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March 15, 2010

# Grassroots Advocacy

Today, on March 15, 2010, the citizens of the State of Florida are uniting in support of victims of the genocide in Darfur and questioning the legitimacy and transparency of the elections scheduled for April.

The following is a simple action that you can take:

**Email <u>President Barack Obama</u>**, <u>Senator Bill Nelson</u> and <u>Senator George LeMieux</u> with a message using the following points:

- 1. The Sudanese national elections are in April, and all parties must intensify efforts to implement the remaining provisions of a 5-year-old peace agreement to end the genocide in Sudan.
- 2. A proper and transparent electoral environment must be established.
- 3. The elections must be postponed until at least ninety days after these conditions have been met.

#### Darfur News

## Darfur rebels jeopardize Sudan peace deal

The Justice and Equality Movement (Jem), seen as the main rebel group, signed a preliminary deal on February 23. Divisions between the numerous rebel factions in Darfur have been a major barrier to peace in the region. <u>Click here</u> to view this March 15, 2010 article from *BBC News*.

#### U.S. official: Sudan's elections to be crucial test

The U.S. envoy to Sudan stated that April's presidential and parliamentary polls would probably be flawed but could still "reflect the will of the people." Sudan has been wracked by decades of war. <u>Click here</u> to view this March 10, 2010 article from *The Miami Herald*.

#### Sudan's army states rebels ambushed UN-AU peacekeepers

A force of about 60 joint U.N.-African Union (UNAMID) peacekeepers was ambushed March 8 and held for 24 hours by unidentified armed men. Click here to view this March 9, 2010 article from *Reuters*.

#### Regional summit urges implementation of Sudanese peace plan

The special summit of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development adopted a final resolution urging northern and southern Sudan factions to resolve remaining disputes in the peace agreement. Delegations from Sudan's north and south met in Nairobi, Kenya, at a special regional summit overseeing the implementation of the 2005 peace deal. <u>Click here</u> to view this March 9, 2010 article from *Voice of America*.

### U.S. hopes exports will help open closed societies

The Treasury Department will issue a general license for the export of free personal Internet services and software geared toward the populations in Sudan, allowing Microsoft, Yahoo and other providers to get around strict export

restrictions. The Obama administration believes opening closed regimes and societies will make it more difficult for despotic regimes compress speech and free expression. Click here to view this March 7, 2010 article from *The New York Times*.

### Sudanese Opposition Parties Protest Election Commission 'Bias'

Approximately 200 protesters gathered at the electoral body's offices in Sudan's capital, Khartoum, as opposition presidential candidates handed a copy of demands for a free and fair vote to the commission. <u>Click Here</u> to view this March 3, 2010 article from *Business Week*.

## Darfur Advocacy in the Community





# In Search of Freedom from Bondage: Darfur and Genocide Prevention Month



Thursday, April 1, 2010 7:00PM-8:30PM

Film & panel discussion
with
Drum circle to follow

# Miami Dade College-Wolfson Campus

300 N.E. 2nd Avenue, Room 7128 Miami, FL

For more information, call Carmen Flescher at 305-576-4000 ext. 486





# Respond to the *Darfur Report*

The Darfur Report is a newsletter designed to educate the Jewish community on issues related to the genocide in Darfur, including political and legislative developments. This newsletter does not necessarily represent the views of the JCRC or the Greater Miami Jewish Federation. To respond to The Darfur Report, contact Lori Dearman at LDearman@gmif.org.



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