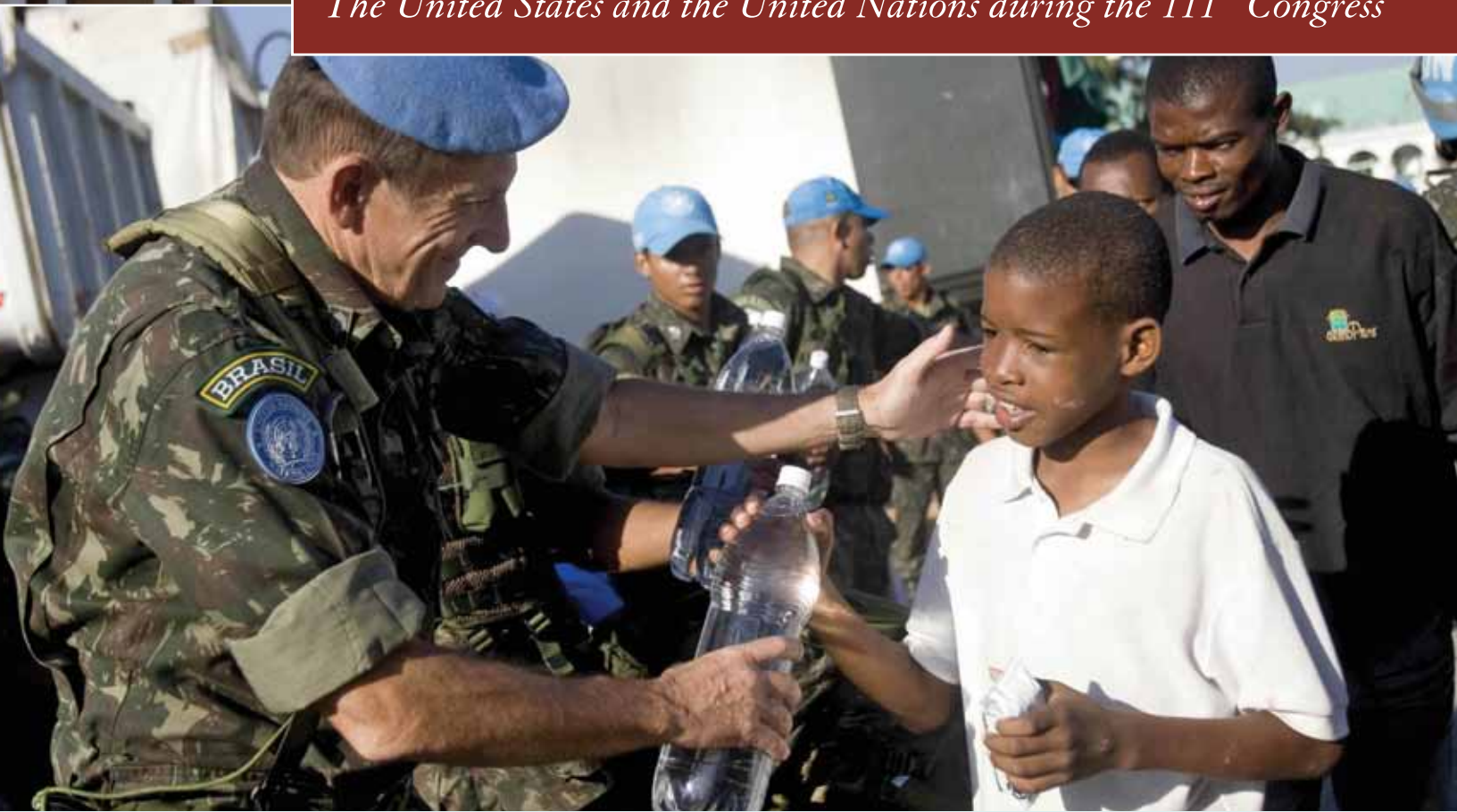




*The United States and the United Nations during the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress*



Dear Colleague:

Last year, the Better World Campaign developed a briefing book providing information about the United Nations and concrete ways in which the UN serves American interests. This year, we are providing an update to alert you to notable achievements in 2009 and key issues the U.S. and UN are currently working together to address.

