

CHRONOLOGY

1989-2009

The main purpose of this chronology is to help the reader by reconstructing MSF's actions and public statements in regional and international news reports of the period. It is intended as a tool for this specific document, and not as an academic reference.

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
1989	Start of UN's Operation Lifeline Sudan (OLS) in South Sudan.		MSF Belgium surreptitiously left Sudan after loss of 2 MSF France staff in shooting down of plane and issues with GoS following staff death in hiking accident.	
1990s			MSF Belgium in OLS without being registered by GoS.	
2000			MSF Belgium withdraws from OLS.	
2001		Creation of Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) to bring together local non-Arab groups in Darfur: Furs, Zaghawa and Masalit.		
2002		JULY 2002 Start of Sudan and South Sudan peace process.		
2003 February 2003	21 FEBRUARY 2003 <u>Amnesty International</u> calls urgently for commission of inquiry in Darfur as situation deteriorates.	FEBRUARY 2003 Violent hostilities in Darfur between forces of GoS and SLM. Start of GoS-supported Janjaweed militia's scorched earth policy.		
March 2003		MARCH 2003 <u>SLM</u> attacks on Darfur towns.		

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2003 April 2003		<p>24 APRIL 2003 SLA (former SLM) and newly created JEM (Justice & Equality Movement) defeat GoS army in North Darfur capital El Fasher.</p>		
	<p>28 APRIL 2003 Amnesty International calls for inclusion of Darfur in human rights monitoring set up under Sudan peace process and, again, for independent international commission of inquiry to be sent to Darfur to investigate deteriorating situation.</p>			
June 2003	<p>25 JUNE 2003 International Crisis Group calls on GoS & Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) to address issue of Darfur.</p>		<p>JUNE 2003 • MSF France/OCP informed of heavy fighting in North Darfur. • Surge of Sudanese refugees seeking healthcare in MSF Belgium/OCB clinics in Eastern Chad.</p>	
July 2003	<p>1 JULY 2003 Amnesty International warns of “looming” crisis in Darfur, calling for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • national commission of inquiry into abuses in region • protection of civilians in Darfur by GoS • integration of human rights monitoring in Darfur into IGAD peace process. 		<p>JULY 2003 MSF France/OCP first requests to access Darfur denied by GoS.</p>	
August 2003		<p>11 AUGUST 2003 Non-state actors accuse Janjaweed of killing 300 in North Darfur.</p>		

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2003 August 2003			<p>MID-AUGUST 2003 MSF Belgium/OCB team in Chad first exploration mission on Chad/Sudan border after UNHCR reports sudden arrival of thousands of Sudanese refugees.</p>	
September 2003		<p>2 SEPTEMBER 2003 UNHCR, "65,000 Sudanese refugees arrived in Chad."</p> <p>3 SEPTEMBER 2003 Ceasefire signed by GoS & SLM immediately broken.</p>	<p>10 SEPTEMBER 2003 MSF Belgium/OCB team in Chad call HQ for help to assist thousands of Sudanese refugees.</p>	
	<p>15 SEPTEMBER 2003 <u>The Greater Darfur Special Initiative for future development projects in Darfur</u> announced by UNSG Special Envoy for Humanitarian Affairs & UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Sudan.</p>	<p>15 SEPTEMBER 2003 Agreement signed by GoS & SPLM/SPLA allowing "free and unimpeded" humanitarian access to 20% of Darfur territory.</p>		<p>16 SEPTEMBER 2003 MSF Belgium/OCB PR: Thousands of Sudanese refugee victims of a humanitarian catastrophe. MSF sending psychologists to address issue of sexual violence, "a common tool of war in Sudan."</p>

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2003 September 2003	<p>LATE SEPTEMBER 2003 <u>UNHCR</u> appeals for US\$16.6 million in urgent funds to avert humanitarian disaster on Chad-Sudan border.</p>		<p>17 SEPTEMBER 2003</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MSF Belgium/OCB</u> operations start on Chad/Sudan border (Birak and Tine in Iriba District). • <u>MSF Spain/OCBA</u> and <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> joint exploratory mission on the Sudan/Chad border. • <u>MSF France/OCP</u> awaiting Darfur access authorisation. <p>LATE SEPTEMBER 2003</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> programme in Adre starts, soon joined by <u>MSF France/OCP</u> team. • <u>MSF Spain/OCBA</u>: no opportunity for operations. 	<p><u>MSF Belgium/OCB</u> website: 'Humanitarian drama on Sudan-Chad border.' This article first appeared in Belgian newspaper <i>De Morgen</i> on 16 August 2003.</p> <p>19 SEPTEMBER 2003 <u>MSF Belgium/OCB</u> PR: 'In Chad, MSF supplies follow long path to Sudanese refugees.'</p> <p>23 SEPTEMBER 2003 <u>MSF Belgium/OCB</u> PR: 'MSF readies itself in Abéché for refugee intervention.'</p>

