



Statement of the Delegation of the Sudan
Annual Report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
5 March 2009
Geneva

Mr. President,

1. We welcome the first annual report of the HRC whose assumption of her duties as the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights was a source of delight and hope to us. In a world where intergovernmental international institutions are increasingly used, misused, abused and manipulated by the "mights", it is reassuring that a respectable person from a country that fought against apartheid and ugly racial discrimination has assumed this post.
2. On genocide, as mentioned in the introductory report of the HC, you may recall, Mme. High Commissioner, that my delegation actively participated in the seminar held on the prevention of genocide. We adduced persuasive evidence to refute the politically motivated accusations of the Prosecutor of the ICC of committing genocide in Darfur. Instead of providing twisted, fabricated and unsubstantiated accounts on imaginary genocide in Darfur, we drew attention of the participants to the concrete and conclusive evidences collected by the then OAU, now African Union and later by the Government of Rwanda and some reputable lawyers and activists in Europe on the shameful involvement of certain countries and governments and very high officials there in committing genocide in Rwanda, the genocide which claimed one million civilians lives in 1994.
3. Regarding the call of the High Commissioner to cooperate with the ICC and respect its independence, it is with deep regret that an international criminal jurisdiction which became functional less than seven years ago is now a subject of deep controversy over its credibility and independence. Suffice to quote here the first Chief Prosecutor of the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda tribunals, Justice Richard Goldstone who said: "**the ICC would have no credibility and international justice would be seriously compromised, if the Court or its Prosecutor were made subject to the control of political bodies, whether the Security Council or state parties**". Unfortunately, the "independence" of the ICC has been undermined by its Prosecutor.