

ACTION AID-00

INFO LOG-00 AF-00 INL-00 SRPP-00 UTED-00 FDRE-01 TEDE-00
 INR-00 DCP-01 NSAE-00 DHS-00 PM-00 IRM-00 TEST-00
 PMB-00 PRM-00 SAS-00 /002W

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R 021556Z OCT 03
 FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0248
 INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

UNCLAS KHARTOUM 00874

AID ADM

FOR AID/W FOR DCHA/OFDA (JMARKS, JKIMBROUGH, CTHOMAS-
 JENSEN), SUDAN TASK FORCE (AHENSON, BDSILVA), DCHA/FFP
 (SBRADLEY), AFR/EA (RNIEC), REDSO/NPC (FFULLER,
 JWALSH, PMCDERMOTT), REDSO/FFP (ADEPREZ, DSUTHER),
 OFDA/ARO (PRILEY, TMALY), REDSO/OTI (SBREWER), STATE
 FOR AF/E (DRAAD, JSMALL)

E.O. 12958: N/A;

TAGS:

SUBJECT: SUDAN - FY 2004 DISASTER DECLARATION FOR
 COMPLEX EMERGENCY

1. SUMMARY. THIS CABLE RE-DECLARES THE COMPLEX
 HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY IN SUDAN AND REQUESTS CONTINUED
 ASSISTANCE FROM THE USAID OFFICE OF US FOREIGN
 DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA) TO MEET THE EMERGENCY
 REQUIREMENTS OF WAR- AND DROUGHT-AFFECTED CIVILIAN
 POPULATIONS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. IN ADDITION, THE
 ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF SUDAN
 AND THE SPLM HAVE CREATED OPPORTUNITIES FOR USG
 ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT AND CONSOLIDATE THE SUDAN PEACE
 PROCESS, FACILITATE RECONCILIATION OF WARRING PARTIES,
 AND MOVE THE COUNTRY MORE FIRMLY ONTO A PATH TOWARDS
 DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC
 DEVELOPMENT. TO SUPPORT THIS PROCESS, POST ALSO
 REQUESTS CONTINUED SUPPORT FROM THE USAID OFFICE OF
 TRANSITION INITIATIVES. END SUMMARY

2. CIVIL WAR IN SUDAN CONTINUES TO AFFECT THE LIVES
 OF MILLIONS OF CIVILIANS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY AND
 REMAINS THE PRIMARY CAUSE OF A CONTINUING COMPLEX
 HUMANITARIAN DISASTER, FOR WHICH INTERNATIONAL

ASSISTANCE IS VITAL. THE CRISIS IN BOTH THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN SUDAN IS BEYOND THE CAPACITY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SUDAN (GOS) TO MANAGE. THE GOS AND THE SUDAN PEOPLE'S LIBERATION MOVEMENT (SPLM), WHICH CONTROLS LARGE AREAS OF THE SOUTH, HAVE REQUESTED USG ASSISTANCE TO SAVE LIVES, MITIGATE THE IMPACT OF THE DISASTER ON LIVELIHOODS, AND ENABLE AFFECTED POPULATIONS TO SUSTAIN THEMSELVES UNTIL A DURABLE PEACE CAN BE ESTABLISHED. POST FURTHER ADVISES THAT THE PROVISION OF HUMANITARIAN AND TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE IS IN THE FOREIGN POLICY INTERESTS OF THE USG.

3. TWENTY YEARS OF CONFLICT IN SUDAN HAVE CAUSED SEVERE HARDSHIP AND DISRUPTION FOR MILLIONS OF SUDANESE. THE WAR HAS DISPLACED AN ESTIMATED FOUR MILLION PEOPLE FROM THEIR HOMES AND COMMUNITIES OF ORIGIN AND SEPARATED THEM FROM THEIR TRADITIONAL LIVELIHOODS. IN KHARTOUM AND OTHER TOWNS IN THE NORTH, THE DISPLACED ARE DISPROPORTIONATELY WOMEN AND CHILDREN, LIVING IN CAMPS IN SQUALID CONDITIONS WITH LIMITED EMPLOYMENT OR INCOME GENERATING OPTIONS. IDPS ARE HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR BASIC SURVIVAL. SIMILARLY, COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE SOUTH HAVE BEEN SEVERELY AFFECTED BY THE WAR AND ARE ALSO HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO SURVIVE. CONFLICT AND NEGLECT HAVE WREAKED HAVOC ON PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE, DESTROYED THE CAPACITY TO DELIVER BASIC HEALTH AND EDUCATION SERVICES, DISRUPTED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND DERAILED TRADE AND OTHER VITAL COMPONENTS OF SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

