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Plenary sitting

6.6.2012 B7-0285/2012

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statement by the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

pursuant to Rule 110(2) of the Rules of Procedure

on the situation between Sudan and South Sudan (2012/2659(RSP))

Charles Goerens, Ivo Vajgl, Olle Schmidt, Louis Michel on behalf of the ALDE Group

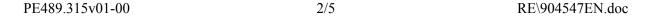
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B7-0285/2012

European Parliament resolution on the situation between Sudan and South Sudan (2012/2659(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Sudan,
- having regard to the UN Security Council Resolution 2046 (2012) of 2 May 2012 on Sudan and Southern Sudan,
- having regard to the EU High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy /Vice-President of the Commission Catherine Ashton statement welcoming the UN Security Council Resolution 2046 (2012) of 2 May 2012,
- having regard to the Memorandum of Understanding on Non-Aggression and Cooperation signed on 10 February 2012 between Sudan and South Sudan,
- having regard to the Statement of 28 March 2012, 11 April 2012 by the Spokesperson of EU High Representative, Catherine Ashton, on armed border clashes between Sudan and South Sudan,
- having regard to the African Union statement of 17 April 2012 calling to Sudan and South Sudan to act responsibly and to heed the appeals made by the AU and the international community for an immediate end to the current conflict between the two countries,
- having regard to the statement of the Spokesperson for the UN Secretary-General on the situation in Sudan and South Sudan of 16 April 2012 expressing deep concern over continued hostilities between the two countries, including its impact on innocent civilians,
- having regard to the statement by the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon of 19 April 2012 urging Sudan and South Sudan to end their hostilities avoiding a return to conflict which has already cost millions of lives over two decades,
- having regard to the Council conclusions on Sudan and South Sudan of 23 April 2012 (3159th Foreign Affairs Council meeting) expressing EU deep concern about the escalating conflict between Sudan and South Sudan,
- having regard to the Roadmap for Sudan and South Sudan set out in the communiqué issued by the AU Peace and Security Council on 24 April, which is fully supported by the EU,
- having regard to the Declaration by the Co-Presidents of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on the situation in Sudan and South Sudan on 30 May 2011,
- having regard to Rule 110(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the escalation of tensions between Sudan and South Sudan have recently brought

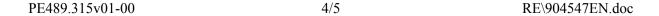




the two countries to the brink of war;

- B. whereas repeated incidents of cross-border violence between Sudan and South Sudan, including troop movements, the seizure and occupation of Heglig, support to proxy forces, support for each other's rebels, the fighting between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Army (SPLA) have led the conflict to a full-fledged confrontation;
- C. whereas a grave humanitarian situation has been created by the fighting between Sudan and South Sudan, and the continued fighting in the states of Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile, in Sudan;
- D. whereas the lack of agreement on transitional economic arrangements between the two countries, including on the use of oil, have led to Khartoum's seizure of Southern oil and South Sudan's decision to stop oil production, contributed significantly to the present crisis;
- E. whereas on June 29, 2011 Agreement Between the Government of the Sudan and the Government of Southern Sudan on Border Security and the Joint Political and Security Mechanism was concluded, including the commitment to create a safe demilitarized border zone (SDBZ), and on July 30, 2011 Agreement on the Border Monitoring Support Mission Between the Government of Sudan and the Government of South Sudan, was concluded;
- F. whereas South Sudan has announced the immediate withdrawal from the Abyei Area in accordance with the Agreement between Sudan and South Sudan of June 20, 2011;
- G. whereas decades of mutual distrust prevent either side from making gestures towards deescalating the situation and pursuing serious negotiations;
- H. whereas the EU fully supports international efforts to end the long-running campaign of terror being carried out by Joseph Kony and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and to help the populations affected by the LRA presence;
- Calls on Sudan and South Sudan to end hostilities and demonstrate political will to resolve their outstanding post-secession issues based on the Roadmap endorsed in the UN Security Council Resolution 2046 (2012) of 2 May 2012;
- 2. Welcomes the fact that Sudan and South Sudan have both agreed to the Roadmap and confirmed their commitment to an immediate cessation of hostilities is an important first step in the right direction;
- 3. Urges Sudan and South Sudan to show their political and practical willingness to pursue the path of peace by addressing the security concerns of both sides through meaningful negotiations within the framework of the Joint Political and Security Mechanism, starting with the Unconditionally withdraw all of their armed forces to their side of the border, in accordance with previously adopted Agreements, including the Agreement on the Border Monitoring Support Mission of 30 July 2011;