There were important successes in 2009: the United States fully funded the UN regular and peacekeeping budgets, addressed outstanding arrears, rejoined the Human Rights Council, and pledged support for a strengthened nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regime. Furthermore, President Obama reaffirmed U.S. commitment to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by declaring them “America’s Goals” and became the first U.S. President to chair a Security Council meeting.

In 2010, U.S.-UN cooperation will be even more critical as there are many global challenges which will require further engagement. In the immediate aftermath of the devastating earthquake in Haiti, the U.S. and UN worked in partnership to support our Haitian neighbors and provide life saving relief efforts. This continued cooperation will be essential in the coming months and years to ensure we “build back better” in Haiti. In Iraq, as troops begin to draw down and a new governing coalition emerges from the March parliamentary elections, the U.S. and UN must partner to promote further dialogue and reconciliation between political/regional factions. And with just five years remaining until the deadline for the Millennium Development Goals, the U.S. and UN must work with world leaders to accelerate achievement of the MDGs.

The enclosed update touches on the aforementioned issues along with other critical issues which entail U.S.-UN engagement. We hope you find this information useful and invite you to call us at 202-462-4900 or visit our website at [BetterWorldCampaign.org](http://BetterWorldCampaign.org) for more information. We look forward to working with you in the months and years ahead to advance international cooperation and America’s interests around the world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Yeo", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter Yeo  
Executive Director, Better World Campaign

P.S. In case you have not heard, given the growth in UN peacekeeping in the last ten years, we’ve launched a new website – [www.unitedinpeacekeeping.org](http://www.unitedinpeacekeeping.org). We hope it serves as a useful resource about the missions and how each of these operations serves American interests.

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## About the Better World Campaign

### Our Mission

The Better World Campaign (BWC) works to foster a strong, effective relationship between the United States and the United Nations (UN) through outreach, communications, and advocacy. We encourage U.S. leadership to work constructively with the UN to strengthen the UN's ability to carry out its invaluable operations around the world. In addition, we engage policy makers, the media, and the American public to increase awareness of and support for the United Nations.

### 2010 Agenda

2009 brought on many changes that enhanced the relationship between the U.S. and the UN thereby strengthening both of their capacities and global roles. During the year, the U.S. fully funded the UN regular and peacekeeping budgets, addressed outstanding arrears, joined the Human Rights Council, and pledged support for a strengthened nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regime.

In 2010, BWC will continue to build support for U.S. policies that reinforce and renew U.S. engagement in the UN. We will work with the Administration and Congress to ensure U.S. dues are paid on time and in full so that the U.S. does not fall back into arrears. We will encourage greater support for UN peacekeeping operations and the UN's work in places such as Haiti and Sudan, active engagement in the Human Rights Council, commitment to achieving the Millennium Development Goals, ratification of key UN agreements, and the adoption of reforms so the UN can better address the global challenges of the 21st century.

### 2010 Briefing Book Update

This 2010 briefing book update supplements BWC's 2009 briefing book with up-to-date background on U.S.-UN funding and other issues the UN has tackled since the release of last year's book.

Sections:

- U.S. Dues and Contributions
- Peace and Security Issues
- Economic and Social Issues
- United Nations on the Ground
- International Agreements
- UN Strengthening and Reform

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## U.S. Dues and Contributions

There are two sources of funding for the UN and its agencies:

- *Assessed* contributions that finance the UN’s regular budget, peacekeeping operations, and specialized agencies like the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); and
- *Voluntary* contributions to funds and programs such as the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) as well as subsidiary organizations of the UN.

### Assessed Contributions

Assessed contributions are payments made as part of the obligations that nations undertake when signing treaties. Assessed contributions are vital as they are the primary source of reliable funding for UN core activities, such as peacekeeping. For example, the U.S. is assessed 22 percent of the UN’s regular budget and 27 percent of the UN’s peacekeeping operations budget. However, an outdated Congressional mandate caps U.S. expenditures at 25 percent of the UN’s peacekeeping budget.

### **Paying Our Dues: UN Regular Budget**

The UN’s regular budget finances the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the International Court of Justice, and the Secretariat. It also finances the UN’s special political missions, the largest of which are the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI).

