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SAVE
DARFUR

Ambassador Wenzhong
2133 Wisconsin Ave., NW,
Washington, DC 20007

Dear Ambassador Wenzhong:

As the genocide in Darfur enters its fifth year, and as the government of Sudan escalates violence in both West Darfur and Chad, now more than ever the women and children of Darfur require the strength of your voice.

China's leadership is key in the pursuit of a swift and sustainable peace in Sudan. As the primary economic, military and political partner of the Government of Sudan, and as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, China has both the opportunity and the responsibility to contribute to a just peace in Darfur. As host of the 2008 Olympic games, China has a special role to play in ensuring that its actions this year are commensurate with the Olympic ideals of peace and international cooperation.

I commend China's role in the passage of Resolution 1769, authorizing peacekeepers for Darfur. At the same time, however, I am disheartened that the Chinese government worked to weaken the resolution before it passed, and has since doubled its trade with Sudan. China's military relationship with Sudan also continues.

Your government has thus far remained silent as Sudan continues to block the effective deployment of UNAMID and engages in violent actions that violate the spirit of the mission. The people of Darfur deserve to live in safety and dignity. Given the severity of the crisis in Darfur, and the nature of the China-Sudan relationship, I ask you to:

1. Immediately provide half of the transport helicopters that UNAMID requires, with support from Europe and the United States for maintenance and contracting arrangements.
2. Support punitive measures, such as UN Security Council targeted sanctions, against Khartoum officials, until peace and security for Darfur is achieved.
3. Verifiably suspend all military cooperation with the Khartoum regime, including weapons transfers, until peace and security for Darfur is achieved.
4. Work with the United States, France, and the United Kingdom in a quartet supporting comprehensive UN and African Union initiatives in Darfur, Southern Sudan, and Chad.

Sincerely,