

June 13, 2018

The Honorable Michael Pompeo  
Secretary of State  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We, the undersigned 84 Sudanese, scholars, human rights organizations and leading activists, urge you to take a fresh, clear-eyed look at U.S. policy on Sudan. Despite decades of engagement by hundreds of thousands of activists and by the U.S. government itself, our collective work over the years has not been enough. Not enough to stop the government sponsored killings. Not enough to force a breakthrough so that the millions of displaced can get humanitarian assistance. Not enough to end the marginalization and targeting of Sudanese citizens, human rights defenders and journalists. Not enough to transform the political model in Sudan that victimizes millions while advancing extremist ideologies. Not enough to end the regime that is the root cause of Sudan's problems. Not enough. Not yet.

In Sudan, we are learning hard, cruel lessons about power and evil in the world. Twenty-nine years of President Bashir heading an NCP government in Sudan tells a repeating story of mass atrocities, ethnic cleansing, denial of food and medicine, rape as a weapon of war, and genocide by the army and militias, while its leaders do their creative best to distract the West from focusing on stopping them. Millions of Darfuris who were driven out of their villages and off their land are still unable to return because it is unsafe. Meanwhile, the government is settling ethnic Arab people on Darfuri land, from other places in Sudan or outside of Sudan, raising the specter of succeeding in the final stage of genocide by permanently eliminating the African people of the Zaghawa, Massaleit, and Fur tribes from Darfur.

We must not underestimate the determined, deliberate, and committed nature of Bashir and the NCP, nor underestimate how much their control of the power of the state protects and insulates them.

The international community acquiesces in the perverse arrangement that the government of Sudan first perpetrates the abuses, creates the crises, and then gets to decide if, when, and how it will approve each proposed step that might respond to the crises. The Government is increasingly effective in blocking news from Sudan, limiting access to selective regions, and impeding UNAMID's effectiveness. The janjaweed militia are stronger and more deadly, having been formalized as the

Rapid Support Forces, with heavier arms, uniforms, and a command structure under the control of the NISS. Attacks and bombings of civilians that had been a daily occurrence, subsided for some months, but have begun to surge again. Humanitarian access and assistance continues to be impeded or blocked altogether, despite commitments made to the US when we lifted sanctions in 2017.

The crises and genocide in Sudan continue, 15 years and counting for Darfur and 7 years and counting for the Nuba Mountains and Blue Nile.

Over the years, Bashir has learned that there are little or no consequences for his actions, that there are no consequences for breaking his commitments, that the U.S. along with the West is a paper tiger. Impunity reigns. Nothing, yet, has happened to force Bashir to change his strategy for staying in power by exploiting ethnic and religious differences to victimize the marginalized people of Sudan.

A new, effective US policy on Sudan is long overdue and real transformation in Sudan is possible. The US does not have to send the First Infantry Division to Sudan. Financial pressures are essential, but by themselves are not enough, unless the US forces the financial isolation of Sudan.

The U.S. can announce that we will deliver humanitarian aid, without approval from Sudan, and then send the first cargo plane to airdrop food to the Nuba Mountains.

The U.S. can support an end to the NCP regime and support the movement within Sudan for democratic transformation.

The U.S. can support the opposition and the SRF rebels who are fighting for regime change. That help can begin by inviting them to the U.S. and providing education and training in how to work together to create the new Sudan.

And, the U.S. can take a first step to protect Nuban, Blue Nile, and Darfuri populations from air attacks. We need only respond to an air attack by destroying one Antonov, Sukhoi or MiG on the ground with a readily available drone or cruise missile to show that the rules have changed.

People who hope for “Never Again” wanted Bashir stopped during the first genocide in the Nuba Mountains in the 1990s, but we’ve seen the second in South Sudan, the third in Darfur, and the fourth in Blue Nile and the Nuba Mountains. How many genocides, from the same regime, will the United States watch before it will act for Sudan?

