

**USCMA Resolution on Darfur/Sudan**  
**2004 Annual Meeting**  
**Louisville, KY**

*We call upon the US Government, the United Nations and the international community to exert their full influence to halt categorically and immediately the genocidal killings, rapes, and other forms of violence and abuse of fundamental human rights being inflicted upon the peoples of sub-Saharan origin in the Darfur region of Sudan.*

Whereas, the peoples of sub-Saharan origin living in the Darfur region and other parts of Sudan, such as Malakal district, are threatened by a reign of terror characterized by genocide, rape, slavery, disease, hunger, expulsion from homes and land, and destruction of property, including water sources;

Whereas, over one million people are displaced in Sudan, 180,000 more have sought refuge in eastern Chad, and tens of thousands of civilians have been killed since February 2003;

Whereas, according to USAID, even if the war were to stop immediately, as many as 100,000 people in Darfur will likely die in the coming months due to the desperate humanitarian situation;

Whereas, repeated attacks on civilians by Government of Sudan military and its proxy forces, notably the Janjaweed militias, and the use of systematic and indiscriminate aerial bombardments and ground attacks on unarmed civilians, essentially targeting the Zaghawas, Masaalit, and Furs tribes, have led to massive physical and emotional suffering, disease and starvation;

Whereas, more than three million people have been affected by the violence in the region;

Whereas, women and children, who make up ninety percent or more of the populations in the region's refugee camps, continue to be attacked by government sponsored militias;

**Be it resolved that:**

*USCMA members join in solidarity with the membership of the Africa Faith and Justice Network in calling for the following specific actions---*

1. Call on the Government of Sudan to ensure the security of the civilian population of Darfur, disarm the militias and grant freedom of movement to aid workers;
2. Urge the Bush Administration to release immediately the \$95 million for Darfur and Chad in urgent humanitarian aid approved by Congress;
3. Call on the United States government and the international community to support the expansion of the mandate of the African Union in Darfur to include protection of innocent civilians, those inside and those outside refugee camps, by whatever means necessary within the framework of the U.N. Chapter VII mandate;
4. Call on the United States and other nations to provide logistical support for the distribution of humanitarian assistance and airlifts to regions cut off from such assistance because of seasonal rains;
5. Urge that only sanctions on Khartoum that might be focused with great accuracy be considered, such as travel bans and the freezing of assets of specific individuals. Sanctions that are much broader would likely hurt the very people they are intended to help, as authoritarian governments are very adept at foisting the costs of sanctions off on the poorest and most vulnerable;
6. Recommend that Sudan be maintained on the list of terrorist states until otherwise certified by the Department of State;
7. Urge the US government to fully support the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development's (IGAD) peace process between the north, the south, and other marginalized areas following the signing of a comprehensive framework for peace on 26 May 2004;
8. Join Catholic Relief Services in requesting the immediate appointment of a new Presidential Envoy for Peace in Sudan to act as a catalyst for peace in Darfur, as well as a final North-South accord that addresses the conflict in Northern Uganda.
9. Call on the African Union to exclude Sudan from all African Union organs, particularly its Human Rights Commission;
10. Call on the United States government to formally petition the UN to exclude Sudan from membership on the UN Human Rights Commission.

*Resolution prepared by AFJN*