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2003 October 2003	<p>14 OCTOBER 2003 UN Humanitarian Coordinator for <u>Sudan</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • humanitarian access hampered by GoS restriction on travel permits. • a humanitarian clause for unimpeded access to all vulnerable populations and protection of vulnerable civilians and humanitarian personnel should be added to ongoing ceasefire negotiations. 		<p>MID-OCTOBER 2003</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSF France/OCP first exploratory mission in North Darfur. • MSF Holland/OCA first exploratory mission in West & South Darfur; witness direct results of violence; conviction that “a big crisis” is to come. 	<p>1 OCTOBER 2003 <u>MSF Belgium/OCB Website</u>: “Chad: MSF provides health care for Sudanese refugees.”</p> <p>20 OCTOBER 2003 <u>MSF Belgium/OCB PR</u>: ‘Hundreds of Sudanese live in ‘Hotel Africa’, Italy - a derelict railway station in the centre of Rome.’</p> <p>2 NOVEMBER 2003 <u>Draft report</u> by Liesbeth Schockaert (<u>MSF Belgium/OCB</u>) describing violence in Darfur and dire situation of refugees in Chad, based on refugee accounts collected in Chad and Italy; criticised for lack of robust data; release embargoed by Dirops until operations in Darfur secured.</p>
November 2003	<p>NOVEMBER 2003 <u>OCHA</u>: Darfur facing worst humanitarian crisis since 1988 and no humanitarian access in some cases.</p>			

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2003 November 2003	<p>14 NOVEMBER 2003 <u>All Africa/IRIN (UN)</u>: 'Concern grows over deteriorating situation in Darfur.'</p>			<p>26 NOVEMBER 2003 <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> 'Comms Strategy Darfur.'</p> <p>LATE NOVEMBER 2003 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MSF Belgium/OCB</u>, <u>MSF France/OCP</u> and <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> agreement on Darfur communication strategy: Q&A and off the record briefings to journalists. • Public release of <u>MSF Belgium/OCB</u> 2003 report on Darfuri refugees in Chad no longer considered. </p>
December 2003	<p>9 DECEMBER 2003 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>UNSG Kofi Annan</u>: insecurity leaves over a million people in Darfur beyond reach of humanitarian aid. • <u>Under-SG for Humanitarian Affairs, Jan Egeland</u>: "The humanitarian situation in Darfur has rapidly become one of the worst in the world." </p>	<p>DECEMBER 2003 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewed militia attacks in Darfur cause renewed displacement into Chad. • 100,000 refugees estimated in Chad (UNHCR). <p>15 DECEMBER 2003 <u>Members of Sudan's Parliament from Darfur</u> appeal for international intervention to stop killings and displacement.</p> </p>	<p>DECEMBER 2003 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MSF France/OCP</u> programme set up in Nyala, South Darfur • growing influx of refugees attracted by MSF presence; deterioration in health conditions. </p>	

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2003 December 2003	16 DECEMBER 2003 <u>US State Department</u> spokesman Richard Boucher: “deeply concerned over the rapidly deteriorating humanitarian and security situation in the Darfur region of western Sudan.”			17 DECEMBER 2003 <u>MSF PR</u> : ‘MSF refugee crisis in eastern Chad worsens.’ 23 DECEMBER 2003 <u>MSF Holland/OCA article</u> : ‘Chad dispersion makes care for refugees difficult.’
2004 January 2004	9 JANUARY 2004 <u>UNHCR PR</u> based on interviews with Darfuri refugees in Chad, describing increase in militia attacks on Sudanese villages bordering Chad, emphasising MSF’s public passivity in releasing similar information from unpublished MSF Belgium/OCB Chad report.	JANUARY 2004 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Massive <u>Sudanese Army</u> offensive in West Darfur. • Massive influx of refugees from Darfur into eastern Chad. 	JANUARY 2004 <u>MSF Belgium/OCB team</u> in Sudan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • re-register MSF Belgium/OCP in North Sudan • assess needs in North Darfur. 14 JANUARY 2004 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>GoS</u> to relocate IDPs from Nyala Intifada camp to Belel camp, 20 km from city centre and in conflict zone. 	

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2004 January 2004			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opposing forced displacement, <u>MSF France/OCP</u> close Intifada clinic, refuse to inform IDPs on transfer, as requested by HAC & OCHA, & refuse to open clinic in Belel. • <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> to work in Belel. <p>MID-JANUARY 2004 <u>HAC</u> warning to <u>MSF France/OCP</u> coordinator in Sudan, for “lack of collaboration with the government in Nyala.”</p>	<p>15 JANUARY 2004</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MSF France/OCP PR</u> “MSF concerned for displaced following forced closure of camps by Sudanese authorities.” • Postponement of MSF “factual” and “comprehensive” press release, based on information from all MSF operational sections in Darfur. • Letter from <u>MSF France/OCP emergency coordinator</u> in Nyala to regional governor explaining MSF opposition to IDPs transfer from Nyala to Belel. <p>22 JANUARY 2004 <u>MSF Belgium/OCB, MSF France/ OCP, MSF Holland/ OCA</u> agreement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • communication on Darfur with no mention of MSF in wider region. • <u>briefing paper</u> ‘Darfur-Sudan – A War behind Closed Doors – Conflict in Darfur Rages Against Backdrop of Sudan Peace Process’ to ‘trusted’ journalists.

