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Resolution on the crisis in South Sudan

South Sudan gained its independence in 2011 after decades of civil wars in Sudan that killed over 2.5 million people. Again in 2013 violence emerged in South Sudan between the followers of the President and the Vice-President. Widespread and systematic atrocities have been carried out by both sides, which makes the civilian population face extreme hardship and over 2 million people are refugees. It is estimated that over 4 million South Sudanese are in need of aid.

South Sudan gained its independence after two civil wars since 1956. Khartoum demonstrated cruel and discriminatory use of violence and policies towards both south of Sudan and in the areas of Darfur. A liberation army, SPLA, was born in 1983 in what is now South Sudan, which was viewed as a Dinka-army, and, therefore, ethnic and political fractionalizing started already at the birth of SPLM/A. The ethnic and political violence has increased spurred by the events in December 2013. The civilian population has been deeply affected by the violence and to prevent a continuous famine and humanitarian catastrophe, the international community needs to put more focus on the humanitarian crisis in the area.

Despite current and past (arm trade) sanctions, as many countries in the world with violence, Sudan has big oil-resources. It is also one of the main deliverers of gum Arabic used by large corporations as the Coca-Cola Corporation. The regime in Khartoum earned millions of dollars from Western companies, even after an international embargo was put in place, which it used to sponsor its wars. Until today not enough effort is put in place to investigate and stop the funding of the conflict partners to de-escalate the conflict. Next to the current sanctions, a UN-imposed arms embargo, improved border monitoring, and a UN panel of experts mandated to study the funding of South Sudan's war are needed.

The international community has yet to meet its promises of aid and as the South Sudanese face even tougher times it is essential that the international community acts. We urge the international community to increase drastically the humanitarian aid to South Sudan to meet both its own promises and, more importantly, to ease the hardship of the people of South Sudan.