



Coalition for the International Criminal Court تحالف المحكمة الجنائية الدولية

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Excerpts from the Arab League Summit 2009 Statements **Doha, Qatar** **30-31 March 2009**

Full statements and decisions concerning the ICC & Sudan

Websites: <http://www.dohasummit.com/> (State of Qatar)

<http://www.arabsummits.org/ar/index.asp> (Arab League)

****Please note the following are unofficial translations provided by the CICC Secretariat as a service to our members and should not be used for quotation in any official document.*

****يرجى الملاحظة بان الترجمات التالية غير رسمية تقدمها السكرتارية للتحالف خدمة للأعضاء وينبغي منع استخدامه نقلا عن أي وثائق رسمية.*

All referenced documents are available in Arabic on the websites above. The sole purpose of this report is to centralize and summarize the information for non-Arabic speakers.

جميع الوثائق متاحة الآن باللغة العربية على المواقع الإنترنت أنفا. الغرض الوحيد لهذا التقرير من ذلك هو تمركز وتلخيص المعلومات بالنسبة لأولئك الذين لا يتكلمون اللغة العربية.

CICC's policy on the referral and prosecution of situations before the ICC:

The Coalition for the ICC is not an organ of the court. The CICC is an independent NGO movement dedicated to the establishment of the International Criminal Court as a fair, effective, and independent international organization.

The Coalition will continue to provide the most up-to-date information about the ICC and to help coordinate global action to effectively implement the Rome Statute of the ICC. The Coalition will also endeavor to respond to basic queries and to raise awareness about the ICC's trigger mechanisms and procedures, as they develop. The Coalition as a whole, and its secretariat, does not endorse or promote specific investigations or prosecutions or take a position on situations before the ICC. However, individual CICC members may endorse referrals, provide legal and other support on investigations, or develop partnerships with local and other organizations in the course of their efforts.

سياسة التحالف فيما يتعلق بالحالات التي أحيلت أو أن يحاكم أمام المحكمة الجنائية الدولية:

تحالف المحكمة الجنائية الدولية ليست هيئة من هيئات المحكمة. التحالف منظمة غير حكومية و هي حركة ملتزمة لإنشاء المحكمة الجنائية الدولية منظمة دولية عادلة وفعالة ومستقلة.

التحالف ستواصل على تقديم أحدث المعلومات عن المحكمة الجنائية الدولية والمساعدة على تنسيق العمل الدولي للتنفيذ الفعال لنظام روما الأساسي للمحكمة الجنائية الدولية. التحالف سوف تسعى أيضا للرد على الاستفسارات و لرفع الوعي لتحريك آليات وإجراءات المحكمة كما تتطور. التحالف ككل، وأمانته، لا تؤيد أو تشجع محددة التحقيقات أو المحاكمات أو اتخاذ أي موقف على الحالات المعروضة على المحكمة الجنائية الدول. ومع ذلك ، يجوز أن يؤيد أعضاء التحالف الإحالات، وتوفير الدعم القانوني وغيرها من التحقيقات، أو إقامة شراكات مع المجتمعات المحلية والمنظمات الأخرى في سياق الجهود التي يبذلونها.

Brief Assessment of Statements:

The ICC arrest warrant for Sudanese President Omar Al-Bashir featured high on the agenda of discussions at the Arab League Summit that took place in Doha. The Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Algeria, Kuwait, and Mauritania were among the Arab League states denouncing and rejecting outright the Court's decision to issue an arrest warrant for the Sudanese President.

Other countries, including Saudi Arabia and Qatar, expressed support for President Al-Bashir more generally.

Regional organizations such as the African Union, the Organization for the Islamic Conference, Arab Parliament, and head of the Council of Arab Foreign Ministers also expressed their support and solidarity with Sudan, expressing their demands to the UN Security Council to defer ICC proceedings for the sake of national stability and the ongoing peace efforts in Darfur.

