

SUDAN: TO GUARANTEE THE PEACE CSIS Report: International Peacekeeping Force Key to Maintaining Fragile Accord

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22, 2004 – A new, independent CSIS report, commissioned by the State Department's Africa Policy Advisory Panel, argues that an international quick response and peacekeeping force will be essential to secure a Sudan peace settlement, reinforced by substantial economic assistance and debt reduction.

**To Guarantee The Peace:
An Action Strategy for a Post-Conflict Sudan**

http://www.csis.org/isp/pcr/0401_sudan.pdf

Former Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, **Walter Kansteiner**, who chairs the Africa Policy Advisory Panel, commended the CSIS report, saying: "It is my strong personal conviction, and the continued strong preference of the U.S. government, that the international community systematically build incentives for a future unified Sudan that lives in a stable peace and respects the rights of all. The CSIS report identifies many of the critical steps to create those incentives and make future unity a reality."

The report, "To Guarantee the Peace: An Action Strategy for a Post-Conflict Sudan," (http://www.csis.org/isp/pcr/0401_sudan.pdf) states: "The accord's core bargain will invite tension and confusion, simultaneously building national institutions to preserve the unity of Sudan while creating an autonomous southern entity. But ending the war is just the beginning. The agreement is only the opening gambit in a six-year high stakes game that will culminate in a referendum on self-determination for Southern Sudan. The stakes in Sudan are enormous, from combating terrorism, persistent conflict, and failing states in Africa to introducing democracy and openness in the Middle East and improving U.S. goodwill in the Arab and Muslim worlds. Succeeding will require the United States and its partners to begin preparing now to commit the time, resources, and attention necessary to guarantee the peace in Sudan."

During a fall trip to Sudan, CSIS experts met with officials from the Sudanese government and the rebel army, diplomats, the internally displaced, United Nations and nongovernmental organization representatives, and an array of northern and southern Sudanese civilians. Their report argues that lasting peace in Sudan depends largely on the international community's ability to provide sufficient security, expedite new diplomatic, economic and security initiatives, ensure wide participation in Sudan's governing structures, and integrate Sudanese societies. The report recommends that the United States and international community take 10 steps in addition to deploying an international quick response and peacekeeping force under the UN's chapter VII authority to avoid a reversion to war or state failure in Sudan. Among them:

- Ensuring success of the **joint/integrated units** of Sudan's post-peace armed forces
- Sustaining robust **diplomatic engagement**
- Developing **transparent oversight mechanisms** over oil wealth and other sources of revenue
- Preparing for a **constitutional convention**

Rick Barton, co-director of the CSIS Post-Conflict Reconstruction Project, said, "The United States, Norway, and Britain have led a significant and effective international effort to achieve a peace accord in Sudan. The next stage will require an even larger effort, including guarantees against rogue behaviors."

Bathsheba Crocker, the Project's other co-director, said, "After forty years of war, the Sudanese people deserve the chance for peace. The international community cannot simply declare victory upon the signing of a peace agreement. Relying on the goodwill of the parties alone will not guarantee peace in Sudan." Crocker and **Dina Esposito**, consultant to the Project, were co-authors of the report.

CSIS is an independent, nonpartisan public policy research organization.