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2004 January 2004				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • briefing paper 'Refugees in Eastern Chad – Urgent Assistance & Protection Required' to NGOs and humanitarian agencies, not to journalists. <p>26 JANUARY 2004 MSF Belgium/OCB PR on Sudanese air attacks on civilians in Chad, witnessed by MSF teams, cancelled due to possible risks for teams in Darfur.</p> <p>29/30 JANUARY 2004 MSF Belgium/OCB PR, 'Chadian civilians killed and injured by aerial bombings' finally issued. Content and distribution strategy challenged by <u>MSF USA</u> for putting MSF field teams at risk.</p>
February 2004	<p>3 FEBRUARY 2004 <u>Amnesty International</u> PR: 'Sudan: Massive abuses of human rights and international humanitarian law in Darfur.'</p>	<p>EARLY FEBRUARY 2004 Within few days, 80,000 IDPs in Mornay, blocked by heavy fighting.</p>	<p>30 JANUARY 2004 <u>MSF France/OCP</u> team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • authorised to work in Mornay on condition of silence. • witnessed results of scorched earth strategy between Zalingei and Mornay. <p>FIRST HALF OF FEBRUARY 2004 <u>MSF France/OCP</u> makeshift team without medical doctor, ensuring surgery & post-operative procedure with poor means in blocked Mornay.</p>	

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2004 February 2004	<p>10 FEBRUARY 2004 <u>OCHA</u> PR: 'Sudan: UN welcomes announcement of increased access to Darfur.'</p> <p>12 FEBRUARY 2004 <u>UN</u> Special Envoy Tom Eric Vraalsen in Sudan at request of UN Emergency Relief Coordinator Jan Egeland to call for "humanitarian ceasefire" in Darfur.</p>	<p>13 FEBRUARY 2004 <u>N'Djamena</u> denies any involvement in Darfur war.</p>		<p>5/6 FEBRUARY AND 9/11 FEBRUARY 2004 <u>MSF International HART & MSF Operational managers'</u> meetings. with ambassadors to UN and UN and USA officials in New York and Washington, D.C.</p> <p>9 FEBRUARY 2004 <u>MSF Belgium/OCB</u> communications officer to <u>MSF</u> communications network:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSF name still not to be used to denounce what's happening in Darfur. • MSF "on the record" reporting stories of refugees in Chad to journalists.

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2004 February 2004	<p>17 FEBRUARY 2004 <u>Amnesty International</u> report 'Too many people killed for no reason':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • human rights violations in the region • reiterating earlier messages on access, human rights monitoring, and commissions of enquiry. 		<p>AFTER 17 FEBRUARY 2004 Delivery by GoS first authorisations to facilitate deployment of international aid in Darfur:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>travel permits</u> for MSF new staff. • <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> to start working in Nyala and assess Garsila. 	<p>17 FEBRUARY 2004 <u>MSF International PR</u>, 'Massive aid urgently needed in Darfur'</p>
March 2004			<p>EARLY MARCH 2004 After many negotiations and active lobbying, <u>MSF Belgium/OCB</u> gets travel permits to Darfur. Full registration in Sudan obtained in June 2004.</p>	<p>26 FEBRUARY 2004 <u>MSF France/OCP PR</u> on deteriorating situation in Darfur and urgent need for massive international aid to be deployed.</p> <p>10 MARCH 2004 <u>MSF International PR</u>, 'Alarming malnutrition found in Darfur, Sudan - increased humanitarian response urgently needed'.</p>

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2004 March 2004	<p>12 MARCH 2004 <u>USAID</u> officials at US House of Representatives denounced: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GoS “mounting ‘scorched earth policy’ to crush rebellion in Darfur through large-scale human rights abuses and obstruction of humanitarian access.” • obstruction of NGO Darfur travel permits part of deliberate GoS strategy to restrict humanitarian presence. </p> <p>19 MARCH 2004 <u>UN Humanitarian Coordinator</u> in Sudan, Mukash Kapila, to BBC on conflict in Darfur: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • characterised by scorched earth policy. • comparable in character, if not scale, to 1994 genocide in Rwanda. </p> <p>25 MARCH 2004 <u>ICG</u> report ‘Darfur Rising: Sudan’s New Crisis’: Call for international response with humanitarian aid, protection, respect of IHL, recognition of interlinking of [North & South Sudan] contexts in political process.</p>			

