



Final Communiqué

We, the participants in the “Symposium on Conflict Resolution : the Humanitarian Dimension; the Case of the Sudan” held from 20 - 23 May 1996 in the Leeuwenhorst Congress Centre, the Netherlands and organized by UNESCO with the support of the Government of the Netherlands,

Aware that lasting peace and development can only be predicated on justice, equality, freedom, democracy and full participation of all the people of the Sudan,

Fully cognizant of the fact that the Sudan is a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, multi-lingual and multi-religious country,

Realising that these multiple diversities constitute a potential wealth for the country if they are given both institutional and constitutional expression based on freedom, justice, equality and democratic principles,

Committed to the above-mentioned and all other principles enshrined in the Barcelona Declaration of 26 September 1995, hereby :

1. Reaffirm our support for the Barcelona Process as a forum for informal yet systematic and responsible interaction among all the Sudanese on issues relating to peace, democracy and development.
2. Reaffirm further our support to that process as a mechanism for enhancing and reinforcing the peace initiative undertaken by the IGAD and, to that end, we urge an earlier resumption of the IGAD peace process.
3. Reaffirm our commitment to all the international and regional human rights instruments.
4. Affirm our adherence to the principles of international humanitarian law as enshrined in the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols.
5. Solemnly declare our commitment to undertake all necessary actions and adopt all appropriate measures to facilitate humanitarian assistance as a basic human right to all the needy people of the Sudan.
6. Declare our adherence to the agreements signed among the concerned parties in relation to Operation Lifeline Sudan (OLS) and express our appreciation for the United Nations' role in the mobilisation and delivery of humanitarian assistance.
7. Affirm our readiness to continue dialogue within the UNESCO Culture of Peace framework.
8. Express our deepest gratitude to UNESCO and its Director-General, **Mr Federico Mayor**, The Government of the Netherlands especially **Dr Jan Pronk**, Minister for Development Co-operation and UNDP for all the help they have provided and the facilities they made available to make this meeting a success, and call upon them to jointly continue their worthy efforts in the spirit of the Barcelona Declaration.

This information is provided by

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