



October 24, 2008

Bernard R. Berson, President  
Lawrence A. Jacobson, Executive Director and Secretary  
National Society of Professional Engineers  
1420 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314-2794

Dear Bernard R. Berson and Lawrence A. Jacobson,

Responding to a rebellion in 2003, the regime of Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir and its allied militia, known as the *Janjaweed*, launched a campaign of destruction against the civilian population of ethnic groups identified with the rebels. They wiped out entire villages, destroyed food and water supplies, stole livestock and systematically murdered, tortured and raped civilians. The Sudanese government's genocidal scorched earth campaign has claimed hundreds of thousands of lives through direct violence, disease and starvation, and continues to destabilize the region. Millions have fled their homes and live in dangerous camps in Darfur, and hundreds of thousands are refugees in neighboring Chad. As many as 400,000 innocent civilians have died and approximately 2.5 million others now live in refugee and displaced persons camps. Violence continues today. Ultimately, the fate of the Darfuri people depends on establishing a lasting and just peace in all of Sudan and in the region.

This violence has been labeled as genocide by the US Congress and President Bush.

Through effective media outreach, public education, targeted coalition building and grassroots mobilization, the Save Darfur Coalition is pressuring policy-makers and other decision-makers in the United States and abroad to help the people of Darfur. But now we need your help. We would like your society to sign a statement about the situation in Darfur and publicize it among your members.

Sudanese oil exports have been steadily rising over the past decade. The revenues from oil sales have been - and continue to be - used to fund the genocide in Darfur.

The engineering profession exists to advance human health, safety and welfare. It plays an essential role in extracting, transporting, and refining Sudanese oil. Therefore, it has, unwanted as it may be, a measure of responsibility for the situation in Darfur. We call upon you and your organization to collaborate with us and others to create positive incentives for the Sudanese government to end these atrocities and embrace peace and stability.

By signing and publicizing the attached resolution, the National Society of Professional Engineers has the opportunity to play a historic role in creating pressure that builds the momentum to end the genocide and create lasting peace to the people of Darfur.

If you would like to sign the resolution, please respond to Joe Carson, P. E.,  
[President@Christianengineer.org](mailto:President@Christianengineer.org) 10953 Twin Harbor Drive, Knoxville, TN 37934 phone  
865-300-5831

Sincerely,

Jerry Fowler  
President  
The Save Darfur Coalition

Joe Carson, P. E.  
President

## Resolution of the National Society of Professional Engineers About Darfur

The engineering profession serves humanity by applying laws of math and discoveries of science to the universe's natural resources for the betterment of mankind. By its code of ethics, engineers hold paramount the public health and safety. The profession's 20 million degreed members collectively hold the welfare of civilization and much of the natural environment in their hands.

The US President and Congress have declared that genocide is occurring in the Darfur region of Sudan. This genocide poses challenges to the engineering profession, given the role of oil in the geopolitical dynamics in Sudan.

Genocide, as has been happening in the Darfur region of Sudan, is a challenge to all humanity and human institutions. This particularly includes the engineering profession, given the role of oil in the geopolitical dynamics in Sudan. Oil has played a central role to many major accomplishments of the engineering profession in the past 150 years - the National Academy of Engineering's list of the top 20 engineering achievements of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century includes petroleum and petroleum technologies, automobile, airplane, and highways.

It is an affront to the ultimate value of the engineering profession - to "hold paramount the public health and safety" - that the valuable resource of oil in Sudan does not benefit the health and safety of the people of Darfur, but instead helps fund their suffering and destruction.

Consistent with the code of ethics for engineers and the values which define our profession, we resolve the following:

- 1) As an organization, we join the Save Darfur Coalition to call upon the UN, the US, and other members of the international community to take action to stop the Darfur genocide and restore peace to the region.
- 2) We call upon our members to consider all action they can take to avoid involvement with projects in Sudan that counter the mission of the profession and fuel the genocide in Darfur.
- 3) We give encouragement to those who are using engineering to help the people of Darfur, such as providing services to the refugee camps, medical professions, and those who are working to bring peace to the region.