The three Arab League members that are also states party to the ICC, Jordan, the Comoros Islands and Djibouti, also took to the floor on the Sudan issue. King Hussein of Jordan appealed for caution with the Darfur crisis and in dealing with the ICC. Djibouti "rejected the politicization of international justice" while the Comoros Islands mentioned admiration to President Al-Bashir without specifically referring to the ICC. They did, however, commend Bashir for his work on the peace process and called for the avoidance of the politicization of international justice. It is notable that none of the following states made reference to the ICC or Bashir's arrest warrant in their statements: Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco and Palestine.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon attended the Summit and made a statement calling for countries to "work together to transcend the tensions related to the International Criminal Court" and that "relief efforts should not become politicized". He also avoided a direct meeting with President Al-Bashir.

Jonas Store, the MFA of Norway called for full cooperation with the ICC, as did Japan.

Final Doha Declaration 30-31st March 2009 (paragraph pertaining to Sudan)

We confirm our solidarity with Sudan and reject the decision of the Pre-Trial Chamber to the International Criminal Court regarding the President of Sudan, Omar Hassan Ahmed Al-Bashir. We support our Brotherly Sudan in confronting anything aimed at damaging its sovereignty, security, and national stability. We reject every action threatening the peace efforts undertaken by Qatar within the framework of the Arab-African Ministerial Committee and in coordination with the Joint Mediator to the UN and African Union. We confirm our support for these efforts in order to reach a peace settlement in Darfur.

**Special Statement Pertaining to Sudan –
Doha Summit Statement Regarding Solidarity with the Republic of Sudan in rejecting the decision of the First Pre-Trial Chamber of the International Criminal Court against the Sudanese President Omar Hassan Ahmed Al-Bashir**

The Arab leaders expressed their full support and solidarity with Sudan in rejecting the decision of the first Pre-Trial Chamber of the International Criminal Court with regard to the President of Sudan, Omar Hassan Ahmed Al-Bashir. Which aims to undermine the legitimately elected leadership, they stressed their firm rejection of any dealings with this decision which would negatively impact Sudanese unity, security, stability and sovereignty and indeed, on the efforts of bringing peace. It was especially damaging to the efforts made by Qatar through the framework of the Arab-African Ministerial Committee and in coordination with the joint mediator for the UN and African Union in order to advance peaceful operations in Darfur forward in order to achieve a comprehensive and lasting peace settlement.

The Arab leaders considered the decision of the ICC against H.E. President Omar Hassan Al-Bashir, President of the Republic of Sudan, sets a dangerous precedent targeting a head of state who still exercises his position and it breaches the Geneva Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961 and customary international law.

The Arab leaders appealed to the Security Council to take responsibility for establishing peace in Sudan and supporting efforts made to achieve advances on the road to a political settlement for the Darfur crisis.

The leaders assured their full support for achieving peace between the Sudanese parties particular to the Darfur crisis, and support efforts of the Sudanese National Unity Government in this regard. They warned that the decision of the ICC will negatively affect these efforts and appealed to the armed movements that are not signatories to the Abuja Treaty to join in the peace operations, and bear responsibility for promoting opportunities for achieving security and stability. The leaders confirmed the importance of continuing cooperation and coordination between the Arab League and the African Union in bringing peace in Darfur.

The leaders rejected attempts to abridge state sovereignty, unity, security, stability and symbols of national statehood and to politicize principles of international justice. They demanded the cessation of measures taken by the first Pre-Trial Chamber to the ICC, in which Sudan is not a member state. They decided to assess the Arab position towards the Court and lack of Arab states responses with the Court's measures regarding H.E. President Omar Hassan Al-Bashir, President of the Republic of Sudan, and their rejection of the decision and all its implications. They stressed the necessity of creating opportunities for an independent and qualified Sudanese judiciary desiring to achieve prompt justice in Darfur. They commended the steps taken by the Sudanese government on the measures requested be implemented in the package solution agreed on between the Arab League and Sudan in July 2008.