The current payment structure for UN regular budget dues sets maximum and minimum rates for all nations. The maximum “ceiling” rate is 22 percent. The minimum “floor” rate for poorer countries is 0.001 percent. The U.S. pays the maximum rate and has negotiated several reductions in this rate over time, the most notably from 25 percent to 22 percent. The assessment rate is primarily determined by per capita income, of which the U.S. has one of the highest in the world.

The U.S. assessed contribution to the UN’s regular budget is included, along with 43 other UN-system, regional, and non-UN organizations, in the State Department’s Contributions to International Organizations (CIO) account. Since the 1980s, the U.S. has deferred payments to international organizations through this account by withholding dues payments by at least nine months—into the next fiscal year. The fiscal year for international organizations begins on January 1, but the U.S. does not provide payment until October 1 or when the foreign operations appropriations bills pass. This delay leaves the U.S. chronically behind and requires international organizations to take fiscally undesirable measures to meet their payroll and other obligations, including extensive internal and external borrowing.

### **Paying Our Dues: UN Peacekeeping Budget**

Although the UN’s peacekeeping budget is separate from the regular budget it is also financed by assessments to member states. The UN’s peacekeeping assessment formula mirrors the regular budget rate structure but gives greater discounts to poorer nations. The resulting funding deficit is compensated for by the five permanent mem-

bers of the Security Council, the U.S., the United Kingdom, France, Russia, and China. Each of these five has unique voting and veto rights at the Security Council to authorize or suspend any peacekeeping operation. While the permanent members of the Security Council pay a slightly higher rate, the vast majority of UN peacekeepers come from developing countries such as: Pakistan; Bangladesh; Nepal; and Ghana.

The U.S. assessed contributions to the UN's peacekeeping operations are funded through the State Department's Contributions to International Peacekeeping Activities (CIPA) account. For any mission, which must be approved by the U.S. in the Security Council, other countries pay almost 75% of the costs.

## Current Funding Levels for UN Regular & Peacekeeping Budget

Last year, Congress returned the U.S. to good financial standing at the UN and honored its obligations by fully funding the regular and peacekeeping budgets. In addition, the U.S. paid its arrears to the UN.

In the coming year, we ask that Congress maintain its support. Full funding for the UN ensures it can carry out its vital humanitarian, peacekeeping, democracy-building, and development work, all of which serves U.S. foreign policy interests. As the U.S. is the UN's largest contributor, Congressional funding shortfalls significantly impact the UN's ability to carry out its operations. It is critical that Congress fully meet its commitments to the UN regular and peacekeeping budgets.

Below is a chart detailing FY 2010 funding levels, along with the proposed FY 2011 budget request. We ask that Congress fully support the President's request throughout the budgeting and appropriations processes.

Account	FY10 Request	FY10 Enacted	FY11 Request
CIPA	2,260,000,000	2,125,000,000	2,182,300,000
CIO	1,797,000,000	1,682,500,000	1,595,430,000
CIO – UN Regular Budget	597,472,000	597,472,000	516,314,000

## Voluntary Contributions

Voluntary contributions are, as the name implies, voluntary rather than assessed payments left to the discretion of each individual Member State. U.S. contributions, as a Member State, finance most of the UN's humanitarian relief and development agencies including the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP), and the UN Development Programme (UNDP).

These UN agencies undertake activities critical to U.S. national security interests that would be difficult, if not impossible, for the U.S. to undertake alone. U.S. voluntary contributions are financed through the State Department's International Organizations and Programs account.

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## Peace and Security Issues

### Peacekeeping

The UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) oversees 17 operations and has more than 100,000 troops and personnel deployed, making it the second largest force deployed in the world. These missions promote peace and security by stabilizing regional conflicts, training police officers, and protecting civilians during humanitarian crises.

In the last ten years, the number of peacekeeping missions has tripled as the Security Council has increasingly looked to the UN to serve as a stabilizing presence in volatile regions. Last September, President Obama hosted a meeting with the UN's top troop-contributing countries to underscore the U.S. commitment to UN peacekeeping and to stress the message, that the operations are a "cost-effective means for the United States and all nations to share the burden of promoting peace and security."

