



## **Bashir Watch Coalition Calls on Indonesia to Arrest Sudanese President Bashir, Wanted by International Criminal Court on Charges of Genocide**

The Bashir Watch Coalition a group of human rights organizations dedicated to accountability in Sudan calls on the Government of Indonesia to arrest Sudanese President Omar Al-Bashir who is visiting Jakarta for a summit of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. Bashir is wanted by the International Criminal Court (ICC) on charges of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide in Darfur.

The tragedy in Darfur was referred to the International Criminal Court by the UN Security Council (UNSC) through UNSC Resolution 1593 (2005), which urges all members of the United Nations to fully cooperate with the Court. Although Indonesia is not a State Party to the Rome Statute, non-member states are encouraged to bring international fugitives to justice. As a member of the UN, Indonesia falls within this exhortation and should act to bring Bashir to justice. The Bashir Watch Coalition further notes that as early as 2004, Indonesia pledged to ratify the Rome Statute by 2008 in its National Human Rights Action Plan, and when this goal was not reached, it was again included in the next Plan (2009-2014). Further demonstrating its commitment, Indonesia has also accepted numerous recommendations that it ratify the Rome Statute.

Hundreds of thousands of people have died in Darfur since 2003 and millions have been displaced. The last two years have seen the highest levels of violence and displacement since the height of the genocide more than a decade ago. In the first few weeks of 2016 alone, over 100,000 people have been newly displaced by an escalation of violence by the Sudanese government including largescale attacks on civilians. Bashir has not only enjoyed impunity for the crimes identified by the ICC but also for new and continuing crimes in Darfur and throughout Sudan. In South Kordofan and Blue Nile states nearly 4,000 bombs have been dropped on civilian areas according to the news organization Nuba Reports. Bashir has continuously blocked humanitarian aid from reaching those in need, and many people are at risk of starvation.

As the world's third largest democracy and a central player in the Southeast Asian region, Indonesia is in a position to make a strong, principled statement standing up for justice and accountability and for the people who have been victimized by the brutality of Bashir's regime.

The Bashir Watch Coalition urges the Government of Indonesia to respect both the rule of law and their legal obligations to arrest and surrender Bashir to ICC custody to fairly face the charges against him.

For further information on the case against Bashir and his travels visit: [www.bashirwatch.org](http://www.bashirwatch.org)