The leaders praised the perseverance of the Sudanese people and the solidarity of their internal front in confronting the decision of the International Criminal Court.

The leaders confirmed their appreciation for Arab and foreign states that have contributed in offering humanitarian assistance to the victims of Darfur, and urged relief organizations and Arab civil society to intensify their presence in Darfur and reinforcing their humanitarian aid contributions, and providing immediate valuable aid, such as contributing to easing the burdens on the victims in Darfur, and dealing with the outcomes of constructive activities of some international organizations in the area of humanitarian aid in Sudan. They requested the Secretariat to hold a meeting for the Arab Red Crescent and Arab humanitarian relief organizations, in consultation with the Sudanese government and the UN and move to fulfil urgent humanitarian needs in Darfur and ensure the recovery of the necessities of life in villages to facilitate the voluntary return of displaced person to their homes. The leaders decided to keep the Council in permanent session to follow up on developments in the situation.

Country Statements:

State of Qatar

Amir, Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani

Nothing relevant to Sudan

Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hamd Bin Jassem Bin Jabr Al-Thani

With regards to the International Criminal Court, we believe that peace and justice go hand in hand to find a settlement of any conflict, whether in Darfur or elsewhere. We believe that justice cannot be achieved without achieving peace. Unfortunately, it calls for us to legitimately question the last step taken by the International Criminal Court in the request for the arrest of H.E. President Omar

al-Bashir, which came at a time of heightened efforts by the State of Qatar within the framework of the Arab-African Ministerial Committee and in coordination with the Joint Mediator for the United Nations and African Union to push forward the political process in Darfur, and generate a great deal of hope following the signing between the Sudanese National Unity Government and the Justice and Equality Movement of an agreement of the best intentions and confidence building in Doha. The signing of the Tripoli Agreement [between Sudan and Chad] by an additional five armed factions displayed commitment to engaging in the peace process and to join the Darfur peace talks in Doha, with a united negotiating delegation, and a unified negotiating position. We will continue our joint efforts with the support of the international community in finding a settlement to the conflict in Darfur and create the appropriate conditions for peace.

Syrian Arab Republic
President, Dr. Bashar Al-Asad

If the responsibility for failing to achieve stability in our region could be blamed on the international situation, we too are directly responsible for that when we do not resist attempts to confiscate our decisions, control our destiny and interfere in our international affairs. What is happening to the Sudan now is yet another chapter in the process of intimidating the Arabs and not respecting the sovereignty of their states.

The warrant issued by the International Criminal Court against an Arab president, under false pretexts, is the first step towards dividing Sudan in order to weaken it and then control its resources and divide them among a group of countries which seek to repeat the experience of the [League of Nations] 'mandate' by using international institutions as a pretext for reintroducing colonialism in a more modernized form. While respecting international resolutions and the institutions which take them and are created by them, we have never thought that they could replace us or determine our destiny for us as states and peoples. We respect them because we are committed to the Charter signed by our countries; and consequently, we must reject any decision taken in violation of this Charter without hesitation. More clearly, what is called international legitimacy today has never been, and should never be above national legitimacy of any country which respects itself and protects itself and protects its independence at any cost.

What is happening to the Sudan today is the same thing that happened to Palestine at the beginning of the last century and whose price we are still paying up until now. We are called upon today not to criticize the warrant, not to characterize it – and we are all agreed that it is politicized – but to reject it categorically and to express absolute support for the Sudan at this stage of the confrontation in order to save it, and save our countries from the consequences which will inevitably follow and lead to its fragmentation.

We will discuss their fabricated accusations against Sudan, when those who committed atrocities and massacres in Palestine, Lebanon and Iraq are arrested and brought before the court facing the same charges, which are not fabricated but proven and documented. If we fail in shouldering our present responsibilities, with destructive consequences for all of us, we will have a historical responsibility for not doing our duty towards a cause which is as clear as the sun in its beginnings, justifications, tools and goals.

