Basic information

2008/2580(RSP) RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	Procedure completed
Resolution on Sudan and the International Criminal Court (ICC) **Subject** 6.10.08 Fundamental freedoms, human rights, democracy in general **Geographical area** Sudan	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
22/05/2008	Decision by Parliament	T6-0238/2008	Summary
22/05/2008	Results of vote in Parliament		
22/05/2008	Debate in Parliament		Summary
22/05/2008	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2008/2580(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Urgent debate or resolution
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 150
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Motion for a resolution		B6-0240/2008	20/05/2008	
Motion for a resolution		B6-0254/2008	20/05/2008	
Motion for a resolution		B6-0255/2008	20/05/2008	
Motion for a resolution		B6-0256/2008	20/05/2008	
Motion for a resolution		B6-0257/2008	20/05/2008	
Motion for a resolution		B6-0258/2008	20/05/2008	
Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects		T6-0238/2008	22/05/2008	Summary

Resolution on Sudan and the International Criminal Court (ICC)

2008/2580(RSP) - 22/05/2008 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

Following the debate which took place the same day, the European Parliament adopted a resolution on Sudan and the International Criminal Court (ICC).

The resolution had been tabled for consideration in plenary by the EPP-ED, PES, ALDE, Greens/EFA, UEN and GUE/NGL groups.

The Parliament recalls that the security situation in Darfur remains extremely volatile, and significant clashes have taken place between rebel movements and government forces. Furthermore, each day thousands of men, women and children are beaten, killed, raped, displaced or otherwise victimised in the conflict in Darfur.

ICC: the Parliament notes that the UN "Responsibility to Protect" doctrine provides that where national authorities fail to protect their populations, others have a responsibility to provide the protection needed. In 2005, the UN Security Council referred the situation in Darfur to the ICC, Sudan having signed the Rome Statute, in order to launch an investigation into the matter. Sudan is obliged to cooperate with the ICC in this context, but this has not been the case.

In addition to its investigations, the ICC issued two arrest warrants against Sudan's former Minister of the Interior Ahmad Harun and former Janjaweed militia leader Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-Al-Rahman, also known as "Ali Kushayb", on 51 counts of alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity. In this context, the Parliament strongly condemns the fact that the Government of Sudan has repeatedly refused to cooperate with the ICC to arrest Ahmad Harun and Ali Kushayb and to hand them over to the ICC. It is worth noting, in the meantime, that Ahmad Harun is now the Minister for Humanitarian Affairs and is responsible for liaising with the international peace-keeping force (UNAMID) and that Ali Kushayb has been released from jail.

The Parliament urges the Sudanese Government to ratify the Statute of the ICC, to comply with UN Security Council Resolution 1593 (2005), to cooperate unconditionally with the ICC, and to pursue a thorough and effective investigation and prosecution of war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in the region of Darfur. It therefore proposes a series of punitive measures at European level targeted at these people, such as:

- freezing and seizing their assets and identifying the offshore assets of businesses affiliated with the National Congress Party (the government majority party), a major conduit for financing militias in Darfur;
- measures denying access to EU banks for any financial transaction or payment made by or on behalf of these individuals;
- measures to prevent business and other economic or trade relations between these individuals, or any legal entity or corporation controlled by them, and European companies, targeting especially the revenue flow from the petroleum sector.

The Parliament calls on all States represented at the UN Security Council to support any cooperation request put forward by the ICC Prosecutor on behalf of the Court. At the same time, the Parliament calls on the Commission and the Member States to ensure that their substantial development aid to Sudan is not delivered via Ahmad Harun's Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and urges donors formally to press the Government of Sudan to remove Ahmad Harun from office. It also calls on the EU to exert pressure on China to join the international efforts to end the conflict, particularly by stopping delivering weapons to Sudan.

Respect of the ceasefire: as regards the political situation, the Parliament condemns the ongoing conflict and the repeated violations of peace agreements and the recently signed ceasefire, emphasising that the civilian population and humanitarian assistance are systematically being targeted. It calls on the Sudanese authorities to lend their full support to the effective establishment of UNAMID and stresses once again that there can be no lasting peace without justice for serious crimes.

The Government of Sudan and all armed groups must refrain from any indiscriminate attacks on civilians, and refrain from recruiting child soldiers under the age of 18.

The Parliament also calls on the EU Special Representative for Sudan, Pekka Haavisto, to take a proactive role and to use all available opportunities to address, with Sudanese interlocutors and other partners, the need to immediately arrest and surrender Ahmad Harun and Ali Kushayb to the ICC.

Lastly, the Parliament urges the Sudanese Government to respect its commitment to a moratorium on restrictions and obstacles to all humanitarian workers.