- 4. Welcomes the role of the African Union and the mediation of Mr. Thabo Mbeki with regard to the imminent resumption of direct negotiations;
- 5. Calls for the immediate activation of the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism (JBVMM) by deploying international observers and other personnel on the ground to monitor and help ensure compliance;
- 6. Calls on Sudan and South Sudan to implement pending aspects of the 20 June 2011 Agreement on Temporary Security and Administrative Arrangements for the Abyei Area, in particular the redeployment of all Sudanese and South Sudanese forces out of the Abyei Area; welcomes South Sudan's announcement that it is immediately withdrawing its forces from the Abyei Area and calls on the Government of Sudan to do the same;
- 7. welcomes the withdrawal from Heglig of the army of South Sudan and calls for the immediate cessation of aerial bombardments by the Sudanese Armed Forces against South Sudan;
- 8. Calls on Sudan and South Sudan to cease the harbouring of, and support to, rebel groups against the other State;
- 9. States its commitment to seeing Sudan and South Sudan become two economically prosperous states living side-by-side in peace, security, and stability, and underlines the importance of building mutual trust, confidence and an environment conducive to long-term stability and economic development;
- 10. Strongly condemns all acts of violence committed against civilians in violation of international humanitarian law and human rights law;
- 11. Calls upon all parties to promote and protect human rights, including those of women and people belonging to vulnerable groups, to comply with their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian and international human rights law, and calls for those responsible for serious violations of such law, including sexual violence, to be held accountable;
- 12. Strongly urges Sudan and Southern Sudan to permit humanitarian access to the affected population in the areas of the conflict, ensuring, in accordance with international law and international humanitarian law, the safe, unhindered and immediate access of United Nations and other humanitarian personnel, as well as the delivery of supplies and equipment, in order to allow such personnel to efficiently perform their task of assisting the conflict-affected civilian population;
- 13. Urges both sides to stop inflammatory rhetoric and hostile propaganda, which result in mutual demonization, xenophobia and the threat of violence; calls on both governments to assume full responsibility for the protection of each other's nationals in line with international principles, consistent with the Framework Agreement on the Status of Nationals of the Other State and Related Matters initialled in March 2012;
- 14. Calls for an impartial fact finding effort to assess the losses and economic and humanitarian damage, including to oil facilities and other key infrastructure, in and around





Heglig;

- 15. Emphasises that there can be no military solution to the conflict in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile, and stresses the urgent need for a political and negotiated solution, based on respect for diversity in unity;
- 16. Strongly urges Sudan and South Sudan to reach an agreement on the unsolved transitional economic arrangements between the two countries, including on the use of oil; reiterates, that a precondition for achieving peace and stability in the region is to solve the issues of boarder demarcation;
- 17. Is convinced that the long-term stability in the region requires a new unified, comprehensive international strategy, in which the EU would play a role, alongside other global and regional actors, which would focus not only on North-South issues and the situation in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile, but also on the long-overdue reform process in Sudan and deepening of democratic reforms in South Sudan; calls on the HR/VP and the Commission to be ready to offer the necessary assistance, if the ruling Sudan National Congress Party (NCP) accepts a free and unhindered national dialogue aimed at establishing inclusive constitutional arrangements accepted by all and takes genuine steps to end impunity in Darfur, Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile;
- 18. Calls on the Commission, EU Member States and the international community to honour their funding commitments to the region, particularly to address severe shortages of food aid, emergency shelter and protection; calls for close attention to the food security situation and measures to be put in place should the situation worsen; reiterates its full respect for the outcome of the independence referendum as the expression of democratic will of the people of South Sudan;
- 19. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Heads of State and Government and Parliaments of the EU Member States, the Governments and Parliaments of Sudan and South Sudan, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Heads of State and Government of the Arab League and the Institutions of the African Union.