The views we keep hearing about political steps that we and the Sudan should take, or the calls for postponing the decision for one year, or sending letters anywhere, will not achieve anything. They will only encourage those standing implicitly behind the decision to carry out more similar acts of interference, which will not be limited to Sudan but will target other Arab and non-Arab countries. That is why I repeat my call for taking a clear and brave position which rejects the warrant instead of characterizing it, and which is decisive instead of relegating decision taking to the future.

Republic of Lebanon
President, Michel Suleiman
Nothing relevant to Sudan

State of the United Arab Emirates
Unavailable

Republic of Somalia
Unavailable

Islamic Republic of Mauritania
President, Mohammed Ould Abdel Aziz

Today, we are today in desperate need of a bloc and a special solidarity in this climate, with [each person of our] nation, until each usurped right is recovered [to him/her]. Here I am pleased to announce our solidarity with our brother Omar al-Bashir, President of the Republic of Sudan, who has attended this Summit with us.

Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
King, Abdullah II Ibn Al-Hussein

Concerning our Brother Sudan, we have no doubt that we must move and handle with utmost awareness and responsibility, with the Crisis in Darfur and with the International Criminal Court, to ensure the security of Sudan, its unity, stability and sovereignty.

Sultanate of Oman

Deputy Prime Minister for the Council of Ministers, Sayyid Fahad bin Mahmood Al-Said

...and there are the difficult situations in Sudan and Somalia and other areas of local and regional tensions that are considered barriers to all efforts to support development in those countries and the establishment of security and stability.

Republic of Iraq,
Prime Minister, Nouri Al-Maliki
Nothing relevant to Sudan

Republic of Tunisia
President, Zine El Abidine Ben Ali

We express our disapproval of the arrest warrant issued by the International Criminal Court against His Excellency President Omar Hassan Al-Bashir, as this sets a grave precedent that undermines the sovereignty of states and threatens the security and stability of Sudan. In this regard, we call for providing opportunity for regional and international mediations to settle the crisis in Darfur, while respecting Sudan's sovereignty and territorial unity.

Republic of Islamic Union of Comoros
President, Ahmed Abdallah Mohamed Sambi

With regards to the brotherly Sudan and by companion brother Omar Hassan Al-Bashir, we in the Comoros Islands hoped and expected that he would be awarded with the Nobel Peace Prize for his tireless efforts to achieve the pillars of peace in the Southern Sudan and the Comoros Islands. Yes, in the Comoros Islands, because he contributed Sudanese troops in the framework of the African Union to restore peace, harmony, and stability in the Comoros Islands and after that, the recovery of the island of Anjouan and the extension of sovereignty and legitimacy of the State.

Socialist People's Libyan Arab Great Jamahiriya
Colonel, Muammar Gaddafi
Nothing relevant to Sudan

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mourad Medelci

Regarding the crisis in Sudan, I believe that the International Criminal Court in the Hague's arrest warrant against our Brother H.E. President Omar Hasan Al-Bashir was an attack on the national sovereignty of Sudan, and that this transitional resolution that targets a Head of State who still exercises constitutional powers is totally contrary to international covenants and charters, and is based on a policy of double standards.

Why did this Court not move during the massacres committed and the destruction perpetrated by Israel in Lebanon and Gaza?

We warn of the serious repercussions of this decision, to not only the security and stability of Sudan and the countries of the region, but overall, it undermines all efforts being made at the Arab, African, and Islamic levels to achieve security and stability in Darfur, and Sudan's sovereignty, security, and unity.

We are in solidarity with our brother Sudan, with leadership and governance and the people, and praise our Brother H.E. President Omar Hassan al-Bashir in his efforts that he has undertaken to achieve a peace settlement and for taking on the procedures required from the situation in the region of Darfur.