### Enhancing American Interests

UN peacekeeping continues to serve key U.S. interests by:

- **Sharing the burden.** The U.S. cannot, nor should it be asked to, promote international security alone. UN peacekeeping draws upon the financial and human resources of UN member states to effectively share the burden of collective security and reduce the need for unilateral intervention. As a trade-off for providing a significant portion of the funding for UN peacekeeping, the U.S. provides very few troops for these missions.
- **Being cost effective.** The UN continues to be one of the most cost-effective solutions for preventing conflict, keeping peace, and rebuilding societies emerging from conflict. According to the Government Accountability Office, UN peacekeeping is 8 times less expensive—just 12 cents on the dollar—than fielding a comparative U.S. force.
- **Maintaining stability abroad.** *The Human Security Report*, a major international study on peace and war, declared the global security climate improved dramatically since the 1980s, with genocides in particular plummeting by 80 percent. The study attributed that decline to better conflict prevention and peacemaking effort, as well as the increase in the number and complexity of UN peacekeeping missions.
- **Preventing failed states.** With U.S. assistance, UN peacekeeping continues to help prevent the collapse of weak states by implementing peace agreements, monitoring ceasefires, demobilizing combatants, facilitating humanitarian efforts, training police, and creating conditions for political reconciliation and elections to take place. Preventing a rise in failed states effectively limits safe havens for terrorists which is an important U.S. counterterrorism objective.

- **Promoting democratic governance.** UN peacekeeping operations provide the security necessary to support free and fair elections and assists nascent democracies emerging from conflict to implement governance reforms. The promotion of democracy and stable government institutions is a key U.S. foreign policy priority.
- **Leveraging international legitimacy.** By harnessing the agreement of its member states and the strength of its Charter, UN peace operations enjoy a level of international legitimacy that unilateral and coalition efforts do not. As a permanent Security Council member, the U.S. is able to leverage this legitimacy in pursuit of America's strategic national security interests.

## Counterterrorism

The UN combats international terrorism by coordinating counterterrorism activities among member states, supporting victims of terrorism, and creating frameworks to assist those nations that are most critical to the disruption and weakening of global terrorism. By uniting nations under the Global Counterterrorism Strategy—a common strategic and operational approach to fighting terrorism adopted by all 192 member states—the UN has provided a comprehensive system for preventing terrorist financing, enforcing travel bans, launching joint law enforcement and intelligence missions against terrorist attacks, and harmonizing criminal justice standards. Recent counterterrorism actions include:

- In December 2009, the Security Council passed U.S.-sponsored Resolution 1904, strengthening UN Resolution 1267's sanctions against Al Qaeda and the Taliban by:
  1. Reaffirming the global consensus condemning Al Qaeda and Taliban operations;
  2. Strengthening implementation of sanctions through the creation of an Ombudsperson; and
  3. Improving the fairness and transparency of the sanctions regime.
- In December 2009, the General Assembly voted to enhance the institutionalization of the UN's Counterterrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) created by the Secretary General in 2005 to ensure overall coordination of the UN's counterterrorism efforts. The vote for institutionalization means that the UN regular budget can now be used to support the adequate staffing and funding of CTITF.
- At a January 2010, UN-backed meeting, members of the international community agreed to boost support for Yemen in its efforts to combat Al Qaeda and other terrorist and radical elements operating within its borders.

## Nuclear Non-Proliferation

With its unique ability to bring nations together to share resources and information, the UN provides an international platform for stemming nuclear proliferation, crafting key international non-proliferation agreements, and establishing frameworks to address breaches of these agreements.

In September 2009, President Obama chaired a historic Summit-level meeting of the Security Council to strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regime. The meeting resulted in the unanimous adoption of Resolution 1887, which endorsed stricter export controls and safeguards while establishing stronger provisions to deter withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Further, in February 2010, the Obama Administration also began to engage Congress in seeking the ratification of the Comprehensive Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) ahead of a UN summit in May to strengthen the NPT. In addition, in April 2010, the U.S. hosted a Nuclear Security Summit with world leaders which focused on preventing terrorists from acquiring nuclear weapons/materials and included the signing of a pact to replace the outdated Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty. These efforts are expected to significantly boost prospects for a successful Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference this May at the UN.

