

**Statement by the Chinese Delegation in the interactive dialogue  
with Ms. Samar the Special Rapporteur on Sudan  
(March 17 2008)**

Mr. President,

The Chinese delegation has taken note of the report presented by Mrs. Samar, the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in the Sudan. We appreciate the fact that the Sudanese government is keeping close contact and dialogue with Mrs. Samar as part of a joint effort to improve the human rights and humanitarian situation in the Sudan, including Darfur.

Mr. President,

Recently, thanks to the concerted efforts of the UN, the AU , the Sudanese government and other interested parties, we have seen positive developments in the search for a solution to the Darfur issue. Phased deployment of the hybrid operation is going on as planned, and the government of Sudan has just signed SOFA with the UN and have worked to improve the humanitarian situation in Darfur. But the solution to the Darfur issue is still hindered by a major obstacle caused by the stalled political process in contrast to progress in the hybrid operation and the persistent refusal of some opposition factions to participate in peace talks, while at the same time the widespread illegal arms and the lack of international assistance also constitute threats to the process.

Darfur is a long-running problem involving complex historic and present-day factors. Its solution can only be found through the common efforts of the whole international community, including Sudan. Firstly, no efforts should be spared in pushing forward the political process and in urging all parties to take part in talks. The countries with major influence on the situation should in particular play a greater role and avoid sending wrong signals. Secondly, as the concerned country, the Sudanese government should continue its positive efforts. At the same time, its legitimate concerns should also be respected. Thirdly, the tripartite consultation mechanism made up of the UN, the AU and the Sudanese government should continue playing its primary role. The first two should

step up consultations and communication with the latter and adopt a more pro-active stance to solve the related problems. Fourthly, poverty and under-development are the root causes of the current turmoil in Darfur. The international community should provide more humanitarian and developmental aid to help the reconstruction and development efforts in the region as a lasting solution to the problem.

Mr. President,

The Chinese government is deeply concerned over the Darfur problem and views with profound sympathy the ongoing suffering of the people in the region. China has been working in different ways and in a very concrete manner to help bringing a solution to the problem. Our role has been a constructive one throughout the process. We have appointed a special envoy on the Darfur problem, who is actively engaged in close contact with various parties as part of his mediation effort. He has just visited the Sudan, Chad, Britain and France. China has decided to contribute \$500,000 to the UN Trust Fund in support for the mediation efforts currently underway from the UN and AU special envoys.

My country has also provided humanitarian aid to the Darfur region and to the AMIS. China is also the first country to offer development assistance to the region. At a great risk to their own lives, workers of Chinese companies are building water pipelines, hydro-power stations, wells, hospitals and schools, which have brought real and tangible benefits to the local people. A Chinese multi-functional engineering unit is also being deployed in the region.

Mr. President,

As a big developing country and a permanent member of the Security Council, China is a responsible party. We are committed to peace in Darfur, stability and development in the Sudan and peace and stability in the whole region. We hope that the international community will be committed to those goals as well and work together for an early solution to the Darfur issue.

Thank you, Mr. President.