Sincerely,

**ACROSS**, Elisama W Daniel, Executive Director, Juba, South Sudan

**Act for Sudan**, Eric Cohen, Co-Founder, USA

**African Freedom Coalition**, Al Sutton M.D., President, New York, NY, USA

**African Soul, American Heart**, Deb Dawson, President, CEO, Fargo, ND, USA

**Ahmed H. Adam**, Research Associate, School of Law, SOAS University of London, UK

**Al Khatim Adlan Center for Enlightenment & Human Development (KACE)**, Albaqir al-Affif Mukhtar (PhD), Director, Kampala

**American Friends of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and Sudan (AFRECS)**, Richard Parkins, Executive Director, Alexandria

**Ariik Nyok**, MPA, Founder and Executive Director, Learning Victory, Inc., Long Island City, NY, USA

**Bonnie Abaunza**, Founder, Abaunza Group, Los Angeles, CA, USA

**Brooklyn Coalition for Darfur & Marginalized Sudan**, Laura Limuli, Coordinator, Brooklyn, NY, USA

**Bruce and Karen Henderson**, former Presbyterian short-term missionaries in Sudan and educators at Nile Theological College (Khartoum), Waverly, OH

**Collectif Urgence Darfour**, Dr. Jacky Mamou, President, Paris, France

**DAAM-UK**, Ali Abdelatif M. Hussein, London, UK

**Damanga Coalition for Freedom & Democracy**, Mohamed A. Yahya, Executive Director, Daoud Salih, Co-Founder and Board

**Darfur Action Group for South Carolina**, Richard Sribnick, MD, Chairman, Columbia, SC, USA

**Darfur and Beyond**, Cory Williams, Co-Founder, Phoenix, Arizona, USA

**Darfur Bar Association**, Abdelrahman Gasim, External Relations Secretary, Uganda

**Darfur Community Organization**, Bakheit A. Shata, Founder and Executive Director, Omaha, NE, USA

**Darfur Interfaith Network**, Martha Boshnick, Co-chair, Washington, DC, USA

**Darfur People's Association of New York**, Motasim Adam, Secretary General, Brooklyn, NY, USA

**Darfur Women Action Group**, Niemat Ahmadi, Founder/President, Washington, DC, USA

**David Alton**, Professor the Lord Alton of Liverpool, Independent Crossbench Peer Member of House of Lords, London, UK

**Doctors to the World**, C. Louis Perrinjaquet, MD, MPH, Medical Director, Breckenridge, CO, USA

**Dr. Deborah Mayersen**, Research Fellow, University of Wollongong, Wollongong, NSW, Australia

**Elhag ali Warrag**, Editor in chief, Hurriyat Sudan, Kampala, Uganda

**End Impunity Organization**, Angelina Daniel Seeka, Regional Director, Juba, South Sudan

**Eric Reeves**, Senior Fellow at Harvard University's François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights, Northampton

**Genocide No More--Save Darfur**, Marv Steinberg, Coordinator, Redding, CA, USA

**Genocide Watch**, Dr. Gregory H. Stanton, Founding Chairman, McLean, VA, USA

**Georgia Coalition to Prevent Genocide**, Melanie Nelkin, Chair, Atlanta, GA, USA

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**Group Against Torture in Sudan-GATS**, Mohamed Elgadi, Acting Secretary, Philadelphia, PA, USA

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**Harry Potter Alliance**, Matt Maggiano, Executive Director, Cranston, RI, USA

**Hawa Abdalla Salih**, Human Rights and Women's Rights Activist, Recipient, 2012 U.S. Secretary of State's International Women

**Humanity Is Us**, Kimberly Hollingsworth, Founder & President, New York, NY, USA

**Institute on Religion and Democracy**, Faith McDonnell, Director, Church Alliance for a New Sudan, Washington, DC, USA

**International Justice Project**, Monica Feltz, Executive Director, Newark, NJ, USA

**Investors Against Genocide**, Susan Morgan, Co-Founder, San Francisco, CA, USA

**Ipswich Community Action**, Lakshmi Linda Sirois, Co-founder and Co-organizer, Ipswich, MA, USA

**Jewish World Watch**, Susan Freudenheim, Executive Director, Encino, CA, USA

**Jews Against Genocide**, Sharon Silber, Co-Founder, New York, NY, USA

**John H. Weiss**, Associate Professor of History, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

**Joining Our Voices**, Slater Armstrong, Founder/Director, Baton Rouge, LA, USA

**Lehman Center for Human Rights & Peace Studies**, Dr. Victoria Sanford, Director, Bronx, NY, USA

**Massachusetts Coalition for Darfur**, William Rosenfeld, Director, Boston, MA, USA

**Mohamed Y. Khalifa**, Instructor, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA

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**Never Again Coalition**, Lauren Fortgang, Policy Director, Portland, Oregon, USA