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## Economic and Social Issues

### Millennium Development Goals

In 2000, world leaders made a historic commitment to improving the conditions of the world's poor by adopting eight goals aimed at fighting the root causes of poverty, hunger, disease, and inequality by 2015. That commitment established the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The MDGs are the first and only framework that all nations, including donor and recipient countries, have adopted to tackle these problems on a daily basis. In the past ten years, significant progress has been made and evidence has shown that the MDGs are achievable. However, the effect of the recent global economic recession has slowed progress towards achieving some of the goals. In September 2010, world leaders will once again gather at the UN to renew their commitment and accelerate achievement of the MDGs.

At last year's UN General Assembly, President Obama reaffirmed the U.S. commitment to the MDGs by declaring them "America's Goals" and promising to support a global plan to achieve them. During the 2010 summit and over the next five years, the U.S. has an opportunity to demonstrate its commitment to improving the lives of people in developing countries. The U.S. has already made the following important contributions:

- To address the food crisis and fight global hunger, Congress passed legislation in support of the Administration's plans toward long term sustainable agricultural development and food security (MDG 1).
- The Obama Administration has made women's empowerment a signature issue (MDG 3) by establishing the first ever Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's issues within the State Department and reinstating funding for the UN Population Fund (UNFPA). In the FY 2010 budget, the Senate appropriated \$2 million for the Office of Global Women's Issues to support gender integration efforts across all sectors that receive US foreign assistance. In addition, Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) was appointed the head of the first Senate subcommittee on global women's issues.
- In February 2010, President Obama requested an increase in the FY 2011 International Affairs Budget to address investments in global agriculture (MDG 1) and a more comprehensive approach to improving global health (MDGs 4 and 5), including efforts to fight neglected tropical diseases and improvements to maternal and child health.

### Human Rights

In 2009, the United States joined the Human Rights Council (HRC) based on the Administration's belief that working from within would promote a more effective forum for advancing human rights. This approach has already yielded positive results with the U.S. playing an instrumental role in thwarting efforts to eliminate the mandate of the independent expert on human rights in Sudan and co-sponsoring a resolution with Egypt in September 2009 to lay the groundwork for more cooperation within the Council.

The U.S. has successfully promoted three human rights resolutions on Iran, Sudan, and North Korea. In addition, in February 2010, the U.S. was actively engaged in Iran's Universal Periodic Review (UPR), a process that allows members of the Council to review, comment, and make recommendations regarding the human rights records of all 192 UN Member States.

In 2011 the Council will have its five-year review and by being a member, the U.S. has a unique opportunity to improve the body and its work on human rights.

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## United Nations on the Ground

### Haiti

A 7.0 magnitude earthquake devastated Haiti on January 12, 2010, killing over 230,000 Haitians and destroying the capital city's infrastructure including key government institutions, and the UN peacekeeping mission headquarters. Within hours, the U.S. and the UN began a search and rescue mission and provided critical humanitarian aid. Despite its own tragic losses, including the deaths of the head of the mission and his deputy, the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), immediately began clearing roads to provide humanitarian access to people in need and providing security to the city and the airport. The UN continues to coordinate and operate in many aspects of the relief and rebuilding efforts in Haiti.

- Shortly after the earthquake, the Security Council voted to deploy an additional 2,000 military and 1,500 police personnel to reinforce the UN mission and support the U.S. forces.
- The Haitian government designated the UN as the lead coordinator for the relief and recovery effort with support from the U.S., NGOs, and the international community.
- Former President Bill Clinton, the UN Special Envoy to Haiti, is working to galvanize support for the long-term relief and rebuilding effort.
- The UN Development Programme (UNDP) initiated a "Cash for Work" program that has employed 85,000 Haitians, 40 percent of whom are women, to remove debris, deliver aid to homeless, and support the reconstruction effort.
- The UN continues to support shelter and sanitation needs by providing over 500,000 people with emergency shelter materials. The UN and other partners have built almost 3,000 latrines and washrooms to support 138,000 people and plan to construct over 21,000 latrines by the end of June. Despite these efforts by the United Nations, the upcoming rainy and hurricane seasons will cause additional hardship for the hundreds of thousands without adequate shelter.

