



Pump Up the Power to Protect

Africa Action Escalates the Campaign to Stop Genocide in Darfur

Africa Action presents the following outline of the next steps in our Campaign to Stop Genocide in Darfur. Africa Action has long articulated the need for the deployment of a United Nations (UN) Peacekeeping Operation (PKO) in Darfur to stop the violence and protect the people. This protection force is needed more urgently than ever in light of the fact that violence has doubled since the May 5th signing of the peace agreement and the humanitarian crisis continues to deepen with the outbreak of cholera and the onset of the rainy season. Despite a broad global consensus around the need for a UNPKO in Darfur, the Sudanese governments' declaration of opposition to intervention leaves the international community in an apparent stalemate. The United States has the most leverage to overcome Sudan's objections to a UN force, and to introduce a resolution at the UN Security Council, authorizing the rapid deploying of a UNPKO in Darfur with a mandate to protect. Unfortunately, like Rwanda twelve years ago, the U.S. is not taking sufficient action to stop the genocide. Thus, Africa Action launches the following plan to escalate public pressure on the Bush Administration to take the action necessary to achieve a UNPKO in Darfur.

A Tale of Two Genocides



Rwanda Darfur

The U.S. Has the Power to Protect

To help escalate the pressure, we will be working in various ways to tell "The Tale of Two Genocides", comparing the U.S. response to Rwanda and now to Darfur. In addition to a report with that title, we will start engaging activists in tactics that involve two red handprints to symbolize the violence inherent in genocide and the need to use our power to protect the people of Darfur. We are beginning to question, in light of the urgency of a genocide in which 4 million lives are at risk, does continued U.S. inaction leave our nation, once again, with blood on our hands? Please join us in this escalation campaign, and help us to pump up our power to protect the people of Darfur.

Key Moments to Keep in Mind:

- **July 15 – 17:** Group of Eight (G8) meeting (Darfur may be on agenda)
- **July 18:** African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) pledging conference in Brussels
- **July 18 – 20:** Salva Kiir in Washington, DC, will meet with Bush
- **July 20/21 (ish):** Kofi Annan will present report to UN Security Council on AMIS/future PKO
- **July 26 – 27:** Cairo meeting of League of Arab States on Darfur
- **August 19:** Rally at the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX
- **September 7:** Students Taking Action Now Darfur (STAND) events start across the country
- **September 9:** 2nd anniversary of U.S. recognition of genocide in Darfur and rally and civil disobedience at the White House
- **Mid-Sept:** UN General Assembly opens in New York City
- **September 17:** International Day of Action on Darfur/March & concert in New York City

Three Month Escalating Action Plan

July

- **Launch a listserv** called “Darfur Escalation Now” (DEN) where activists can discuss this plan and identify additional tactics and activities to escalate pressure leading up to the September 17th International Day of Action and Save Darfur rally in New York. This un-moderated listserv will provide a forum for brainstorming, organizing and mobilizing nationwide action to stop genocide.
- **Update & re-release Africa Action’s Darfur Talking Points** and the How to Stop Genocide Fact sheet.
- **Release Africa Action Statement** on the need for the U.S. to use its leverage with Government of Sudan to overcome its objections to a UNPKO in Darfur.
- **Engage activists in an electronic advocacy campaign** calling on President Bush to “Pick up the phone to protect” and call President Bashir to let him know that the future of the U.S. Sudan relationship depends on Sudan allowing in a UNPKO. There will be an August 1 deadline for U.S. action to achieve a UN resolution.
- **Escalate Africa Action’s “Bird-Dog the Big Dogs” campaign**, targeting Bush, Rice, Bolton, Frazer, and the House and Senate leadership, with a special focus on members of Congress when they are at home for the summer recess.

August

- In August we will escalate our challenge to President Bush by engaging our activists in **phone calls to President Bush** and the other key decision-makers urging the President to “pick up the phone or we will hang up on the Bush Administration for failing to protect the people of Darfur”.
- On **August 19th**, we will host a rally outside of President Bush’s ranch in Crawford, TX, to continue to press for urgent action to stop the Darfur genocide. We welcome anyone in driving distance to join us in that rally.
- We will encourage our bird-dogging teams to **“Bird-Dog the Small Dogs”** and meet with their members of Congress while they are on recess and urge them to put pressure on the Bush Administration.
- Throughout August we will **escalate our media campaign** with an Op-Ed strategy, press releases and advisories, phone calls to key journalists and outlets.
- Throughout the month we will also encourage activists to find ways to put the **red handprints** out and about in communities across the nation with messages: “Stop the Genocide” “A Tale of Two Genocides, the U.S. Has the Power to Protect” “Send the UN”

September

- **Release “A Tale of Two Genocides” report** that compares the U.S. response to Rwanda with the U.S. policy toward Darfur and identifies how that policy must change to stop this genocide.
- **Host a rally and mass civil disobedience at the White House on September 9th**, the 2-year anniversary of the Bush Administration’s declaration that genocide is ongoing in Darfur. Honoring Africa Action’s 50-year history, and the role that civil disobedience has played in the civil rights, anti-apartheid and other social movements, we will continue to escalate the pressure by risking arrest. Imagine if 100 activists got arrested at the White House for Darfur...imagine if 500 activists got arrested...imagine if 5000 activists got arrested. What impact could we have? There will also be a safe and permitted space for those that choose not to be arrested.
- **Support the Save Darfur rally and concern in New York on September 17th**. Africa Action will try to engage activists to come to Washington DC for a week of action between the 9th and 17th, building toward the big rally and concert in New York City. We will keep updates on the actions and events that arise for that week on our website.