

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE  
SUDAN

AND PERMANENT MISSION

TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
VIENNA



سفارة جمهورية السودان

والبعثة الدائمة لدى الامم المتحدة

والمنظمات الدولية

فيينا

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**Statement by  
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State Minister - Ministry of Justice  
Republic of the Sudan**

**Before the High Level Segment  
Of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of  
Crime and the Treatment of Offenders**

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**Honourable Chairman of the High Level Segment,  
Honourable Ministers,  
Excellencies,  
Reads of Delegations,**

May I join my colleagues in congratulating you, Mr. Chairman, on your assumption of the leadership of this Congress. We are confident that through your wisdom we will reach recommendations and decisions that will be of benefit to the international community. My congratulations also extend to the bureau and we pledge our full support and co-operation to achieve the goals of this Tenth Congress, God willing.

**Mr. Chairman,**

My country has been a pioneer in its region in the area of law formulation. Its first modern laws have been enacted since 1899. Law teaching was introduced in universities in the early thirties of the last century. This rich corpus of law has enabled the Sudan to tackle many problems through the promulgation of the necessary laws.

During the last decade, my country has witnessed important legal developments, by basing its laws on the Islamic Legal System, which ensures a high level of guarantees in the field of preservation and protection of human rights, dignity of man and his protection from serious crimes that threaten life, consciousness or wealth, and the protection of society and its ethics and values.

In this regard, our penal jurisprudence was based on giving priority to prevention measures against crime, and giving due attention to instilling good morality and strengthening of values and the family institution, as an inhibition to the committing of serious crimes.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The world is required in this third millennium to jointly work hard against all that which encourages crime or assists in its commitment. We look for a world where criminals find no safe haven. Hence, my country's position against terrorism was clear and consistent. We have participated in the drafting and the signing of the Arab Convention Against Terrorism, and are completing the necessary procedures to accede to the African Convention Against Terrorism. We have already ratified 4 of the 11 international instruments against terrorism, and are completing the legal and constitutional requirements for acceding to the rest of those instruments.

The major concern of this Congress is the adoption of the Vienna Declaration. We do support this Declaration in the spirit of our joint endeavour to fight crime and to preserve at the same time the specificities of countries and peoples, and their right to preserve their cultures and convictions.

**Mr. Chairman,**

We would like to confirm that as a state, Sudan is keen on co-operating with the international community in preventing and fighting crime. We have in the past proved this, from a conviction that peace and security are noble goals we should work for, for the benefit and prosperity of man without discrimination due to gender, colour or religious affiliation. Driven by this conviction, my country has enacted the necessary laws for combating corruption, bribery, nepotism and money laundering. To achieve transparency and accountability in the banking system, we enacted the Banking Law, and in the field of combating corruption, the Unlawful Enrichment Act. The Sudan, with its vast area and long borders, neighbouring nine countries, and not forgetting its international obligations, has differentiated between migration and asylum and has hence promulgated laws since 1974 to organise both migration and asylum. The Sudan's geographical position as a crossing from West-Africa to Saudi Arabia for pilgrims, coupled with the hospitable nature of its people, made it a safe and attractive sanctuary for millions of migrants and asylum-seekers from different African sisterly countries. Many of the migrants have already become full citizens. Sudan's legislation extended also to combating the growing trade in narcotics, and has had in place a strict law since 1929. Furthermore, the trade in firearms is forbidden except in very strict and regulated cases, in accordance to the Fire Arms Act of 1932. My country also prohibits and considers it a criminal offence to traffic in women or children. The Sudan accords high attention to the protection of women and children, and treats some of the acts by women and all acts by children not as criminal acts, but as contraventions, dealt with within correctional methods, as stipulated in the Juvenile Act of 1982. We are also highly concerned with the reform of the prison system, and the improvement of correctional facilities, within our economic abilities.

We are also involved in the promotion of judges, public attorneys and police professional capabilities, and at the same time the citizens are increasingly encouraged to participate in the fight against crime, a matter that is deeply rooted in the culture of the Sudanese community. Restorative Justice and local community resolution of crime and its prevention take the leading priority in the society. In this regard, the Government introduced the Popular Police Forces System, which proved to be very effective in assisting the regular police with the preservation of security and the fight against crime.

It is to be noted that the crime in the Sudan remained simple, influenced by social, economic and environmental factors. This is due to the strong fabric of the society. Statistics, on the other hand, show that an average of 84 % of the notified crimes were discovered by the police and around 46 % of stolen property was returned. These percentages are a clear indication of the efforts exerted by the authorities with regard to fighting crime. However, our ambitions are much higher than that.

The economic conditions differ among countries. We, in developing nations, are hopeful that the industrialised nations would continue and increase their material and technical co-operation to assist us in capacity building to fight crime, especially transnational organised crime. Countries are also called upon to cooperate in the field of advanced crime like that related to the computer. As these types of crime cross borders to affect the whole world.

Our concern and enthusiasm for a convention on transnational organised crime and the 3 protocols is evident. A clear testimony is our regular participation in the Ad Hoc Committee for the Drafting of the Convention. Our Penal Code punishes organised crime whether it is committed within or outside of the country. While we reiterate our support for the Committee to speed up its work and submit the drafts, we believe that it would be unwise to push for an identical position in all issues before the Committee. We should follow a path that finds consensus, thereby achieving our hope for universal co-operation against crime and criminals.

**Mr. Chairman,**

We believe that this forum should spell out the real reasons behind the rise in crime. The gap has increased between the North and the South and it is time that efforts should be increased to allow the transfer of advanced technology and to strengthen the efforts for the eradication of poverty prevailing in many of the developing countries, so that individual incomes increase and thereby lessen the drive to commit crime. It is important also that states should endeavour to accede to relevant international instruments, a matter that would help international co-operation, and thus assist in the fight against organised crime.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.