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2004 March 2004	<p>31 MARCH 2004 <u>EU Parliament resolution</u> calling on Sudanese Government to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protect citizens in villages. • ensure IDPs are in safe location, with access to services, livelihood, and assistance. • stop policy of chasing Darfurians away from rural homes towards Chad and urban centres in Darfur. <p><u>EU Parliament</u> criticised “delays and obstruction by GoS to access by humanitarian aid workers”, in violation of humanitarian aid neutrality.</p>			<p>31 MARCH 2004 <u>Voices from the Field</u>, MSF website, ‘Loneliness and distress in Darfur’ by Jean-Sébastien Matte & Coralie Lechelle.</p>
April 2004	<p>APRIL 2004 Amnesty International: documentation of extrajudicial executions, deliberate and indiscriminate violence on civilians and systematic rape in Darfur.</p> <p>2 APRIL 2004 <u>Human Rights Watch</u> report on Darfur:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darfur in flames: atrocities in Western Sudan • GoS strategy of forced displacement targeting non-Arab ethnic communities • army indiscriminately bombing civilians. • GoS forces and militias systematic destruction of villages, and brutal raids against Fur, Masalit and Zaghawa • GoS complicit in crimes against humanity. 	<p>APRIL 2004</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Peace talks</u> underway in Chad. • <u>UNSG and GoS</u> negotiations on visa delays and customs problems hindering humanitarian access. • Pressured by international community, <u>GoS</u> provides some access to Darfur. 	<p>APRIL 2004 MSF First exploratory missions in North Darfur: El Fasher, Kebkabyia, Serif Umrah. <u>MoU</u> signed by end of April.</p>	<p>APRIL 2004 <u>MSF ICB and ExCom</u> decision not to organise official commemoration of genocide in Rwanda and to stay away from commemorative events with political connotations.</p>

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2004 April 2004	<p>3 APRIL 2004</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>UNSG Kofi Annan</u> spokesman expresses UNSG and Heads of all UN agencies, funds and programmes' deepest concern over serious human rights violations and humanitarian crisis in Darfur, with devastating impact on human security of thousands of civilians. • <u>New UN Undersecretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Jan Egeland</u> to UNSC: "a sequence of deliberate actions has been observed that seem aimed at achieving a specific objective: the forcible and long-term displacement of the targeted communities, which may also be termed 'ethnic cleansing'." <p>6 APRIL 2004</p> <p>Start of <u>UN fact-finding mission</u> on human rights situation in Darfur.</p> <p>7 APRIL 2004</p> <p><u>10th anniversary of genocide of Rwandan Tutsis</u>: idea of possible similar tragedy in Darfur surfacing on international agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>UNSG Kofi Annan</u> urged international community to act, including by force, to rescue civilians in Darfur, not to repeat same mistake as in Rwanda, but did not use the term genocide. 			

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2004 April 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>US President George W. Bush</u> condemns atrocities in Darfur, asks access for humanitarian relief, states that GoS should cooperate fully in “war against terrorism.” <p>20 APRIL 2004 <u>Human Rights Watch</u>, “The UN Commission on Human Rights must reinstate human rights monitoring in Sudan and strongly condemn abuses in Darfur.”</p> <p>21 APRIL 2004 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Head of WHO</u>: “time is running short” for the close to a million civilians driven from homes. </p>	<p>8 APRIL 2004 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Third ceasefire</u> signed by GoS and non-state actors, to guarantee safe passage for humanitarian aid to Darfur, free prisoners of war, and disarm Janjaweed militias. • 120 <u>AU observers</u> to monitor. </p> <p>20 APRIL 2004 8 experts from <u>UN Human Rights Commission</u> blocked in Khartoum for days are given access to Darfur.</p>		<p>16 APRIL 2004 <u>MSF France/OCP Deputy Emergency Programme Manager Mercedes Tatay</u> interviewed by MSNBC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • does not think that word genocide should be used to describe this conflict. • a very effective military strategy is ongoing, but she would not define it as “ethnic cleansing.” </p>

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2004 April 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Amnesty International</u>: use of systematic rape by government allied Janjaweed militias. • <u>US House of Representatives & Senate resolutions</u> condemn GoS. <p>23 APRIL 2004 <u>UN Commission on Human Rights resolution</u>: concern about scale of reported abuses in Sudan's Darfur region agreement to appoint its own investigator.</p> <p>27 APRIL 2004 USAID head, Andrew Natsios: "There is very little time left. If we do not have this resolved by the end of June, we are going to face a catastrophic situation by the fall."</p> <p>28 APRIL 2004 • <u>UNSG Kofi Annan press conference</u>: would await report of two missions sent to Sudan to monitor the situation, "to avoid having the situation there become another Rwanda."</p>	<p>27 APRIL 2004 <u>GoS</u> refuses visas to 28 USAID agents.</p>		<p>23 APRIL 2004</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MSF's directors of operations</u> agree: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to focus on calling for improved and increased assistance - that " beyond a consequence of international pressure, the slightly improved recent MSF access to Darfur could be because it was no longer possible to witness "whatever was being concealed in the past." • <i>Libération</i>, 'An extraordinary intensity of barbarism,' interview with MSF former field coordinator in Mornay, Coralie Lechelle. <p>28 APRIL 2004 <u>MSF France/OCP PR</u>, 'Measles and Malnutrition Increasing in Sudan's Darfur Region.' No mention of violence.</p>