**New York Coalition for Sudan**, Eileen Weiss, Co-Director, New York, NY, USA

**New York Darfur Vigil Group**, Helga Moor, Coordinator, New York, NY, USA

**Nuba Christian Family Mission**, George Tuto, Chairman, Denver, CO, USA

**Nuba Mountain International Association**, Motaz Ali, Member, Aurora, CO, USA

**Nuba Mountains Peace Coalition**, Robert Cooper, Dallas, TX, USA

**Nubia Project**, Nuraddin Abdulmannan, President, Washington, DC, USA

**OMNI Center for Peace, Justice & Ecology**, Gladys Tiffany, Executive Director, Fayetteville, AR, USA

**Our Humanity in the Balance**, Terry Nickelson, Executive Director, Deming, NM, USA

**Paul Slovic**, Professor and Genocide Scholar, Eugene, OR, USA

**People4Sudan**, Valerie Delacretaz, Global Coordinator, Geneva, Switzerland

**Peter Van Arsdale**, Ph.D., Director of African Initiatives, Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver, Denver, CO, USA

**Pittsburgh Darfur Emergency Coalition**, David Rosenberg, Coordinator, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

**Prof. Mukesh Kapila**, Former Head of the UN in Sudan, Prof. of Global Health at the University of Manchester and Chief Executive at The Defeat-NCD Partnership, Switzerland & United Kingdom

**Rebecca Tinsley**, Journalist, Founder of Waging Peace, London, United Kingdom

**Rev. Heidi McGinness**, International Human Rights Activist, Denver, CO, USA

**Rights for Peace Foundation**, Osman Habila, Director, Kansas City, MO, USA

**Robert Skloot**, Professor Emeritus, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, USA

**Seed for Democracy for South Sudan**, Hustin Laku, Sr, Co-founder, Canada

**Seifeldin Kudi** (Seif Barsham), Human Rights Defender, Boston, MA, USA

**Skills for Nuba Mountains**, Lazim Suleiman El Basha, Executive Director, Kauda, South Kordofan, Sudan

**Society for Threatened Peoples – Germany**, Ulrich Delius, Director, Göttingen, Germany

**Stop Genocide Now**, Katie-Jay Scott, Program coordinator, Redondo Beach, CA, USA

**Sudan Sunrise**, Tom Prichard, Executive Director, Fairfax, VA, USA

**Sudan Unlimited**, Esther Sprague, Director, San Francisco, CA, USA

**The Baroness (Caroline) Cox**, Member of the House of Lords and CEO Humanitarian Aid Relief Trust (HART), London, UK

**The Elsa-Gopa Trust**, Nell Okie, Director, Madison, CT, USA

**The MagkaSama Project**, Max Dana, Founder, Paris, France

**The Rev. David B. Carver**, Pastor, First U.P. Church of Crafton Heights, Moderator, International Partnership Ministry Team of Pittsburgh Presbytery, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

**The Rev. Oja B. Gafour**, PhD, Vicar, Sudanese Community Church, Episcopal Church in Colorado, Denver, CO, USA

**Unite for Darfur Organization**, Bahar Arabie, CEO, Gaithersburg, MD, USA

**Use Your Voice to Stop Genocide RI**, Sandra Hammel, Director, Portsmouth, RI, USA

**Waging Peace**, Maddy Crowther and Sonja Miley, Co-Executive Directors, London, United Kingdom

**World Peace & Reconciliation (WR&P)**, Dr. Adeb Yousif, President, Kampala, Uganda

**World Without Genocide at Mitchell Hamline School of Law**, Ellen J. Kennedy, Ph.D, Executive Director, St. Paul, MN, USA