

GROUP OF FRIENDS SUDAN
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Hosted by United States and Denmark

22 SEPTEMBER, 2006

AS DELIVERED

CANADIAN STATEMENT

Distinguished Colleagues,

Canada remains deeply concerned by the deteriorating humanitarian, human rights and security situation on the ground in Darfur.

The transition to a UN peacekeeping mission was requested by the African Union to help restore stability and avert this catastrophe.

It is supported by a wide range of UN members, and it has been negotiated openly and transparently. It meets every test of legitimacy.

Canada urges the Government of Sudan to help us end the suffering of the people of Darfur and bring peace to this region of Sudan by accepting a UN mission. Canada recognizes that there is still a great deal of concern on the part of the Government of Sudan about transition.. Ultimately, this is about getting assistance to the people on the ground who are urgently in need.

I call on the leaders of African nations in the region to add their voices to the global appeal to Sudan to act responsibly and accept UN peacekeepers in Darfur.

The gravity of the crisis in Darfur demands a decisive response from the UN Security Council and from all member states in seeking the implementation of resolution 1706. This is a clear test of the principle of Responsibility to Protect, endorsed by both the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council. The responsibility to protect must now move beyond abstract words to clear action.

Canada fully supports the statement drafted by the Co-Chairs to be released after this meeting.

[CO-CHAIRS STATEMENT FROM THE MINISTERIAL MEETING ON SUDAN](#)