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2004 April 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Washington Post</i> (USA) editorial: Khartoum's denial of UN access to Darfur and continuing violation of 8 April ceasefire calls into doubt whether it can be trusted to honour an imminent peace agreement that would resolve the country's other major conflict, the civil war in the South. 	<p>MAY 2004</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 1 million IDPs and 120,000 refugees in Chad (UN). • Arab League fact-finding mission to Darfur. 	<p>MAY 2004</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSF basic health care in 11 locations in Darfur. • <u>MSF Belgium/OCB</u> able to staff and start programmes in El Fasher and Kabkabiya in North Darfur. 	<p>29 APRIL 2004</p> <p>MSF Holland/OCA 'Strategy Document for Advocacy on the Situation in Darfur', highlighting possible limits of agreed MSF international advocacy strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • not mentioning security while calling for more assistance might promote a false perception of the crisis. • not being specific on needs for an international presence while calling for increased security might imply that GoS was responsible for security. • not mentioning ethnic character of violence against civilians might be incomplete and weaken speaking out messages and credibility. <p>EARLY MAY 2004</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSF movement to maintain strategy agreed by dirops in April: avoid catastrophe in Darfur by maintaining and developing operationality at all costs, and by raising awareness for more assistance.

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<p>2004 May 2004</p>	<p>7 MAY 2004 Acting UN High Commissioner for Human Rights presents report of fact-finding mission in Darfur:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GoS and Arab proxy militia have responded with a “reign of terror” of massive human rights violations which “may constitute war crimes and/or crimes against humanity.” • a seemingly ethnically based rebellion met with an ethnically based response. 	<p>6 MAY 2004 Sudanese Minister of Information: NGOs like MSF, working inside Darfur, made no statements about genocide occurring. Therefore, NGOs don’t think there is genocide in Darfur.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Epicentre</u> preliminary results of survey on malnutrition and retrospective mortality in Mornay and Zalingei: population of Darfur suffered significant violence and received almost no assistance. <p>3 MAY 2004 <u>MSF USA General Director, Nicolas de Torrente</u>, letter to US House of Representatives’ Committee on International Relations declining invitation for MSF Emergency Coordinator in Darfur to testify in a hearing titled: ‘Ethnic Cleansing in Darfur: A New Front Opens in Sudan’s Bloody War.’</p>

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2004 May 2004	<p>9 MAY 2004</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Sweden's Foreign Minister</u> describes Darfur situation as "resembling to a genocide." • <u>AU/EU/USA</u> international team of observers in El Fasher, capital of Western Darfur, to prepare 8 April ceasefire monitoring. <p>10 MAY 2004</p> <p><u>American Committee for Refugees</u> urges US government to act in Darfur, otherwise "President Bush may be found wanting in the eyes of history for failing to rise to the awful spectre of this genocide in the making."</p>			<p>11 MAY 2004</p> <p><u>MSF France/OCP Deputy Legal Advisor, Fabien Dubuet</u>, internal memo on legal qualification of Darfur situation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence witnessed by MSF teams in Darfur can be qualified as war crimes and crimes against humanity. • MSF does not think there is an ongoing genocide as impossible to say that all violence is committed "with the intention to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial, or religious group." • "Ethnic cleansing" of no use since not a legal definition and consists of acts of violence that may be war crimes and crimes against humanity.

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2004 May 2004	<p>12 MAY 2004 Acting UN <u>High Commissioner for Human Rights</u>, Bertrand Ramcharan, and WFP Director James Morris testify before UNSC: pressure to increase action Darfur.</p> <p>15 MAY 2004 <u>The New York Times</u> (USA) editorial from ICG President, former Australian Foreign Minister & R2P architect Gareth Evans: time for vigorous external intervention inexorably approaching, and case for military intervention grows stronger every day.</p> <p>20 MAY 2004 UN OCHA: more than 2 million people affected by Darfur conflict.</p>	<p>17 MAY 2004 Janjaweed militia attack villages across border in Chad, threaten to destabilise relations between Chad & Sudan.</p> <p>20 MAY 2004 Start of lifting of visa restrictions and more access for humanitarian workers to Darfur.</p>	<p>MID-MAY 2004 MSF Spain/OCBA and MSF Switzerland/OCG start registration process in Sudan.</p>	<p>20 MAY 2004 MSF USA PR: 'On the Verge of Mass Famine in Darfur'</p> <p>24 MAY 2004 MSF Holland/OCA Emergency Coordinator Ton Koene, presentation at UN Arria Formula meeting, partly based on Epicentre survey:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dire humanitarian situation in Darfur • inadequate humanitarian response and obstacles to humanitarian access.

