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ACTION AF-00

RELEASED IN FULL

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	CA-00	INL-00	USNW-00
	SRPP-00	EUR-00	UTED-00	FDRE-01	VC-00	H-00	TEDE-00
	INR-00	IO-00	LAB-01	VCE-00	NEA-00	NSAE-00	OIC-00
	PA-00	SP-00	SSO-00	SS-00	TEST-00	PRM-00	DRL-00
	G-00	NEAT-00	SAS-00	/002W			

-----05AE62 311731Z /38

O R 312337Z MAR 04
 FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0415
 INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
 AMEMBASSY ASMARA
 AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
 AMEMBASSY CAIRO
 CIA WASHDC
 DIA WASHDC
 USMISSION GENEVA
 AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
 AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
 AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
 NSC WASHDC
 AMEMBASSY PARIS
 AMEMBASSY ROME
 SECDEF WASHDC
 AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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GENEVA FOR NKYLOH

NAIROBI FOR KSMITH, BKAUFFELD, MBEERS, SGREEN, AREED
 NDJAMENA FOR TDY JELMORE, RWINTER, KALMQUIST
 NSC FOR JDWORKEN
 ROME FOR FODAG
 STATE ALSO PASS USAID/W
 STATE FOR AF/E:DRAAD
 STATE FOR PRM:TSTOLTZFUS
 USAID FOR AFR/EA:SWISECARVER, RNIEC, JSCHNEIDER
 USAID FOR DCHA/DG:WMARSHALL
 USAID FOR DCHA/FFP:SBRADLEY, RWAGNER
 USAID FOR DCHA/OFDA:RWINTER, BGARVELINK, THALMRASST-SANCHEZ, JBORNS, DRHOAD, JMARKS, J.

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREF, PHUM, EAID, SU

SUBJECT: EACT: DARFUR HUMANITARIAN UPDATE #6 (MARCH 22-28, 2004)

REF: (A) KHARTOUM 306 (B) KHARTOUM 296 (C) KHARTOUM 229

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: HARRY R MELONE
 DATE/CASE ID: 10 JAN 2007 200502144

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1. SUMMARY: THIS IS THE SIXTH WEEKLY UPDATE ON THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN DARFUR, WESTERN SUDAN. INCREASED FIGHTING BETWEEN THE SUDANESE LIBERATION ARMY (SLA) AND THE GOS IN SOUTH DARFUR HAS LED TO FURTHER DISPLACEMENT OF CIVILIAN POPULATIONS, ESPECIALLY IN SOUTH DARFUR. INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS) IN ALL OF GREATER DARFUR ARE MOVING TOWARDS URBAN AREAS FLEEING THE VIOLENCE LARGELY PERPETRATED BY THE GOVERNMENT-SUPPORTED MILITIA KNOWN AS THE JANJAWEEED. AID AGENCIES STRUGGLE TO COPE WITH THE PROVISION OF FOOD, HEALTH AND OTHER BASIC SERVICES TO IDPS AND OTHER WAR-AFFECTED POPULATIONS IN DARFUR. THE UN JOINT LOGISTICS CENTER HAS BEEN CALLED UPON TO SUPPORT THE UN EFFORT IN DARFUR. END SUMMARY.

ACCESS

2. THE OFFICE OF THE UN SECURITY COORDINATOR (UNSECOORD) CLEARED THE KRINIK AREA (WEST DARFUR) FOR UN OPERATIONS. THE UN REPORTS THAT ROAD ACCESS BETWEEN EL OBEID AND NYALA IS SATISFACTORY. LINKS BETWEEN NYALA AND GENEINA ARE SPORADIC AND DEPENDENT ON SECURITY. THE ROAD BETWEEN EL OBEID AND EL FASHER REMAINS CLOSED FOR HUMANITARIAN CONVOYS DUE TO SECURITY. COMMERCIAL TRUCKERS ARE ALSO HESITANT TO USE THIS ROAD. TRANSPORT BETWEEN NYALA AND EL FASHER IS OFFICIALLY OPEN BUT CAN CLOSE AT ANY TIME DUE TO SECURITY. THERE IS A CRITICAL NEED TO MOVE FOOD INTO EL FASHER DUE TO THE LARGE NUMBER OF IDPS GATHERED IN CAMPS IN THAT STATE. WFP WILL BEGIN ANOTHER AIRLIFT OF 1,000 MT FROM EL OBEID TO EL FASHER TO MEET THE NEED.