I believe that it has become necessary for us to activate our efforts and move by sending a delegation of the League of Arab States, the African Union, and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to convince the Security Council of the need to allow the ongoing efforts and the Arab, African, and Islamic efforts that are still being made to find a consensus to bring peace to the region of Darfur.

Republic of Yemen

President, Ali Abdullah Saleh

Reportedly pulled out of the Summit after his "Arab Union" plan was ignored

Kingdom of Bahrain

King, Hamd Bin Khalifa Al Thani

Nothing relevant to Sudan

Kingdom of Morocco

Prince, Mulay Rashid, Brother of the King

Nothing relevant to Sudan

State of Palestine

President, Mahmoud Abbas

Nothing relevant to Sudan

Republic of Egypt

Minister Of State For Legal Affairs And Parliamentary Councils, Dr. Mufeed Shehab *on behalf of* President, Hosni Mubarak

Nothing relevant to Sudan

Saudi Arabia

King, Abdullah II

External interference in key Arab affairs and issues has taken several forms. Therefore, we are required now, more than ever before, to overcome our differences and unite our positions and efforts to confront regional and international interference in the internal affairs of some Arab countries.

As for Sudan, we must deal with the crisis in Darfur and the International Criminal Court with the utmost sense of awareness and responsibility to ensure Sudan's security, unity, independence, and sovereignty.

State of Kuwait

Emir, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jabir Al Sabah

We are following with attention and concern the implications of the decision by the International Criminal Court to issue a warrant for the arrest of H.E. President Brother Omar Hassan Al-Bashir, President of the Brother Republic of Sudan, and we view that this decision does not serve the Arab and African efforts for a solution to the situation in Darfur. We call upon the Security Council in accordance with its powers to delay the proceedings of the Court, to give a chance for peace efforts to achieve the desired results.

We call upon the brothers in our Brotherly Sudan to fill any gaps in the humanitarian efforts aimed at the relief of those who face the difficult humanitarian situation in Darfur.

Republic of Sudan

President, Omar Hassan Al-Bashir

Brethren leaders,

In the international framework, is a case of obvious importance to you, is the issue of Security Council reform, as it is a non-democratic entity that is based on selectivity thus not coping with justice and fairness, which not knowing justice has one standard, adopts double standards, targeting the weak, and turning a blind eye to the criminals.

It is the lack of justice that which yields and produces hatred and terrorism and breeds extremism, it spreads instability, insecurity and a lack of peace everywhere, how could the Security Council bring itself to refer the Darfur situation to the so-called 'International Criminal Court' and provides bribery in that decision to America, and yet they exempt civilian and military employees in every area within the mandate of the Court?

Reforming the Security Council is a way for the world to enjoy more peace and comprehensive security because in its current state, in which some states work against the UN Charter and lack credibility in their performance on the international stage, international peace and security face danger. Allow me to mention some examples of this.

Before signing the comprehensive peace agreement in 2005 – which stopped the fifty-year long war – we were promised [by international parties] that we would

be showered with choices [welfare], but – after they were guaranteed our signature – they showered us with flames of anger in Darfur.

Yet before we signed the Abuja treaty, the [international parties] threatened the Darfuri factions of more risks and perils if they did not sign. However, in compensation for that, they heaped military support, equipment and training. They convincingly turned on a Sudanese government if seeking not to bring peace in Darfur. Then they set up a huge media tool in Sudan cast with affliction and misfortune, which depicted us as a predatory savage, who knows neither pity nor mercy.

(The words that came out of their mouths only got bigger, and they were nothing but lies.)

Conspiring and coordinating with them: Israel and the Zionists, who train the rebels and assist them with military training and equipment, while the leadership of the rebels are lodged in hotels, provided with food, dress and supplied with copious amounts of money. They are selling themselves to the devil. Our people in Sudan realize this and renounce them.

It was then thirdly obvious slander brought by the so-called International Criminal Court against the Sudan.