### Iraq

The UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) is a mission that has contributed to the peace, recovery, reconciliation and long-term development of a sustainable and stable Iraq. Sixteen UN agencies and funds are working together on the ground to provide essential humanitarian assistance; promote dialogue and reconciliation between political and regional factions; facilitate free and fair elections; and help refugees and internally displaced persons. In the past year, the UN has strengthened Iraq in the following ways:

- UNAMI facilitated dialogue between representatives of the Iraqi government and the Kurdistan regional government over disputed internal boundaries, in order to promote reconciliation;

- The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) assisted 40,000 refugees in camps, settlements, and urban settings while durable solutions, including resettlement, were pursued;
- The UN Office of Electoral Assistance provided technical advice and capacity building to the Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC), which administers the elections;
- UNAMI assisted the IHEC in updating voter registration rolls and providing accurate information on polling sites during the March 2010 parliamentary election;
- The UN helped facilitate the passage of laws that led to successful Iraqi provincial elections, including those in Kurdistan.

After the March elections, President Obama saluted “the invaluable assistance provided by UNAMI” and noted that the important work of the IHEC will continue in the days to come as it counts ballots, tabulates results, and investigates complaints.

UNAMI remains committed to supporting efforts to build a peaceful and prosperous Iraq, paving the way for eventual withdrawal of U.S. military forces.

## Afghanistan

The UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) is a mission that coordinates the UN’s humanitarian and reconstruction assistance, as well as its work to improve the democratic institutions of the Afghan government. UNAMA also promotes human rights, fosters political reconciliation, and coordinates international and civilian aid in the country.

Despite the tense security situation in the country, particularly around the 2009 elections, during which six UN staff were killed, the UN has remained committed to furthering Afghanistan’s development and strengthening its democratic institutions. In addition, UNAMA has:

- Supporting rural and urban infrastructure projects by providing training and short-term job opportunities to the local populations to rebuild clinics, schools, government buildings, roads, and mobile and internet capabilities in hundreds of villages;
- Provided technical and logistical guidance to the Afghan Independent Election Commission as it prepared for the first Afghan-led presidential and provincial council elections since the 1970s, registering over 4.5 million new voters (38 percent of whom were women) and putting more women on the ballot for provincial council elections than ever before;
- Monitored human rights, particularly those newly won by Afghan women, by sponsoring awareness campaigns on gender-based violence against women and girls and recommending legislation that criminalizes rape; and

- Cleared 80,000 landmines and 2.5 million explosive remnants of war during the past 12 months, as well as educating 750,000 people on the risks of mines, reducing the number killed by these devices to less than 50 per month, the lowest level in over 10 years.

## **Sudan**

There are two UN peacekeeping missions supporting the peace processes in Darfur (UNAMID) and South Sudan (UNMIS).

### **Darfur**

Since 2007, the African Union-UN Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) mission has promoted human rights and rule of law, protected civilians, and facilitated access for humanitarian assistance within Darfur.

In February 2010, the Sudanese government signed a ceasefire agreement and framework for peace with the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), one of the largest rebel groups in Darfur, paving the way for an end to seven years of war. The agreement will be monitored by UNAMID and includes a power-sharing agreement that will allow JEM to participate in the Khartoum government. It remains to be seen whether both sides will uphold their commitments. In March 2010, UNAMID verified reports of continued violence in western Darfur between rebel groups who remain outside the political process and the government of Sudan.

### **South Sudan**

The United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) is tasked primarily with implementing the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) between the Sudanese government based in Khartoum and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement, a former rebel group in southern Sudan. Upholding the CPA will include successful 2010 national elections, a resolution of the disputed border areas of the oil-rich Abyei region, a permanent agreement on sharing oil revenue, and a 2011 referendum on self-determination for the South.

In south Sudan, the UNMIS Electoral Task Force continues to assist the Sudanese National Election Commission (NEC) in preparing for the general elections in April 2010 and the 2011 referendum. UNMIS is improving civic education by registering voters, providing voter education workshops, and training poll monitors. UNMIS has also trained more than 1,500 police officers—including 118 female officers—in forensics, computer skills, traffic control, airport security, and community policing.