SECURITY

3. THE UN REPORTS THAT IDPS CONTINUE TO MOVE INTO EL FASHER, TAWILA AND KUTUM DUE TO RECURRING ATTACKS ON CIVILIAN POPULATIONS BY MILITIAS LINKED TO THE GOS. GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED MILITIAS ATTACKED 24 VILLAGES AROUND TAWILA ON MARCH 19 RESULTING IN THE MOVEMENT OF 3,000 - 4,000 IDPS TO THE TOWN OF TAWILA. TRIBAL CONFLICTS IN MELLIT LOCALITY LED TO THE DEATHS OF A NUMBER OF CIVILIANS. FIGHTING ERUPTED AFTER THE LOOTING OF LIVESTOCK. THE JANJAWEEED REPORTEDLY ATTACKED A REFUGEE SITE 30 KILOMETERS NORTH OF TINA ON THE CHADIAN SIDE OF THE BORDER ON MARCH 18.

4. THE UN REPORTED HEAVY FIGHTING BETWEEN THE GOS FORCES (INCLUDING THE GOS-SUPPORTED JANJAWEEED MILITIAS) AND THE SLA IN SOUTH DARFUR, LEADING TO FURTHER DISPLACEMENTS. THE UN WORLD

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FOOD PROGRAMME (WFP) DESCRIBED LARGE NUMBERS OF IDPS IN KASS WITH ADDITIONAL IDPS ARRIVING DAILY FROM THE SURROUNDING COUNTRYSIDE.

5. AN ATTACK BY THE SUDANESE LIBERATION ARMY (SLA) ON THE TOWN OF BURUM (SOUTH DARFUR) ON MARCH 22 IS EXPECTED TO HAVE RESULTED IN DISPLACEMENT OF CIVILIAN POPULATIONS AS WELL AS CASUALTIES. THIS ASSAULT ALLEGEDLY RESULTED IN THE DEATHS OF THREE SENIOR LEADERS OF THE HABANIA TRIBE. IT IS UNCLEAR WHO WHICH SIDE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR INITIATING THIS CLASH BUT IT MAY - AND MAY HAVE BEEN INTENDED TO -- EXACERBATE TRIBAL CONFLICT IN THIS AREA. THE UN REPORTED THAT GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED MILITIAS STRUCK THE VILLAGES OF BIATRA, MERSHENG AND WAD ALMERAM BETWEEN MARCH 19 AND 21.

6. DRIVERS OF COMMERCIAL VEHICLES ARE REFUSING TO TRAVEL ALONG THE GENEINA TO OMAR SERAF ROAD IN WEST DARFUR CITING INSECURITY.

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MENT OF RELIEF COMMODITIES. ALSO IN WEST DARFUR, THE UN REPORTED THAT JANJAWEEED ARE OPERATING WITH IMPUNITY IN MANY AREAS OUTSIDE OF THE CAPITAL, EL GENEINA.

PROTECTION

7. AN INTERAGENCY MISSION VISITED KEBKABIYA AND TAWILLA (NORTH DARFUR) ON MARCH 20-21. THE TEAM REPORTED THAT IDPS IN KEBKABIYA ARE TRAUMATIZED BY THE CONSTANT THREATS OF RAPE AND VIOLENCE. THE IDPS IN TAWILLA STATED THAT THEY HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO HARASSMENT. AN NGO REPORT ON INTERVIEWS WITH IDPS REVEALS THE EXTENT OF THE DEHUMANIZING VIOLENCE AGAINST GIRLS AS YOUNG AS 12 AND 13 WHO ARE OFTEN RAPED IN FRONT OF THEIR FATHERS. OTHER IDPS HAVE CLAIMED THAT MANY IDPS WHO MAKE THEIR WAY TO KHARTOUM ARE TURNED BACK BY GOS SECURITY FORCES AND DISCOURAGED FROM SETTLING WITH THEIR RELATIVES IN KHARTOUM (NOTE: EMBASSY HAS REPORTED ON THE ARRIVAL OF IDPS IN KHARTOUM AND ATTEMPTS TO LIMIT THEIR MOVEMENTS, REFS A AND C).

