




THE REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
TO THE  
UNITED NATIONS

November 16, 2006

Dear Mr. Secretary General:

Attached please find Secretary Rice's response to your October 17 letter on Darfur peacekeeping.

Sincerely,

  
John R. Bolton

His Excellency  
Mr. Kofi Annan  
Secretary General  
United Nations  
New York.

Dear Mr. Secretary-General:

Thank you for your letter on Darfur peacekeeping. I am pleased to learn that you and the African Union Chairperson, Alpha Oum Konare, have agreed on the contents of an immediate "light assistance package" that the United Nations will provide to the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS). I am encouraged that the UN is moving forward in support of UNSCR 1706.

We have received your Secretariat's November 1 request for U.S. logistics support in setting up the "light assistance package" in Darfur. We are moving to support this effort but must overcome contracting constraints. We estimate that we will provide \$10 million over 4 months once our support begins.

Though the United States will likely be able to assist the UN in the short term, it is crucial that the UN move now to establish a strong, self-supporting platform from which it can assist AMIS and deploy in advance a UN peacekeeping operation to Darfur as mandated by UNSCR 1706. I encourage you to engage with the AU and its key partners on requirements for the longer-term assistance laid out in your July 28 report and in the addendum to UNSCR 1706 .

The United States has already provided AMIS \$300 million in in-kind assistance, primarily for the construction, operation, and maintenance of 34 troop camps - the backbone of the AMIS mission. Unfortunately, the United States is not currently in a position to provide the "urgent additional material and financial assistance" you requested for AMIS in your October 7 letter. We will, however, continue our existing support through March 2007.

We understand that funds from AMIS' other major bilateral partners (the EU, UK, Canada, and the Netherlands) are similarly limited. We will, of course, look for new ways to improve our AMIS support, but the financial situation of AMIS and its voluntary partners only underscores the need for rapid transition of AMIS to a UN peacekeeping mission. We need to continue working together with other key allies in the AU, P-5, and Arab world to ensure Sudanese approval for deployment of a UN force to Darfur before the AMIS mandate expires on December 31.

Sincerely,

Condoleezza Rice