We do not depart from justice. We have prosecuted and will prosecute everyone whose crime is proven.

We prosecuted them and sentenced them by execution of the law and decisions of the courts and qualified judges, and many brotherly leaders borrow and employ these judges in their own countries, and they have stood the test and honour us all.

Whoever targets Sudan knows this, but prejudice and greed blinds perceptions and insights.

Imagine, my honourable brothers: the same so-called international community and human rights advocates – when the criminals angrily went against the Sudan and its government with violence once the courts convicted them, sentencing some and carried out on others by the necessary rights and the law – they demanded pity and compassion for the offenders that killed, looted and assaulted the sanctities.

Honourable brothers,

Perhaps what is harmful is useful, as the saying goes, I say this and now assemble the Sudanese people around their leadership with a necessity unprecedented in the modern history of Sudan. I found their backing and support gratifying and self-exhilarating.

Magic turned against the magician...This event had been wronged and the injustice that they planned will bear fruit, so that the leadership is isolate and the contract is broken but the people rallied around the leadership in a scene never recorded before in recent history.

Brethren leaders,

The interest in modernization and revival is based on the exploitation of resources. As you know, Sudan is rich in resources; agricultural, livestock and woodland. We can use these resources in our goals of revival and modernization as a Sudanese gesture. We hope to find your support and consent.

Brethren leaders,

We appreciate your support for Sudan in many areas, although we are not surprised.

God willing this support will continue with the issuance of strong, clear and unequivocal resolutions. You reject this decision and demand this fabrication be rescinded and everything associated with it. You even find ground for the Arab-African initiative for peace in Darfur and we thank you for your compliance with it. Please continue your support. As we expected, the Red Crescent and other voluntary organizations are targeting Darfur and we hope that you will entrust in this matter all the protection they deserve.

As to the humanitarian situation in Darfur, the Joint Committee of the government and the UN confirmed in its report that there are no nutritional or medicinal gaps in Darfur. The foreign organizations that were expelled from Darfur made up 13 out of the 118 foreign agencies working in Sudan, with the proportion of its work amounting to 4.5%. These expelled organizations were using authorized representatives portioning out high costs that reached 70% in administrative costs.

The transgressions of these organizations are summarized in the following:

Firstly, they started to work outside of their mandate.

Secondly, they signed secret agreements with the ICC and provided [the ICC] false reports.

Thirdly, they work on reports on mass rape by the seditious “inviting to change the African genes to Arab ones”.

The humanitarian situation and indicators are stable and we thank the friendly states for their response in supporting Darfur.

Republic of Djibouti
President, Ismail Omar Guelleh

We cannot neglect in this regard to stress our support for Sudan and renew our rejection of the politicization of international justice in view of the fact that politics of intimidation and the threat of sanctions against Sudan cannot be a solution for the Darfur dilemma. On the contrary, it will increase the complexity of the situation, because the Sudanese leadership has taken command over the peace settlement in the South and East. [Sudan] has the ability to close the file on Darfur, as long as foreign interventions cease.

United Nations
Secretary-General, Ban Ki Moon

In Sudan, the security situation remains volatile. I remain extremely concerned by the Government's decision to expel key international non-governmental organization, and suspend the work of three national NGOs that provide life-sustaining services for more than one million people. Despite the efforts of Sudanese line ministries, UN agencies and the remaining NGOs, the gaps cannot be filled with existing capacities. I urge the Sudanese authorities once again to reverse this decision.

The United Nations still lacks critical assets for the deployment of UNAMID. Even when fully deployed, however, a peacekeeping operation cannot substitute for a political process. We must press on with the talks here in Doha. We must also work together to transcend the tensions related to the International Criminal Court. Relief efforts should not become politicized. People in need must be helped irrespective of political differences. At the same time, peace and justice are core principles of the United Nations. We must all be committed to both.