8. KEY HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES REQUESTED A MEETING WITH THE WALI (GOVERNOR) OF SOUTH DARFUR TO RAISE CONCERNS ON THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS AND ACCESS TO VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE. RELIEF AGENCIES HAVE NOTED THAT THE GOS IS PROMOTING A POLICY OF "VOLUNTARY" RETURN OF IDPS IN SOUTH AND WEST DARFUR. UN AGENCIES AND NGOS HAVE ENGAGED WITH GOS OFFICIALS IN THESE STATES TO ENSURE THAT ANY RETURNS ARE TRULY VOLUNTARY AND THAT THE BASIC CONDITIONS FOR RETURN EXIST IN TERMS OF SHELTER, FOOD, WATER, HEALTH, SERVICES AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, SECURITY. IT REPORTED THAT

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JANJAWEEED STILL CONTROL AREAS WHERE THE GOS WOULD LIKE IDPS TO RETURN. THE UN REPORTS THAT THE STATE MINISTER FOR HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS IN WEST DARFUR HAS ALREADY ALLOCATED FUNDS TO RETURN IDPS TO ZALENGI. HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES DOUBT THAT THE SECURITY SITUATION WILL PERMIT THE SAFE RETURN OF IDPS TO ZALENGI AT THE MOMENT.

9. KEY HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES PARTICIPATED IN THE FIRST SECTORAL MEETING ON PROTECTION IN KHARTOUM ON MARCH 21. CARE INTERNATIONAL PLANS ON ASSESSMENT MISSION TO KUBUM AND KASS IN SOUTH DARFUR, AND WILL LOOK SPECIFICALLY AT PROTECTION ISSUES RELATED TO IDPS AND HOST POPULATIONS.

NORTH DARFUR

10. CONDITIONS IN MESHTEL IDPS CAMP IN EL FASHER REMAIN DIRE. THE CROWDED CONDITIONS REMAIN AN ON-GOING CONCERN. THE HEALTH AND SANITATION SITUATION IS DEPLORABLE. RELIEF AGENCIES PLAN TO INSTALL ADDITIONAL COMMUNAL LATRINES, DISTRIBUTE NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI) AND DISTRIBUTE ADDITIONAL FOOD RATIONS.

11. AN INTER-AGENCY ASSESSMENT TEAM VISITED KEBKABIYA AND TRANSMITTED REPORTS OF DETERIORATING CONDITIONS AS THE COPING MECHANISM OF IDPS AND HOST COMMUNITIES CONTINUE TO WEAKEN. NEW IDPS ARE STILL MOVING TO KEBKABIYA FROM NEARBY VILLAGES. THE HOSPITAL IN KEBKABIYA REMAINS THE ONLY HEALTH FACILITY PROVIDING SERVICES. THERE IS AN INCONSISTENT FLOW OF UN-PROVIDED EMERGENCY DRUGS FOR THE FACILITY.

12. COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY HAS CEASED IN TAWILLA AND THE UN REPORTS THAT IDPS ARE URGENTLY IN NEED OF FOOD AID AS WELL AS INTERVENTIONS IN THE SANITATION SECTOR. THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION REPORTS A SERIOUS SHORTAGE OF DRUGS IN TAWILLA.

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MP IN EL FASHER.

