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**OFFICE OF UN RESIDENT AND HUMANITARIAN CO-ORDINATOR
FOR THE SUDAN**

24 March 2004

Excellency,

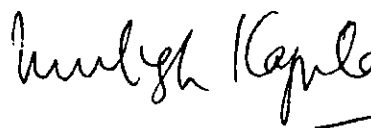
**INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE IN DARFUR REGION AGAINST CIVILIANS AS
REPORTED TO THE UN FOR THE PERIOD 1 – 15 MARCH 04**

1. I have the honour to refer to my letter of 8th March to His Excellency Mr. Mohammed Yousif Abdalla, the State Minister of Humanitarian Affairs copied to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs enclosing a report on incidents of violence against civilians reported to the UN for the period 1 – 29 February.
2. In continuation of our dialogue on the crisis in Darfur and your kind invitation not to hesitate in sharing our concerns openly and transparently with you, I enclose a further report on reported incidents of violence against civilians received by my Office for the period 1 – 15 March. This indicates that at least 85 civilians were killed in the first two weeks of this month, comparable in magnitude to the same period of the previous month. Thus, and alarmingly, violence against civilians continues at a steady pace contrary to the statements of His Excellency the Minister of Humanitarian Affairs that the situation in Darfur is calming down and life returning to normal with IDPs and refugees going home. These assurances by the Minister would appear to be at considerable variance from the observed and reported circumstances on the ground.
3. May we also advise you that yesterday I received a delegation of parliamentarians from the National Assembly and chiefs of the Darfurian Arab community (led by General Hussein Abdalla Gabriel) who presented me with a list of 15 incidents in North Darfur over an unspecified length of time, alleging that around 43 persons of the Arab nomad community had been killed, and others abducted by unspecified "rebels". As I indicated to the delegation, the United Nations expresses strong concern at all violence against civilians perpetrated by any group.
4. Regretfully Excellency may I also yet again draw your attention to the continuing reports of disappearances, abductions, and rapes, tantamount to war crimes.
5. I appeal again to you, Excellency, in the cause of humanitarianism, to investigate the incidents reported in the attached report as well as those in my letter of 8 March with

a view to bringing the perpetrators to justice, and redress for the victims. Equally importantly, I appeal to the Government to increase its efforts to address the continuing violence as reflected in no diminution in the numbers of incidents and civilians affected in the Darfur Region.

Assuring you, Excellency, of my highest personal consideration for you.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Mukesh Kapila
UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator

H.E. Nagib El Kheir Abdel Wahab
State Minister
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Khartoum

Cc: H.E. Dr Mustaf Osman Ismail, Minister of Foreign Affairs
H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Mahmoud Hamid, Minister of Humanitarian Affairs
H.E. Mr. Mohammed Yousif Abdalla, State Minister of Humanitarian Affairs