

Statement by Tehmina Janjua, Acting Permanent Representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the OIC on Follow up of Human Rights Council decisions: Human Rights Situation in Darfur, 16 March 2007

I have the honour to make this statement on behalf of the member states of the OIC. The Council will today review the implementation of decision S-4/101 on the Situation of Human Rights in Darfur.

The OIC will be unable to comment on the contents of the report on the human rights situation in Darfur as doubts have been raised about its status. The report has not been written by the entire Mission. One of the members of the Mission was obliged to withdraw from the High Level Mission established by the Fourth Session of the Human Rights Council to assess the human rights situation in Darfur and the needs of the Sudan in this regard. Also the Government of Sudan had expressed concerns about one other members of the Mission.

The OIC appreciated the fact that Ambassador Wibisano took the decision to withdraw from the Mission (a) on the principle that such a Mission must engage the host country in order for the latter to be an integral part of the solution; and (b) that his participation in the Mission would be ineffective as he would be unable to report on an actual *in situ* visit as well as on extensive inter action with various stakeholders in the country, including the Government.

The mandate adopted for the High Level Mission by consensus at the Fourth Special Session clearly stated that the Mission was to assess the human rights situation in Darfur and the needs of the Sudan in this regard. At no place was the concept of the "Responsibility to Protect" reflected in the Council's decision. This concept as the Members of the Council know has multiple political and security dimensions, that go beyond the mandate given to the Mission.

The Council had recognized and welcomed the cooperation established by the Government of Sudan with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Sudan and had asked the Government of Sudan to continue to this intensify this cooperation.

The Mission should have been able to build on this cooperation. After all the Human Rights Council was created to promote human rights through dialogue and cooperation instead of selectivity and targeting. The interest of the people of Sudan are not served by a list of condemnatory recommendations. The human rights of the man, woman and child and the humanitarian situation in Darfur can only be improved through the cooperation of the Government of Sudan and assistance by the international community.

I thank you, Mr. President.