

Press Release

2008 UN and Partners Work Plan for Sudan launched today in Khartoum

US\$2.29 billion needed for Humanitarian & Recovery assistance

[19 February 2007, KHARTOUM] The UN and Partners Work Plan for Sudan launched jointly today in Khartoum by the Minister of International Cooperation, Dr.Eltijani Salih Fidail and the Deputy Special Representative to the Secretary-General, Ameerah Haq calls for US\$2.29 billion for humanitarian, early recovery and development projects in 2008. The requested amount will be used to alleviate suffering for the most vulnerable and enable early recovery and development efforts to take root through the implementation of over 950 projects across twelve sectors. With over 20 percent already secured the total net requested is US\$1.84 billion.

Conflict continues to pose huge challenges in Darfur while the shift to early recovery and development projects in the rest of the country result in Sudan needing increased funding in 2008.

Sudan still ranks as the largest humanitarian operation for the United Nations representing the largest slice – US\$930 million - of the US\$3.8 billion appealed by the UN Secretary-General for 2008. Nearly four million people have been affected by the conflict in Darfur and the majority of the two million displaced persons are entirely dependant upon direct food aid for survival. Overall in Sudan, an estimated 24 percent of the population is undernourished while 30% are without access to safe drinking water. There are currently 5.4 million internally displaced persons, representing 14 percent of the population with some having been displaced for 20 years or more.

“We must have a sustained commitment to enable Sudan to progress towards peace. Three years after the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) Sudan is facing important milestones with the upcoming census and elections. There are unique opportunities for tangible peace benefits for all of Sudan,” said Ameerah Haq, the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General and Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Sudan.

UN and partners have committed to have an equal focus between humanitarian and development requirements. “Our challenge is to work together with the Government of National Unity to mobilise and ensure resources for early recovery and developmental activities in the whole of Sudan while continuing to assist Darfur,” said Ameerah Haq. “We must continue to invest in Sudan to ensure a smooth transition from a conflict-afflicted nation to one capable of providing for the needs of its population. However, progress will only be achieved when a lasting peace for all Sudanese is in place”

Programmes in Darfur and Southern Sudan represent 2/3 of the total requirement with Darfur almost wholly humanitarian requiring US\$825 million with some 10 percent for early recovery activities in certain areas.

In 2007, the UN and Partners Work Plan amounted to US\$ 1.86 billion. At the end of the year review, tentative reporting shows that some US\$ 1.3 billion or 70 percent of the appeal was funded with 78 percent of the Humanitarian requirements and 50 percent of the Recovery and Development programmes funded. Darfur and Southern Sudan received 77 percent of all funding.

The full document for 2008 is available at: <http://www.unsudanig.org/workplan/>

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