

## Amnesty International USA National Week of Student Action Page

Get additional resources and support for all your actions and activities at this site: <http://www.amnestyusa.org/nwsa>. Check our blog for updates and online activities, and read about what other students are doing around the country.

## Amnesty International USA Country Page on Sudan

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/countries/sudan/index.do>

## Amnesty International - Mission to Chad

Check this blog for information on AI's recent mission to Chad and multimedia resources on Darfur.

<http://web.amnesty.org/pages/sdn-index-eng>

<http://web.amnesty.org/pages/sdn-multimedia-eng>

## Amnesty International USA Women's Human Rights Program

Background materials on how the conflict in Darfur (and all armed conflict) affects women and girls. Includes actions you can take to improve women's and girls' security and to bring accountability for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/women/darfur>

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/women/factsheets.html>

## United Nations Mission in Sudan <http://www.unmis.org/english/en-main.htm>

## United Nations High Commission for Refugees

Supports Darfuri refugees in Chad and internally displaced persons in Darfur.

<http://www.unhcr.org/chad.html>

## Save Darfur Coalition

An alliance of more than 170 faith-based, advocacy, and humanitarian organizations working to end the conflict and bring security and justice to the people of Darfur: <http://www.savedarfur.org>

## International Rescue Committee

A world leader in humanitarian relief services that is in Chad and Darfur, working on emergency health needs – including war-related injuries – and sanitation. Amnesty International is a member organization.

[http://www.theirc.org/where/the\\_irc\\_in\\_sudan.html](http://www.theirc.org/where/the_irc_in_sudan.html)

## Sudan: The Passion of the Present

A worldwide all-volunteer blog designed to help individuals become activists; it includes news and links and downloadable songs, posters, and cartoons.

<http://platform.blogs.com/passionofthepresent>

## Doctors without Borders

An independent international medical humanitarian organization that is delivering emergency aid in Darfur and Chad.

<http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/news/chad.cfm>

<http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/news/sudan.cfm>

