

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 159

Recognizing the fifth anniversary of the declaration by the United States Congress of genocide in Darfur, Sudan.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 25, 2009

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. WOLF, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. ING-LIS, and Mr. BILIRAKIS) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Recognizing the fifth anniversary of the declaration by the United States Congress of genocide in Darfur, Sudan.

Whereas, on July 22, 2004, the Senate of the United States and the U.S. House of Representatives passed S. Con. Res. 133 and H. Con. Res. 467, respectively, thereby declaring genocide in Darfur, Sudan;

Whereas, on September 9, 2004, then-Secretary of State Colin Powell concurred with the Congress, asserting that, “genocide has been committed in Darfur” and that “the [G]overnment of Sudan and the Janjaweed bear responsibility”;

Whereas this historic determination was made in response to irrefutable evidence of a systematic campaign of ethnic

cleansing launched by the Sudanese regime, characterized by the manipulation of ethnic and tribal tensions, the arming of proxy forces, aerial bombardment of civilians, destruction of irrigation systems, poisoning of wells, razing of villages, forced displacements, mass murder, abduction, looting, torture, and rape;

Whereas as a result of the Sudanese regime's genocidal campaign in Darfur, over 300,000 Darfuris have died and nearly 3,000,000 have been displaced;

Whereas the Sudanese regime employed similar tactics during its war in Southern Sudan, which lasted over 20 years and left over 2,000,000 dead and another 4,000,000 displaced;

Whereas the war in Southern Sudan ostensibly ended upon conclusion of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan (CPA) in 2005, but the CPA has not been fully implemented and observers repeatedly have warned that it is at risk of collapse;

Whereas the declaration of genocide by the United States was intended to galvanize international attention and serve as a call to action for responsible nations, as well as the United Nations, to take effective action to deter and suppress genocide in Darfur;

Whereas despite the passage of 5 long years since the declaration of genocide by the United States Congress, the signing of the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA) in May 2006, significant efforts on the part of some responsible nations, the heroic actions of humanitarian workers and human rights campaigners, and the deployment of a joint African Union-United Nations peacekeeping mission for

Darfur (UNAMID), the deadly conflict in Darfur continues; and

Whereas the conflicts in Darfur and Southern Sudan are inextricably linked, and if the CPA fails there can be little hope for peace in Darfur: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That Congress—*

3 (1) solemnly recognizes the fifth anniversary of
4 the declaration by the United States Congress of
5 genocide in Darfur, Sudan;

6 (2) regrets that this determination has yet to
7 yield effective action on the part of the United Na-
8 tions and other nations which maintain significant
9 influence in Sudan, including China and certain
10 members of the Arab League;

11 (3) urges the United States to work with other
12 responsible nations to support a negotiated settle-
13 ment to the conflict in Darfur and full implementa-
14 tion of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA)
15 for Sudan, in accordance with the terms and
16 timeline established therein, while implementing a
17 more robust set of multilateral measures against
18 those individuals who act as obstructionists to peace,
19 including those who continue to sell arms to belliger-
20 ents in Sudan;

1 (4) urges member states of the United Nations
2 to provide sufficient resources to support the deploy-
3 ment of a fully capacitated African Union/United
4 Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID), including by
5 supplying required tactical and utility helicopters
6 and other mission enablers; and

7 (5) urges the parties to the conflict in Darfur
8 to cease their attacks upon civilians and humani-
9 tarian and peacekeeping operations, and to fully
10 commit to finding a political solution to the crisis in
11 Darfur without further delay.

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