

[Extract]

United Nations

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Security Council

Sixty-second year

5727th meeting

Tuesday, 31 July 2007, 3.30 p.m.

New York

[...]

Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan

Mr. Ambassador Ricardo Alberto Arias

Permanent Representative of Panama to the United Nations

Mr. Arias (Panama) (*spoke in Spanish*): At the outset, I should like to welcome the presence of the Secretary-General, who is with us today. I recognize his leadership and his commitment to human rights in the Darfur region.

The action taken today by the Security Council is undoubtedly reason for this collegial body to be proud — as should the entire United Nations, of which the Council is a part. It is also a source of pride for the international community, which has been so concerned by this issue. But first and foremost, it should be a source of pride for the Government and the people of the Sudan.

But we must be clear that what we have done today in this Chamber is only the beginning of a process, the true culmination or success of which will lie in the pacification of the Sudan and in respect for human rights in Darfur. That can be achieved only to the extent that we not only promote the protection and defence of human rights, but also help to ensure economic and social development of the Sudan and the entire region. Only then can we all feel truly proud.