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SECOND INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM

Pacific Regional Seminar on the implementation of the Second
International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism:
priorities for the remainder of the Decade

Bandung, Indonesia
14 to 16 May 2008

STATEMENT

BY

THE REPRESENTATIVE OF SUDAN

**Statement by Ambassador
Dr. Sulieman Mohamed Mustafa
The Representative of the Republic of Sudan**

Mr. Chairman,

As I take the floor for the first time, allow me, Mr. Chairman, to express to you our sincere appreciation and high regard for your able leadership of the work of the Committee. Your experience, coupled with the efficient and able Secretariat, have highly contributed in enabling the Committee reach and achieve its noble goals.

Mr. Chairman,

My country, the Sudan, has been active and fully supportive and involved in efforts aiming at the eradication of colonialism and will continue to lend its support to these efforts.

Mr. Chairman,

While we are gathered here to deliberate in such a vital issue, it is with dismay and sorrow that we note that a neighbouring country to my country is involved in acts and actions that endanger and threaten the very principles of the spirit of independence and sovereignty of other nations. These acts and actions negate and hinder the fulfillment of the agenda and priorities of our works.

Mr. Chairman,

My country, the Sudan, has been subjected, on the 10th of May 2008, to a terrorist attack launched by mercenaries financed by and logistically supported by Tchad, a neighboring country to Sudan. This terrorist attack, orchestrated by the so called Justice and Equality Movement, targeted mainly, innocent population and civilians in the city of Omdurman, causing heavy casualties and sowing terror amongst civilians.

Mr. Chairman,

The UN Security Council is seized of the matter. The Secretary General has condemned this criminal act launched by the so called Peace and Justice Movement. This aggression has a negative impact on the whole situation in the Sudan, and will, no doubt, hinder the peace process. The Peace and Security Council of the African Union is, as well seized of the matter. The African Union has very solid stance to this effect. The Arab League condemned and labeled the JEM movement as a terrorist movement.

Mr. Chairman,

Tchad is harbouring terrorist groups and is actively involved in widening the range of suffering of our people in Darfur. Sudan is exercising self restraint. However Sudan reserves its rights pertaining to self defense and will take necessary and appropriate measures against the aggressors and their instigators in accordance with UN Charter and international norms and conventions. The international community is called upon to immediately act and condemn this flagrant terrorist attack and label JEM movement and those behind it as terrorist.

Mr. Chairman,
Before giving the floor, I am duty bound to convey to you our profound gratitude and sincere thanks and appreciation to the government and people of Indonesia and to the authorities of this beautiful and historical city of Bandung for their hospitality and generosity.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.