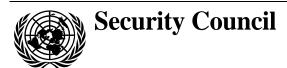
United Nations S/PRST/2008/15



Distr.: General 13 May 2008

Original: English

Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5891st meeting of the Security Council, held on 13 May 2008, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council strongly condemns the attacks of 10 May perpetrated by the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) against the Sudanese Government in Omdurman, and urges all parties to cease violence immediately, respect their obligations under international humanitarian law and commit to a peaceful resolution of all outstanding issues.

The Security Council urges restraint by all parties, and in particular, warns that no retaliatory action should be taken against civilian populations, or that has an impact on stability in the region.

The Security Council reiterates the urgent need for all parties to engage fully and constructively in the political process. The Security Council calls upon the States of the region to implement their commitments under the Dakar Accord, and to cooperate with a view to putting an end to the activities of armed groups and their attempts to seize power by force.

The Security Council strongly condemns all attempts at destabilization by force, and reaffirms its commitment to the sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity of Sudan."

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