Russian Federation
on behalf of President, Dimitri Medvedev
Nothing relevant to Sudan

League of Arab States
Secretary-General, Amre Moussa:

Sixth [point on agenda]: The potential to achieve an active Arab diplomatic movement, as in Lebanon, and what is going on with regards to Palestinian reconciliation, and as we tried to assist on completing the national reconciliation in Iraq, and as we participated in the establishment of peace between the North of Sudan and its South and in Darfur, and as we tried in Somalia, and in support of the Comoros Islands, and in our common stance in support for the restoration of the three islands of the Arab Emirates, and as such our efforts regarding the situation in Mauritania and support for stability and maintenance of her democratic experience.

Permit me after this overview to return to the regional political situation, and to point out a number of important issues covered by this Summit:

Fifth: We, in the Arab nation, trust – maybe more than others – in that there is a need for an international criminal judiciary that is fair and impartial, just as we stand on the side of justice and the application thereof, but it is the duty of international justice to stand free from any suspicion of double standards, or adversely affect the risk of causing a negative impact on the lives of more people who seek justice, in order to protect them. These are the principles that guided our work in the face of the continuing resolution adopted by the International Criminal Court in the right of President Omar Hassan Al-Bashir, President of the Republic of Sudan, and you have before you a draft statement lodged by the Foreign Affairs Ministers proposing a collective and specific decision about the charge.

We will continue our work in cooperation and coordination and the African Union to stop the indictment of President Al-Bashir and we hope that the world supports this position and to take into account the necessity and the requirements of security and stability and peace in the Sudan and also in the entire Horn of Africa.

African Union
President, Jean Ping

"We are very concerned with the serious consequences of the International Criminal Court's decision to deliver an arrest warrant for the President of Sudan, at a crucial time of the peace and reconciliation process in this country.

The AU Council for Peace and Security had already asked the UNSC to defer the proceedings initiated by the Court considering that they are likely to seriously undermine the efforts aimed at finding a quick solution to the challenges that Sudan faces. They are also likely to increase the suffering of the Sudanese population and the destabilization of the country, if not the region. We regret that today we have not been listened to or even been heard, although those issues are African issues, while the Summit and the AU Council for Peace and Security called once again the UNSC to fulfill its responsibilities and give a chance to the peace and reconciliation process.

In any case, we are happy to work in close collaboration with the Arab League and other partners with the objective to mobilize the largest support possible to our position on this issue.

The continued cooperation between the Arab League and the AU is vital in the quest for peace and security in Darfur, Sudan and in Somalia. We appreciate the role and efforts of Qatar in gathering parties to the conflict in Darfur and the Sudanese government at the negotiation table. The (AU) Commission will do its

best to support Qatar's initiative and will continue to cooperate with the state of Qatar and the Arab League so that objectives can be met. "

Organization of the Islamic Conference
Secretary-General, Professor Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu

Our position on the Darfur issue has been clear. We support Sudan and reject the double standards of the ICC with regard to the position taken against the H.E. Sudanese President Omar Hussein Al-Bashir. We have announced our complete solidarity with Sudan on this matter and I personally reassured this to the Sudanese President during my visit two weeks ago. At the same time, we requested that the Sudanese judges do everything justice demands of them to prosecute those involved in criminal operations in Darfur, so that the international community seriously feels the Sudanese government is dealing with the security and humanitarian situation there.

In addition to this, the OIC support the Arab-African initiative for peace talks in Darfur, led by Qatar. I personally participated in the opening meeting of these talks in Doha, which took place in mid-February 2009.

I met with the Executive Committee of the OIC in New York on 27th March. The Committee issued a Communiqué rejecting the ICC's decision, criticizing the Court's double standards and expressing its complete respect for the ruler of Sudan and its independence and national unity. The Committee demanded the respect for the immunity of heads of state, as stipulated in the Vienna Convention of 1961. The Committee called on the Security Council to suspend the ICC's request permanently and for the Court to coordinate its work on this issue with provincial and regional organizations such as the Arab League, the African Union, the Organization for the Islamic Conference and the Non-Aligned Movement.

