

STATEMENT ON SOUTHERN KORDOFAN, SUDAN
UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS
VALERIE AMOS
24 July 2011

(New York: 24 July 2011): I am concerned that humanitarian supplies for the people in SPLM-N held areas of Southern Kordofan are dwindling. If we are not allowed access to replenish them, the consequences for civilians affected by the fighting will be grave. Children, elderly people and mothers risk hunger and disease.

Humanitarian partners, who were in these areas before the conflict erupted, have distributed emergency aid including food and basic medicines to over 70,000 people in mountainous areas of Southern Kordofan State. However, I am concerned about how people will cope when the emergency food ration they have received runs out.

Ongoing conflict has prevented them from planting and they may continue to rely on emergency food assistance that humanitarian agencies have been providing.

If access continues to be denied to humanitarian agencies, they will not be able to take stock of the remaining humanitarian supplies nor assess how much is necessary in order to respond to the needs of vulnerable civilians.

I call on all parties to the conflict to allow aid to be brought into Southern Kordofan and moved into the affected areas.

For further information, please call:

Amanda Pitt, OCHA-New York, +1 917 367 5126, mobile +1 917 442 1810, pitta@un.org;

Mark Turner, OCHA-New York, +1 917 367 5707, turner5@un.org.

OCHA press releases are available at www.unocha.org or www.reliefweb.int.