

The President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear President Obama,

I write urging your administration to give urgent attention to the deteriorating situation in Sudan. The peace that the people of Sudan had hoped for, linked to the faithful implementation of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), is in jeopardy. As national elections and a referendum await action by the Sudanese people, mistrust grows; violence, and death and displacement continue. All this is compounded by the relentless crisis in Darfur. Mr. President, the United States must not allow this chance for peace to wither and die. If this happens, what will follow is unparalleled suffering, possibly exceeding the pain of Sudan's past history.

What is required is a vigorous U.S. outreach to international partners who brokered and serve as guarantors of the CPA. Pressure must be applied on Khartoum to end the violence carried out by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in South Sudan, and any encouragement of tribal conflict, all of which breed skepticism about the prospects of a united and peaceful Sudan. Negotiations that do not forthrightly hold the parties to the CPA accountable for its implementation become a cover for continued conflict and upheaval.

Accountability involves establishing decisive steps toward bringing about the cessation of hostilities and setting forth expected outcomes for the full and transparent implementation of the CPA, including the resolution of border disputes and the equitable sharing of resources. If noncompliance and violence persist, the United States and its global partners should indicate a willingness to take stronger action to advance the creation of a stable and peaceful Sudan.

I am a member of the Episcopal Church which has long advocated for peace in Sudan. Our sisters and brothers in the Episcopal Church of Sudan are part of one of Sudan's largest civil institutions and comprise a robust faith community. Many of us have witnessed Sudan's devastation and now join with our Sudanese friends in rebuilding their country. We speak on their behalf as the church there seeks peace and reconciliation among warring parties. Their heroic struggle and our belief that your Administration is committed to peace in this war ravaged nation prompts this appeal.

Respectfully,

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