4. WHILE NEAR TERM PROSPECTS FOR A COMPREHENSIVE PEACE AGREEMENT ARE GOOD, LARGE SCALE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE NEEDS WILL PERSIST FOR SEVERAL YEARS, EVEN AFTER AN AGREEMENT IS REACHED. IDPS, REFUGEES AND OTHER WAR-AFFECTED POPULATIONS WILL REQUIRE SUPPORT TO RETURN TO THEIR COMMUNITIES OF ORIGIN AND RECONSTRUCT THEIR LIVES AND LIVELIHOODS. IT IS FURTHER ANTICIPATED THAT THE OPENING OF AREAS PREVIOUSLY INACCESSIBLE TO RELIEF AGENCIES WILL BRING TO LIGHT NEW URGENT HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AMONG POPULATIONS NEGLECTED AND ISOLATED BY THE PROTRACTED CONFLICT. OTHER WAR-AFFECTED POPULATIONS THROUGHOUT THE SOUTH WILL REQUIRE SUSTAINED SUPPORT FROM OFDA AND OTHERS FOR A RANGE OF WATER, SHELTER, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND FOOD SECURITY NEEDS.

5. HUMANITARIAN CONDITIONS IN DARFUR AND RED SEA STATES REMAIN A MAJOR CONCERN IN THE NORTHERN ZONE.

ALTHOUGH GOOD RAINS THIS YEAR HAVE EASED DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN KORDOFAN AND DARFUR, MILITARY ACTIVITIES OF THE SUDANESE LIBERATION MOVEMENT (SLM) IN NORTH AND WEST DARFUR, AS WELL AS TRIBAL CONFLICTS, HAVE DISPLACED MORE THAN 120,000 PEOPLE. DISPLACED

POPULATIONS HAVE MISSED THE CURRENT CROPPING SEASON AND BECOME MORE VULNERABLE AND DEPENDENT ON OTHERS FOR THEIR SURVIVAL. IN RED SEA STATE, DROUGHT REMAINS A SERIOUS THREAT.

6. IN FY 2003, USAID/OTI INITIATED PROGRAMMING IN SUDAN THAT CAN BE EXPANDED IN FY 2004 IN RESPONSE TO PROGRESS TOWARDS A PEACE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOS AND THE SPLM. OTI HAS SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES THAT PROMOTE PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE PEACE INITIATIVES, ENHANCE THE CAPACITY OF THE NASCENT SUDANESE JUDICIARY, AND INCREASE SUDANESE ACCESS TO NEWS AND INFORMATION.

7. CONTINUED FLEXIBLE TRANSITION INITIATIVE (TI) FUNDING TO SUCH ACTIVITIES WOULD ALLOW THE USG TO CONTINUE ITS POSITIVE PROMOTION OF ON-GOING LOCAL AND NATIONAL PEACE PROCESSES. SUCH SUPPORT HELPS MITIGATE SOME OF THE ROOT CAUSES OF THE CIVIL STRIFE WHICH HAS LEFT SUDAN IN A STATE OF CHRONIC HUMANITARIAN NEED. AN INVESTMENT IN LOCAL CAPACITIES TO MANAGE AND EVEN END CONFLICT AND ESTABLISH GOOD GOVERNANCE PRACTICES WILL HOPEFULLY POSITION SUDAN ON A PATH TO GREATER STABILITY, FOOD SECURITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, THEREBY REDUCING USG SPENDING ON HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE. TI FUNDING WILL GREATLY ENHANCE THE USG'S GOAL OF ESTABLISHING A FOUNDATION FOR A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE WITH BROAD PARTICIPATION BY THE SUDANESE PEOPLE. PEACE IN SUDAN WILL PROMOTE SECURITY AND STABILITY IN THE REGION, ALSO A HIGH USG PRIORITY.

8. IN LIGHT OF THE ABOVE, CDA GERARD GALLUCCI RE-DECLARES EXISTENCE OF A COMPLEX HUMANITARIAN DISASTER AND REQUESTS CONTINUED SUPPORT FROM OFDA AND OTI TO MEET HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AND FACILITATE TRANSITION TO PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT.

GALLUCCI

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