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2004 May 2004	<p>26 MAY 2004 <u>UNSC</u>: • “deep concern over the ethnic violence in Darfur” • call for immediate deployment of international monitors.</p>	<p>27 MAY 2004 • North Sudan and South Sudan sign peace agreements • leaders call on GoS and armed opposition to “seize this momentum to reach a political solution” in Darfur.</p> <p>28 MAY 2004 • 120 AU/EU/USA/GoS/NSA/Chadian mediators/observers monitor ceasefire in Darfur. • Deployment of 300 guards considered if parties cannot protect international observers.</p>		
June 2004	<p>3 JUNE 2004 <u>USAID</u> chief, Andrew Natsios: 1 million people could die in Darfur if aid is not brought.</p>		<p>JUNE 2004 Start of <u>MSF Belgium/OCB</u> programme in Kebkabyia.</p>	<p>5 JUNE 2004 <u>MSF France/OCP Deputy Emergency Program Manager Mercedes Tatay</u> to <i>Le Monde</i>: would prefer talk of “emergency” regarding Darfur situation.</p>

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2004 June 2004	<p>6 JUNE 2004 <u>ICC</u> announces opening of investigation into alleged war crimes in Darfur.</p> <p>11 JUNE 2004 <i>The New York Times</i> (USA), interview with US Secretary of State Colin Powell: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Government of Sudan did provide support to militias." • Ask GoS to grant "immediate access to humanitarian workers, stop fooling around with holding up travel permits." • "There are at least a million people who are desperately in need, and many of them will die if we can't get the international community mobilised and if we can't get the Sudanese to cooperate with the international community. And it won't make a whole lot of difference after the fact what you've called it." </p> <p>17 JUNE 2004 <u>UNSG</u> Kofi Annan: cannot "<i>at this stage</i>" describe the situation in Darfur as "<i>genocide or ethnic cleansing yet.</i>"</p>	<p>6 JUNE 2004 Sudanese Deputy MoFA: ICC announcement could hamper progress in the negotiations and might foster NSA intransigence.</p> <p>11 JUNE 2004 The GoS announced that 162 suspects were to appear in front of a Sudanese Special Criminal Tribunal to "substitute" to ICC in trying war crimes in Darfur.</p>		<p>15 JUNE 2004 <u>MSF/Epicentre</u> Report, 'Health assessment in emergencies: Murnei Zalingei, West Darfur, Sudan' by Evelyn Depoortere.</p>

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2004 June 2004	<p>23 JUNE 2004 <u>Physicians for Human Rights</u> report: "Genocide occurring in Darfur. There is a clear intention to eradicate non-Arab families."</p> <p>25 JUNE 2004 <u>UNSG Kofi Anan</u>, about genocide: "We must act and stop arguing about what right term to use."</p>			<p>21 JUNE 2004 <u>MSF France/OCP</u> report, 'Emergency in Darfur, Sudan: No Relief in Sight,' based on main results of Epicentre survey and accounts from IDPs in Mornay.</p> <p>JUNE 2004 In a meeting in Darfur, <u>UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs</u>, Jan Egeland, addressed issue of genocide. Sudanese authorities invoke Western propaganda and claim figures in MSF report are fake. Threat to expel MSF France/OCP coordinator not carried out.</p> <p>25 JUNE 2004</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MSF France President Jean-Hervé Bradol</u> on MSF France website interview "<i>We are looking at a second catastrophe.</i>" • <u>MSF France President, Jean-Hervé Bradol</u> to <i>Le Monde</i>: "The accusations of genocide are misplaced. In no case was there a desire to exterminate entire villages or a particular ethnic group. There is no need to use this inaccurate term to describe the ferocious repression carried out by the government in the region." <p>25-27 JUNE 2004 <u>MSF IC</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regret that "no genocide" statement delivered without any prior discussion at IC, where principles should be discussed.

