



UNDP: Development in North/South Sudan

I. Background of Topic

In January 2011, South Sudan voted to become an independent nation with an overwhelming 98.8% majority. This split was officially instituted in July 2011 much to the joy of South Sudan, and disappointment of the North. Sudan, geographically the largest country in Africa, has been in the midst of an intermittent civil conflict for all but eleven years of its independent existence. Citizens of South Sudan see their role in these conflicts as resistance to northern attempts to Islamicize the south. Decades of tension and prejudice towards the mainly non-Muslim Africans who reside in South Sudan led to this momentous uprising and declaration of Independence, which greatly angered North Sudan. A reason for this indignation is that the geographic area of South Sudan contains 80% of the oil reserves of the entire country, which serve as Sudan's largest source of income. Many large popular protests and demonstrations showcased the discontent of North Sudan, and the instability of this recent development. To make matters worse, a horrendous humanitarian crisis has been simultaneously occurring in Sudan, in the western region of Darfur. This genocide began in February 2003, when rebel groups emerged and began to violently challenge the National Congress Party government there. This humanitarian disaster, which is still occurring presently, has displaced over 1.9 million people and killed an estimated 450,000 people. This issue also puts a strain on the relationship between the recently divided nations. In 2005, a peace agreement was signed between the Sudanese government and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), which ended a war which had begun in 1983, following the breakdown of the 1972 Addis Ababa Agreement (a set of compromises which ended the First Sudanese Civil War). Causes of the 21 year long war between these two parties included disputes over resources, power, and the role of religion in the state. Consequences of this extensive conflict include devastation of a large portion of Sudan where the fighting actually occurred, as well as displacement of many of the citizens. Refugees from this and countless countries flee their homeland in search of safety and consequently, many neighboring countries are beginning to suffer from the countless problems within North and South Sudan. This directly involves North and South Sudan primarily, as well as neighboring countries such as Chad, Ethiopia, Libya, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia. It indirectly affects the rest of the world due to the atrocious crimes against humanity being committed in this region, as well as the poverty that the citizens of both North and South Sudan are subject to. In order to help the people, as well as the two recently established nations get on their feet, the global community must work together.

II. UN Involvement

The UN has been extremely involved in Sudan due to the crises in Darfur, and plethora of humanitarian issues. Action taken includes a UN Security Council Resolution (1769) which authorized the deployment of a large peacekeeping force to Sudan in order to protect the citizens in danger there. The United Nations African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) has also been established in Darfur, and is authorized to take all necessary measures to protect its personnel and humanitarian workers. As of April 30, 2011 UNAMID has deployed a total of 23,129 peacekeepers in the region. Additionally, the Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal



Court (ICC) has accused North Sudan's current President Omar Bashir of crimes against humanity, war crimes, and genocide, making him the only sitting head of state to be accused of these atrocities. A warrant was issued for his arrest by the Trial Chamber, but was never acted upon due to insufficient evidence. As of now both North and South Sudan are recognized as member nations in the UN as well as members of the African Union. A goal of the UNDP action in South Sudan is to help central and state government in building and developing sound governance structures. Over the past five years, this organization has worked with important government institutions at all levels providing mentoring, technical assistance, and direct financial support. Additionally UNDP works closely with the government to make sure that the new Republic of South Sudan will be able to maintain core governance functions such as functioning rule of law institutions and management of public resources. They help to provide advice to governments in order to increase economic growth as well as alleviate poverty and the countless detrimental impacts of it.

III. Possible Solutions

As of now, one of the main issues in both North and South Sudan is an inefficient and often corrupt government system. In order for these nations to be able to protect their people, this needs to be the first reform to their policies. The multi faceted issue of alleviating the crimes against humanity in Darfur while ensuring peace and stability between these two unstable nations is a difficult one. In order to solve the collective problems both face, they will undoubtedly be forced to work together in many aspects which could either help foster a beneficial relationship between the two, or create an even bigger conflict altogether. This issue is extremely pressing since the Sudanese split occurred less than a year ago. These nations owe it to their people to attempt to coexist in order to solve the humanitarian crisis, if for no other reason. Additionally, we must help the Republic of South Sudan to get on its feet and create and maintain a suitable and functional government which will adequately enforce the protection of its people. Other priorities in this conflict include reducing the risk of future conflicts and crises by increasing community infrastructure and security, as well as the control and reduction of small arms, while continuing to support economic development. Disease control is also a factor as the spread of many diseases, especially HIV/AIDS which is rampant in Sudan.

IV. Bloc Positions

There are not very many discrepancies in Bloc Positions, as most nations want this Sudanese split to go smoothly and not cause global conflict. Predictably, a collective desire to end the genocide in Darfur is present in nearly all nations. One anomaly, North Darfur wants to reunite the country, as it was previously in order to receive economic as well as social benefits. Additionally, many larger and more prosperous nations are willing to donate supplies and forces in order to aid this nation. In order for north and south Sudan to be able to coexist help from the outside world as well as the UN will be mandatory in order for it to succeed.

V. Guiding Questions



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1. How can we solve this problem without infringing upon the sovereignty of North or South Sudan?
2. How can we ensure that further conflict does not break out between the two neighboring nations?
3. Should we turn our immediate focus upon the crisis in Darfur, or the relations between the two nations? How are the two issues intertwined?
4. Should the genocide in Darfur be considered a collective problem to be solved together by the two nations, or should it be looked at independently by both North and South Sudan?
5. How can we eliminate governmental corruption in both nations?
6. How can we rid the nations of the anarchist groups and guerilla warfare which are plaguing it now, even with a peace between them?

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