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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the agenda for the debate on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law

pursuant to Rule 115 of the Rules of Procedure

by Glenys Kinnock and María Elena Valenciano Martínez-Orozco,

on behalf of the PSE Group

on the situation in Darfur

European Parliament resolution on the situation in Darfur

The European Parliament,

- having regard to all relevant UN Security Council Resolutions, including Resolution 1593, 31 March 2005 on the situation in Sudan and the report of the International Commission of Inquiry on Darfur to the UN Secretary-General Council Resolution 1564 (2005),
- having regard to its previous resolutions on the subject, including that of September 2004 on the humanitarian situation in Sudan, and the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly Resolution, ACP-EU 3777/05 of April 2005 on the situation in Sudan,
- having regard to the statement on Sudan and Darfur made by Jan Pronk to the UN Security Council on 21 March 2006,
- having regard to the UN Sudan Situation Report of 23 March,
- having regard to the communiqué of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union of 10 March 2006,
- having regard to the Humanitarian Ceasefire Agreement of April 8 2004,
- having regard to the mandate of the African Union Mission in Sudan's mandate which was extended in October 2004,
- having regard to the ongoing peace talks being held in Abuja,
- having regard to the findings of its missions in February 2004, August/September 2004 and the findings of the ACP-EU mission of March 2005,

A. whereas in his report to the UN Security Council, Jan Pronk stated that killing, rape and abuses of human rights continue in Darfur, with rape continuing unabated both within and outside IDP camps,

B. whereas the Government of Sudan prevented Jan Egeland, the UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator from visiting Darfur on 3 April 2006; whereas access to Darfur for humanitarian aid and all humanitarian workers is considered to be at its lowest level in two years,

C. whereas the protection of those in villages and those in IDP camps remains wholly inadequate; whereas IDPs in West Darfur wanted to organise a demonstration to express their frustration about the lack of protection, following the killing of an IDP by four militiamen in Hamadiya camp on 18 March,

D. whereas there have been a spate of attacks and rapes in Darfur, with 46 cases documented since the beginning of February; whereas in all cases victims were girls and women between the ages of 7 and 50 that are living in IDP camps,

E. whereas on 6 March a group of four teenage girls was attacked outside Al Shareif camp, with the aggression resulting in the death of the attacker; whereas the police referred the case of the four girls to the Prosecution Attorney on charges of murder,

F. whereas humanitarian workers continue to suffer attacks, including the disappearance of a UN fuel truck and a UN-hired commercial vehicle and their drivers as well as the abduction of an international NGO worker, all of whom have subsequently been relocated after days of captivity,

G. whereas the Government of Sudan's Organisation of Voluntary and Humanitarian Work Act 2006 threatens to impose strict government scrutiny of NGO funding and activities, which is likely to further restrict humanitarian access to Darfur,

H. whereas the AMIS mission's original mandate was to protect the AU observers that were monitoring violations of the Humanitarian Ceasefire Agreement; whereas this mandate was extended in October 2004 to permit AMIS to protect civilians it encountered 'under imminent threat and in the immediate vicinity'; whereas this mission has never had the protection of civilians at the core of its mandate,

I. whereas the Government of Sudan continue to actively support the Janjaweed militia, not only by arming the gangs but also through participation in attacks on villages with helicopter-fire and aerial bombardment,

J. whereas the African Union monitoring mission has reported that 90 villages in Darfur have been attacked and/or deserted since November 2005 in South Darfur alone,

K. whereas Jan Pronk called on the international community to assist the 7000 strong African Union troops now, rather than waiting for the transition when the force will become a UN peacekeeping force,

L. whereas the Sudanese Government have thus far refused to accept UN troops in the country until a peace agreement is signed on Darfur; whereas there is widespread misperception in Sudan that the entry of a UN force could result in an 'Iraq scenario', a misperception that is being fuelled by the spread of misinformation by the Government,

M. whereas Russia and China continue to supply arms to the Government of Sudan; whereas both countries have consistently blocked efforts of the UN Security Council to impose sanctions on Sudan in the last six months,

1. Deplores the continuation of violence and rape by all sides, and condemns the Government of Sudan's continued support of the Janjaweed militia;

2. Condemns the latest attacks by more than 900 Janjaweed militia on Tibon IDP camp in Jebel Marra, West Darfur on 15 March 2006, during which at least 26 IDPs were killed; calls

on the Sudanese authorities to provide medical care to those injured in the attacks and to order an investigation to identify those responsible for the attacks;

3. Calls on the international community, particularly the EU, UN Security Council, the African Union and the Government of Sudan to prioritise human security, particularly the security of women and children, in Darfur;

4. Criticises the Government of Sudan for preventing Jan Egeland, the UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator from visiting Darfur,

5. Welcomes the support of the African Union for a UN peacekeeping operation in Darfur for October 2006, but calls on the international community, led by the African Union, to act immediately in order to ensure the security and protection of civilians in Darfur;

6. Calls upon EU Member States to honour the commitments they have already made to provide military observers, staff officers and civilian police to increase security in Darfur;

7. Encourages the Government of Sudan to accept a UN force in the interests of its people and the country's future; stresses that such a UN force should have a Chapter VII mandate to provide for the full protection of civilians in Darfur;

8. Insists that the Government of Sudan reign in the Janjaweed militia, many of whom have been responsible for the systematic rape taking place during attacks on villages as well as in and around IDP camps; urges the Government of Sudan to properly implement medical procedures for rape victims, and to deal with victims with sensitivity at all times;

9. Insists that a lasting solution to the Darfur conflict can only come when human security can be guaranteed, an inclusive political agreement is achieved and impunity is ended; calls on all sides of the conflict to bring about a working ceasefire; calls on the African Union to continue to play a leading role in the Abuja peace talks, and for all those involved in the talks to work to achieve these ends;

10. Calls on the Government of Sudan to drop the charges of murder levelled against the four teenagers attacked outside Al Shareif camp, and to give the girls appropriate care as victims of attempted rape;

11. Calls on the Government of Sudan to work alongside the NGO community for the benefit of its people; urges the Government to revise the Organisation of Voluntary and Humanitarian Work Act 2006 in order not to create a situation of legal insecurity for NGOs working in the field; insists that Sudan's Humanitarian Aid Commission facilitate the giving of visas and travel permits to humanitarian workers and stop the harassment of international NGOs;

12. Underlines that the mandate of the AMIS force has primarily been the observation of violations of the humanitarian ceasefire agreement; regrets the widespread misperception that AMIS failed in the protection of civilians given that it has only had a limited mandate to protect civilians it happened to come across in imminent danger; criticises the international community for not having acted to protect civilians sooner;

13. Welcomes the decisions taken by the UN Security Council in March including an arms embargo and a ban on offensive flights in Darfur; calls however for these measures to be strengthened and a no-fly zone to be established across Darfur;
14. Calls for those responsible for atrocities to be speedily identified in order that travel bans and asset freezes can be implemented as soon as possible;
15. Calls for the international community to support the International Criminal Court's investigation into violations of international humanitarian and human rights law in Darfur;
16. Calls for a high-level meeting with representatives of the AU, UN, EU, US and other key international and national players to develop a peace process for Darfur which can complement and strengthen the Comprehensive Peace Agreement;
17. Criticises Russian and Chinese efforts to block UN Security Council actions in Darfur; urges the international community to exert more pressure on these countries in order to prevent their economic interests in oil and arms sales from destabilising the road to peace in Darfur;
18. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the Government of Sudan, the UN Security Council, Jan Pronk, Jan Egeland, Kofi Annan and the Heads of Government of the ACP countries.