SOUTH DARFUR

14. THE SITUATION IN SOUTH DARFUR SEEMS TO BE DETERIORATING DAILY WITH INCREASING REPORTS OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES, MASSIVE DISPLACEMENTS, ATTACKS AND FIGHTING. THE INSECURITY PREVENTS AGENCIES FROM TRAVELING AROUND SOUTH DARFUR TO PERFORM ASSESSMENTS AND DELIVER ASSISTANCE. IN THE WESTERN AREAS OF SOUTH DARFUR, IT IS BECOMING CLEAR THAT IDPS HAVE BEEN DISPLACED

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SEVERAL TIMES, ESCAPING THE ESCALATION AND WIDENING OF THE CONFLICT. THE MULTIPLE DISPLACEMENTS ARE TAKING A HEAVY TOLL ON THE COPING MECHANISMS OF THE IDPS.

WEST DARFUR

15. WFP COMPLETED FOOD DISTRIBUTION IN MORNEI AND STARTED DISTRIBUTION OF A 15-DAY RATION IN AND AROUND GENEINA AND UMERHER. WFP IS EXPERIENCING PROBLEMS REGISTERING IDPS IN PARTS OF GENEINA AS LOCAL RESIDENTS OFTEN PRESENT THEMSELVES AT THE REGISTRATION TABLES AND CLAIM TO BE IDPS.

16. UNICEF IS AIRLIFTING BLANKETS, KITCHEN UTENSILS AND OTHER NFIS INTO WEST DARFUR. UNICEF'S LOCAL PARTNER IN WEST DARFUR FOR WATER AND SANITATION HAS REHABILITATED SEVEN HAND PUMPS IN ZALENGI, MORNEI, AND NERTITI. HOWEVER THE WATER SITUATION IN SISI IS DESCRIBED AS CRITICAL BY THE UNITED NATIONS. DONKEYS BELONGING TO IDPS IN THE CAMP AT SISI ARE STARTING TO DIE DUE TO LACK OF WATER RESOURCES. THE TWO DRILLING RIGS IN WEST DARFUR ARE OUT OF SERVICE DUE TO POOR CONDITION.

MISCELLANEOUS

17. AT THE REQUEST OF THE UN RESIDENT/HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR AND THE UN COUNTRY TEAM IN KHARTOUM, THE UN JOINT LOGISTICS CENTER (UNJLC) WAS TASKED WITH BEING THE FOCAL POINT FOR LOGISTICS COORDINATION FOR THE DARFUR EMERGENCY. THE FIRST LOGISTICS COORDINATION MEETING FOR DARFUR WAS HELD 25 MARCH FOLLOWING THE REGULAR SOUTHERN SUDAN LOGISTICS COORDINATION MEETING. THE UNJLC WAS SPECIFICALLY TASKED TO DEVELOP LOGISTICS PLANS FOR THE RAINY SEASON. THIS INCLUDES ESTIMATES OF TRANSPORT AND STORAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SUPPLIES TO BE DELIVERED BEFORE THE RAINY SEASON AND FOR NEEDS DURING THE RAINY SEASON.

18. THE UN IS DEVELOPING CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR THE CRISIS IN DARFUR THAT SHOULD BE RELEASED BY THE FIRST WEEK OF APRIL.

HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR DEPARTS

19. DR. MUKESH KAPILA, UN RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE AND HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR DEPARTED SUDAN ON MARCH 30. IN HIS LAST WEEKS AS RC/HC, DR. KAPILA HAS DRAWN THE ATTENTION AND IRE OF THE GOS THROUGH HIS POINTED AND DETAILED LETTERS REGARDING THE TRAGEDY UNFOLDING IN WESTERN SUDAN. POST WILL TRANSMIT TEXTS OF

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THESE LETTERS SEPTEL. THE LETTERS WERE RELEASED TO ALL DONORS
AFTER THE GOS LEAKED CONTENTS OF ONE OF DR. KAPILA'S LETTERS TO

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S COMMUNIQUES AND INTERVIEWS WITH
THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS WHICH HAVE HELPED DRAW THE ATTENTION OF
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO THE CRISIS. THE US EMBASSY, ON
BEHALF OF DONORS, RELEASED ON MARCH 25 A STATEMENT IDENTIFYING
ITSELF WITH KAPILA'S CHARACTERIZATION OF ETHNIC CLEANSING IN
DARFUR.

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