Letter dated 5 March 2008 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the attached statement of the spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Sudan on the latest incident that occurred at the Sudan-Chad border, where non-African troops coming from Chad twice crossed into Sudanese territory (see annex). The statement is self-explanatory.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdalmahmood Abdalhaleem Mohamad
Permanent Representative
Annex to the letter dated 5 March 2008 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Communiqué issued by the official spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

3 March 2008

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs wishes to inform the public that, at about 5 p.m. on 3 March 2008 in the village of Umm Jaradil in the south of Western Darfur about two kilometres from the frontier with Chad, a military jeep carrying non-African soldiers crossed the Sudanese border, coming from within the territory of Chad and opened fire on the Sudanese observer unit. The unit was obliged to return fire, hitting the vehicle, whereupon the people on board fled on foot into the territory of Chad.

After half an hour, three other jeeps arrived from Chad supported by a military helicopter and once again there was a confrontation with the Sudanese military unit in the course of which a soldier and a number of civilians were wounded.

The Sudanese Government is now holding the necessary consultations with a view to making a full investigation of the incident in order to ensure that it is not repeated. The Sudanese armed forces will remain vigilant so as to protect the frontiers and to deal with any threat to the security, integrity and unity of Sudanese territory.