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2004 June 2004	<p>LATE JUNE 2004 Increase in international human rights organisations pressure to stop violence in Darfur.</p> <p>30 JUNE 2004 US Secretary of State Colin Powell, after short visit to Sudan: “based on the evidence that is available”, violence in Darfur “doesn’t meet the tests of the definition of genocide.” • “it is not Rwanda 10 years ago; it is Sudan now.” • “if it was a genocide, we would certainly increase international pressure.” • USA wants to see GoS “break the back of the Janjaweed and to provide full humanitarian support to these people in need” in Darfur.</p> <p>1 JULY 2004 WHO call for large-scale international aid operation using military logistics, to prevent 10,000 deaths in Darfur in next month.</p>	<p>30 JUNE 2004 Sudan MoFA, Mustafa Ismail: Sudan will send more government forces to provide security, ease restrictions on humanitarian groups and speed up negotiations with rebel groups.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recurring behaviour by MSF France president • statement perceived as a break of dirops April 2004 agreement not to take position on genocide issue. <p>LATE JUNE 2004 A few days after “no genocide” statement, MSF communications to adjust messaging/speaking out to avoid being perceived as supportive of GoS: guidance given on how to respond to media, including specific recommendations for “Islamic media.”</p> <p>30 JUNE 2004 French daily <i>Libération</i>: ‘MSF lifts the veil on the horror.’</p> <p>THROUGHOUT JULY 2004 Debate between MSF GDs on relevance of using genocide term.</p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2004 July 2004	<p>7 JULY 2004 <u>USA proposal for UNSG draft resolution:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arms and travel embargo on Janjaweed militia • within 30 days of approving measure, UNSC to consider sanctions against “other perpetrators of atrocities in Darfur”, meaning GoS as open supporter of Janjaweed. 	<p>3 JULY 2004 After UNSG Kofi Annan’s visit, <u>GoS</u> says it will allow AU observers to enter Darfur.</p>		<p>7 JULY 2004 <u>MSF France Board President Jean-Hervé Bradol press conference:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concerns regarding Sudanese plan for so-called “voluntary” return of more than one million IDPs from Darfur • risk of health catastrophe • recall of WFP difficulties to work properly (one in four malnourished children). <p>9 JULY 2004 <u>MSF Belgium board of directors’ recommendation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSF to call for more assistance, “without taking any political position”, and • MSF to continue documentation to develop analysis of situation. <p>12 JULY 2004 <u>MSF websites.</u> While the Netherlands took over EU presidency, MSF Holland General Director, Austen Davis, criticised lack of an EU reaction to Darfur crisis including aid.</p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2004 July 2004	<p>14 JULY 2004 Foundation of <u>Save Darfur Coalition</u> during Darfur Emergency Summit in New York City, organised by US Holocaust Memorial Museum, American Jewish World Service and Nobel Peace Prize winner, Elie Wiesel.</p> <p>16 JULY 2004 US Secretary of State Colin Powell: • does not think there is “a problem of a Rwandan nature” in Darfur. • complains about too many people wasting time on discussing “whether it’s genocide or not”, instead of “making sure to load the humanitarian pipeline.” • team of US experts talking to refugees from Darfur in Chad. • members of Congress considering “whether additional congressional action is appropriate.”</p> <p>19 JULY 2004 Amnesty International report ‘Sudan, Darfur: Rape as a weapon of war’: hundreds of testimonies of women raped, abducted and forced into sexual slavery by Janjaweed. Human Rights Watch briefing paper: they obtained copies of government documents whose contents sharply contrast with the Sudanese government’s repeated denials of support to the Janjaweed.”</p>	<p>19 JULY 2004 <u>Khartoum</u> says that HRW declarations are false, and their objective is to push the UN to impose sanctions on Sudan.</p>		

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2004 July 2004	<p>22 JULY 2004 <u>US House of Representatives</u> resolution: • atrocities in Darfur are genocide. • call on US Government to label the violence with this “appropriate” term.</p> <p>26 JULY 2004 <u>US Holocaust Memorial PR</u>: ‘United States Holocaust Memorial Museum declares ‘genocide emergency’ in Sudan.’</p> <p>27 JULY 2004 <u>US State Secretary, Colin Powell</u>: international military action in Darfur is “premature.”</p> <p>30 JULY 2004 <u>UNSC resolution</u> endorsing deployment of international monitors, including protection force envisioned by the AU to Darfur under AU leadership.</p>	<p>26 JULY 2004 <u>De Standaard</u> (Belgium), interview of <u>Sudan MoFA Mustafa Osman Ismael</u>: rejects term “genocide” to qualify situation in Darfur, instead talking about “a humanitarian crisis caused by fighting, through no fault of our own.”</p> <p>27 JULY 2004 <u>GoS</u> decrees “political and strategic general mobilisation”, releases 49 Islamist opponents to “unite the home front, against all foreign intervention.”</p> <p>30 JULY 2004 <u>Khartoum</u> considers UNSC resolution a declaration of war.</p>		<p>26 JULY 2004 After MSF International Council President, Rowan Gillies, return from Darfur, <u>MSF PR</u> warning that “the desperate condition of the people there is not improving despite greater access to the area and more agencies and aid workers arriving.”</p> <p>27 JULY 2004 <u>MSF France/OCP Emergency Programmes Manager Thierry Allafort-Duverger</u> to French daily <u>Le Figaro</u>: • “If we felt that a genocide was underway, as doctors we would be useless and leave the country”. • stigmatises “propagandist distortion that can only harm relief efforts”. • calls for increasing logistical means to deliver aid to IDPs.</p>

