

Darfur

Mr. President,

Canada welcomes the Council's adoption by consensus of this decision welcoming the report of the Experts Group on Darfur and requesting that the Group's mandate be extended for six months.

Canada is deeply concerned about the ongoing human rights and humanitarian situation in Sudan, and is pleased that today's decision of the Council will allow the Expert Group to continue its important work on the situation in Darfur. The Council must remain seized with the human rights and humanitarian situation in Darfur.

Canada looks forward to receiving the interim report of the Expert Group at the Council's 6th Session in September, and its final report at the Council's 7th Session.

Canada also welcomes the commitment of the Government of Sudan to cooperate with the work of the Expert Group. We urge the Government of the Sudan to implement without delay the recommendations it committed itself to put into practice, and to continue its dialogue with the Experts Group on the implementation of the Group's other recommendations.

Canada calls on the Government of Sudan to live up to its responsibilities to protect the people of Darfur, including through the implementation of these recommendations. As raised in our June 12 statement, Canada continues to urge the Government of Sudan to demonstrate its commitment to the protection of human rights in accordance with its obligations under international law.

It is only through concrete improvements to the situation on the ground in Darfur that our success will be measured.

Thank you.