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Note to the Secretary-General

MISSION TO CHAD AND SUDAN, 22 TO 30 MAY✓

1. This note is to inform you that I intend to visit Chad from 22 to 26 May to review and assess the humanitarian situation. I will meet with Government officials, the humanitarian community and affected populations, in both the eastern and western parts of the country.

05/05/10

2. In light of the discussions on the future of MINURCAT and its implications for humanitarian operations, my visit should be both timely and relevant. I will be able to assess first hand the humanitarian position, including concerns about security, protection of civilians and the safe and effective delivery of humanitarian assistance.

3. Since my last mission to Chad in November 2008, humanitarian needs have increased, IDP returns are limited and humanitarian access issues remain. The food security situation in the country is also becoming increasingly worrying, particularly in the west.

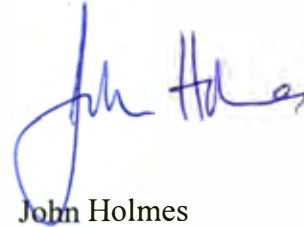
4. Following my visit to Chad, I plan to travel to Sudan from 26 to 30 May. The overall objective is to evaluate first hand the humanitarian situation in Darfur and southern Sudan, as well as to advocate for the safeguarding of humanitarian principles and effective delivery of humanitarian assistance.

5. Since my last visit to Sudan a year ago, the situation in southern Sudan has deteriorated further. In addition to insecurity, which has led to the displacement of more than 440,000 people, the region is facing a massive food deficit affecting half the population, fuelled by a combination of conflict, insufficient rainfall, high cereal prices and low livestock prices.

6. I plan to press the Governments in Khartoum and Juba to uphold commitments in facilitating the delivery of assistance, providing basic services, easing tensions, and working towards durable peace. I also hope to raise public attention to the humanitarian situation in Sudan in order to achieve more sustained donor and member state engagement in both humanitarian and recovery operations.

7. In light of the complex challenges in Sudan and the UN's widespread role, I also plan to discuss with the humanitarian community roles and responsibilities vis-à-vis the two peacekeeping missions, particularly in areas such as the protection of civilians; and encourage the development of a country-wide contingency plan to ensure preparedness for rising tensions and possible further increase of humanitarian vulnerability over the next few months.

8. I plan to brief the Security Council on the humanitarian situation in both countries upon my return.



John Holmes
5 May 2010

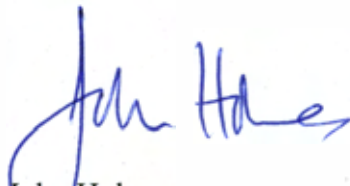
cc: Ms. Clark
Mr. Guterres
Mr. Le Roy
Ms. Malcorra
Mr. Pascoe
Ms. Sheeran
Mr. Starr
Mr. Mahmoud
Mr. Menkerios
Mr. Gambari

Note to Mr. Nambiar

Mission to Chad and Sudan

I enclose a note to the Secretary-General informing him of my upcoming visit to Chad from 22 to 26 May, and to Sudan from 26 to 30 May.

I would be grateful if you could kindly transmit the attached note to the Secretary-General.



John Holmes
5 May 2010