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## International Agreements

The following is a list of actions taken by the U.S. government on key international agreements:

- For the first time in a decade, the U.S. has endorsed the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), indicating its support by participating in the CTBT Article XIV Conference in September 2009 at the Secretary of State level and pledging to move forward with its ratification in Congress.
- In September 2009, President Obama became the first U.S. president to chair a Summit-level meeting of the Security Council. Focusing on nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, the meeting resulted in the unanimous adoption of Resolution 1887, strengthening the non-proliferation regime with provisions to deter withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and the endorsement of stricter export controls and safeguards.
- The U.S. has demonstrated support for a legally-binding agreement by backing an October resolution to convene a UN Conference in 2012 on an arms trade treaty.
- President Obama reaffirmed his commitment to pursuing negotiations on a Fissile Material Cutoff Treaty (FMCT) to end the production of fissile material at the Conference on Disarmament in 2010.
- The Administration formally signed the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in July 2009 and co-sponsored a resolution on the Convention in the General Assembly in fall 2009.
- The U.S. joined consensus resolutions in the General Assembly on the Right to Food, the Rights of the Child, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.
- The Administration re-engaged with the International Criminal Court for the first time in nearly eight years, sending an observer delegation to the Assembly of States Parties meeting in November 2009 and indicating that the U.S. will attend a treaty review conference in spring 2010.
- The U.S. attended the Second Review Conference of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Antipersonnel Mines and their Destruction for the first time and indicated that the U.S. will end the use of all persistent mines by the end of 2010.

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## UN Strengthening and Reform

### Accomplishments

#### Strengthening Oversight and Accountability

- Former U.S. Comptroller and head of the GAO, David Walker, now heads the Independent Audit Advisory Committee (IAAC) of the United Nations, which acts as an expert advisory board to assist the General Assembly in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities.
- The Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) — which performs internal audits, inspections, evaluations and investigations within the UN System — has increased its capacity to handle investigations, provide internal auditing, and evaluate peacekeeping missions.

#### Recruiting and Maintaining Quality Staff

- As of July 2009, streamlined contractual arrangements have been implemented so that there are now only three types of appointments under a single set of staff rules. This replaces a complex system of multiple contracts and will reduce inefficiencies.
- Conditions of service have been harmonized among staff at Headquarters and in the field, which helps to promote staff mobility and fairness. It also ensures the UN recruits and maintains high-quality staff.
- The UN has stopped the practice of issuing permanent contracts, in order to ensure that only the most qualified people remain on staff.
- The recruitment process has been streamlined and the time to bring staff onboard has been shortened.

#### Professionalizing Internal Justice

- A new independent and more expedient internal justice system became operational on July 1, 2009. The two-tiered system uses the UN Dispute Tribunal and UN Appeals Tribunal to address disputes among staff and managers.

#### Strengthening the UN's work

- In 2009 the General Assembly agreed to give the Secretary General limited budgetary discretion of \$30 million to respond to crises and emerging situations, such as the H1N1 flu.
- In September 2009, UN member countries voted to consolidate the four UN offices confronting women's issues into a single, more robust entity. This entity will give women's issues a stronger voice within the UN system while reducing overlap and enhancing policy coherence and financial efficiency.

- In 2007, the UN launched “Delivering as One” to streamline the work of all UN funds and programs in eight pilot countries. This program will allow agencies like UNDP, UNICEF, and WFP to better coordinate UN development assistance in the field, as well as reducing administration costs and improving efficiency.

### **Reforming Budgetary Process and Accountability**

- The Secretary General is developing an framework that would make staff and managers more accountable for their performance.
- The Secretary General will also suggest ways to streamline and strengthen the budgetary process to address inefficiencies and reduce unnecessary UN reports.

### **Improving business practices and internal controls**

- The UN is replacing its outdated information management system with Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP). ERP will streamline the management of operations, resources, and staff; reduce business processes by over 70 percent; and save the UN hundreds of millions of dollars. Once implemented, ERP will also enhance internal controls and ensure the UN meets International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS).







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