Japan
Special Envoy for Japan to the Middle East, Dr. Tatsho Arima

Japan appreciates the efforts of Qatar and Egypt and Libya and the Arab League and the African Union and others to achieve stability in Darfur. And Japan will continue to contribute towards this end.

With regards to the decision of the International Criminal Court by issuing the arrest warrant to President Omar Al-Bashir, as a party to the ICC, Japan respects the independence and the decisions of the Court. At the same time, we hope that this decision does not affect the peace process in Darfur. We urge the Sudanese government and the opposition parties to the government of Sudan to prevent any actions that can possibly have negative effects on their cooperation with the African Union and the United Nations and the peace process between the North and the South, and the peace process in Darfur, and the humanitarian and security situations. Japan believes that the international community, which

includes the Arab League, is in need of unity because it seeks in determination to find a solution that reconciles between “peace” and “justice” in Darfur.

In this regard, Japan feels with deep concern the decision of the Government of Sudan issued on 4 March to expel 13 international nongovernmental organizations and the dismissal of three nongovernmental local organizations, because that decision will dangerously affect humanitarian assistance activities and reconstruction not only in Darfur, but all across Sudan. And on the basis of a joint statement between the government of Sudan and the United Nations of the year 2007, Japan calls on the government of Sudan to cooperate with the United Nations and the international nongovernmental organizations so that it can continue to provide humanitarian assistance activities in Darfur.

Arab Parliament

Chair of the Arab Parliament, Mohammed Al-Jassem Al-Saqer

...the parliament - which has always maintained international legitimacy – rejects the transitional justice and the arrest warrant that was issued against an Arab President and calls for a solution to this issue with balance and within an Arab framework and within the sovereignty of Sudan and each other country.

Council of Arab Interior Ministers

Secretary-General, Mohammed Ali Kuman

Nothing relevant to Sudan

Arab Labor Organization

Director-General , Ahmed Mohammed Luqman

Nothing relevant to Sudan

Norway

Foreign Minister and Chair of the AHLC, Jonas Gahr Store

Before closing, let me add one remark on the armed conflicts in the region, including with regard to Darfur in Sudan: They must be settled through negotiations in accordance with international law. Sustainable peace requires respect for the rule of law and the international legal order.

Therefore my Government has emphasized the need to ensure full compliance with decisions and requests of the Security Council in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and in this context we urge all governments to cooperate fully with the International Criminal Court.

Arab Organization for Industrial Development and Mining

Director-General, Mohamed Ben Youssef

Nothing relevant to Sudan

Council of Arab Foreign Ministers

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Syria, Walid Al-Muallem

The months that have followed the Summit in Syria have seen regional and international events and developments that have affected what is happening in our region. Without giving in-depth analyses to these developments, we can say that there has been regression from the call for further invasion and occupation and the emergence of an encouraging dialogue to produce suitable circumstances to solve some of the complicated situations in the region that we live in. However, we have also noticed that every time we hold talks to discuss solving a problem in part of the Middle East, the discourse on direct threats to Arab nations in another part of the region increases. In this context, I am referring to the risks that are surrounding the land, people, and the leadership of the Brotherly Sudan, and the importance of our collective Arab decisions about our brothers in Palestine and the unlimited mobilization of the Arab effort to support uniting Palestinian parties and the right of the Palestinian people in freeing their occupied lands since 1967.

What is required of us is to stand by our people in the Brotherly Sudan and its leadership to prevent the consequences of these risks from affecting our collective national security. I am confident that this Summit in Brotherly Qatar is a precious opportunity to reconfirm our solidarity and our support to our Sudanese brothers in all that they need.

UNRWA

Commissioner-General, Karen Koning Abu Zayd

Nothing relevant to Sudan

Republic of Cuba

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Marcos Rodriguez Costa

Nothing relevant to Sudan