

INDONESIA

**Statement by H.E. Ambassador Makarim Wibisono  
Permanent Representative of Indonesia  
at the Fourth Special Session of the Human Rights Council  
on the Human Rights Situation in Darfur**

Geneva, 12 December 2006

Mr President,

Today we are holding the Fourth Special Session of the Council to address the human rights situation in Darfur. This Session is important in that the Government of Sudan is co-operating with the Council, which opens a much-needed window of opportunity for an improvement of the human rights situation in the region. This is certainly in line with the mandates of the Human Rights Council, which should discuss and deliberate on human rights violations wherever and whenever they occur, in a spirit of constructive dialogue and co-operation.

The situation in Darfur, which has arrested our attention since 2003, is an issue that is complicated, multi-dimensional, and involves many actors and groups. It encompasses tribal conflicts; conflicts between farmers and herders; and conflicts between political interests, all of which have resulted in the existence of a high number of IDPs in the region. The existence of many IDP camps established in various affected areas reflects the extent and seriousness of the problem.

Indonesia, as a country that has committed itself to the promotion and protection of human rights, is very much concerned about the human rights and humanitarian situation in Darfur. It certainly hopes to see an improvement in the situation in Sudan and that a state of normalcy will return as soon as possible.

In that connection, my delegation wishes to convey the view that the existing humanitarian issues have been addressed by the Government of Sudan in an open manner. This can be seen in the fact that many international organisations, including UN specialised agencies and other relevant humanitarian organisations have come in and are working in Sudan. There are several thousand humanitarian workers now in the country. Their presence is evidence of the readiness of the Government of Sudan to address the issue.

In facing its internal problems, the government is also open to the outside world, as illustrated among others by its invitation to groups of ambassadors and officials from African and non-African countries to visit the country. During the visits of the ambassadors, the groups not only met with high-ranking government officials and representatives of international organisations; they also had the opportunity to talk with IDPs in their camps and were free to discuss the problems the latter had been facing.

In addition, the Government of Sudan co-operates with various UN human rights mechanisms, including with former and current UN officials as well as with the Special Rapporteur on Sudan (Ms Sima Samar).

According to reports, the government has also established a number of national judicial mechanisms, including the setting up of a special prosecution office and special courts. As far as efforts at conflict resolution are concerned, these have been reflected in the Tripoli Agreement and the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA). In this regard, our delegation would like to urge all parties to the conflict to come on board and join the DPA. The existence of parties outside the DPA will directly and indirectly prolong the humanitarian problems linked to the issue.

We understand that the co-sponsors of this Special Session have been working to finalise a draft resolution, which among others calls for the sending of a mission to Sudan. My delegation hopes that the mission can lead to a solution to the problem. The mission has to be part of the solution, not part of the problem. However, this can only be realised if the mission is able to stay objective and impartial, and work hard to seek a solution.

Thank you.