

**Comments by Pakistan on behalf of the OIC on the Report of the Special Rapporteur on  
the Situation of Human Rights in the Sudan during the Seventh Session of the  
Human Rights Council, 17 March 2008**

Mr. President,

I have the honour to make these comments on behalf of the member states of OIC.

The OIC thanks the Special Rapporteur for her report. We also appreciate the Government of Sudan for the cooperation it extended to the Special Rapporteur during her visit to Sudan as well as to the Group of Experts on Darfur.

We have noted the efforts made by the Sudan to improve human rights situation in the country since the conclusion of Darfur Peace Agreement in Abuja in 2006. In her report, the Special Rapporteur also acknowledged the progress made by the Government of Sudan to develop requisite national legal framework and institutions to ensure promotion and protection of human rights. These efforts are noteworthy and must be encouraged.

Mr. President,

Promotion and protection of human rights in areas still passing through peace-building phase is always challenging. We appreciate the consistent efforts of the Government of Sudan to remove obstacles to the implementation of all national, regional and international agreements.

In order to conclude various ongoing legislative and political processes successfully, the Government of Sudan will also require international support and encouragement, which must be provided without political qualifications. In this regard, the OIC would like to underline the following:

- Sudan's political and territorial integrity must always be respected.
- While implementing peace agreements, due consideration should be given to the protection and preservation of delicate environmental balance in various regions of the country.
- Efforts need to be made to stop illegal weapons supplies into the country as well as material and logistics supply to the outlaws.
- Need for objective media reporting and to avoid sensationalization.
- International development assistance to the Sudan should be enhanced without politicization.
- In Darfur, all parties should be encouraged to sign the Peace Agreement.

We are confident that despite difficulties the Sudan will persevere in the path it has taken.

Thank you.