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2004 August 2004	<p>5 AUGUST 2004 <u>UN/GoS</u> agreement to disarm Janjaweed and improve security for IDPs in next 30 days.</p> <p>9 AUGUST 2004 <u>EU</u> team back from Darfur says violence could not be described as genocide but stresses scale of massacres.</p> <p>10 AUGUST 2004 Based on discussions with officials and refugees in Chad, <u>US Senate Republican Majority Leader</u>, Bill Frist states genocide is taking place in Darfur.</p> <p>14 AUGUST 2004 <u>UN weekly report</u> on humanitarian situation in Darfur: increase in sexual abuses, particularly rape of women in Darfur camps close to El Fasher.</p>	<p>14 AUGUST 2004</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 150 Rwandan soldiers from the AU Protection Force deployed in Darfur. • <u>GoS</u> reaffirms opposition to peace-keeping forces and claims to be able to restore stability in Darfur: deployment of 9,000 policemen and presentation of 11 possible safe zones to receive displaced persons. • <u>GoS</u>, first acknowledgement of human rights violations in Darfur and provides UN Commission on Human Rights with list of 30 Janjaweed, presumed guilty of violations. 	<p>AUGUST 2004 <u>MSF Spain/OCBA</u> and <u>MSF Switzerland/OCG</u> start operations in Darfur.</p>	

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2004 August 2004	<p>18 AUGUST 2004 <u>UN estimation</u>: nearly 1.5 million people affected by current conflict in Darfur.</p> <p>22 AUGUST 2004 <u>UNSG Special Envoy for Sudan to <i>Financial Times</i></u>: not enough observers in Darfur to verify GoS fulfilment of UN commitments.</p> <p>23 AUGUST 2004 AU-sponsored peace talks between GoS and Darfur NSA in Abuja amid disagreements over possible deployment of peacekeeping force in Darfur.</p> <p>24 AUGUST 2004</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>UNSC</u> strong support to AU for efforts to resolve humanitarian crisis in Darfur and call on GoS and other parties to cooperate. • <u>ICRC</u> to organise largest airlift since Iraq crisis to supply aid to Darfur population. <p>26 AUGUST 2004 <u>Sudanese negotiator at AU Peace talks</u>: Sudan will not heed UNSC ultimatum on Darfur, due at end of August, and favours solution through peace talks.</p>			<p>20 AUGUST 2004 'Genocide and MSF' discussion paper by Kate Mackintosh, <u>MSF Holland/OCA, Humanitarian Affairs Department</u></p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2004 August 2004	<p>31 AUGUST 2004 <u>UNSG, Kofi Annan, report situation in Darfur UNSC:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite signs of goodwill and some improvements, GoS fails to honour commitment to solve Darfur crisis. • Recommendation to increase international presence in Darfur based on UN plan proposed to the African Union. 			
September 2004	<p>8 SEPTEMBER 2004 <u>USA proposes resolution to UNSC</u> authorising expansion of AU forces in Darfur.</p> <p>9 SEPTEMBER 2004</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on <u>US State Department survey</u> in refugee camps in Chad in July-August 2004, <u>US Secretary of State Colin Powell</u> to US Senate Foreign Affairs Commission: "genocide has been committed in Darfur." • <u>US White House</u>: genocide in Darfur, according to US State Department investigation and other information. 			<p>1 SEPTEMBER 2004</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Alternatives Internationales</i> (France), 'Genocide, a Word with Many Meanings,' Op-ed by Rony Brauman, MSF France Foundation • <i>Survie, Billets No. 128</i> (France): 'Humanitarian, You Say?' by François-Xavier Verschave, MSF accused of "burying crimes against humanity under humanitarian thinking."

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2004 September 2004	<p>16 SEPTEMBER 2004 <u>EU Parliament Resolution</u>: crimes against humanity, war crimes, and human rights violations committed in Darfur could constitute genocide.</p> <p>18 SEPTEMBER 2004 <u>UNSC Resolution 1564</u>: “determining that the situation in Sudan constitutes a threat to international peace and security and to stability in the region.”</p> <p>20 SEPTEMBER 2004 <u>UN sends genocide inquiry team</u> of Special Advisor on prevention of genocide Mendez and UNHCHR Arbour to Darfur.</p> <p>28 SEPTEMBER 2004 <u>US Secretary of State Colin Powell</u>: now sure that what is happening in Darfur is genocide.</p>			<p>14 SEPTEMBER 2004 <u>Le Monde</u> (France), ‘From one genocide to the next?’ Column by <u>MSF France President Jean-Hervé Bradol</u>. Opposing “legal” definition of genocide in favour of “historical definition,” which does not qualify situation in Darfur as genocide.</p> <p>15 SEPTEMBER 2004 <u>MSF Website</u>: “Despite heavy mobilization of aid in Darfur, the situation remains fragile, and assistance must continue”</p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2004 September 2004	30 SEPTEMBER 2004 <u>UNHCHR & UNSG special advisor on prevention of genocide report to UNSC:</u> “crimes against humanity, war crimes, and violations of the laws of war have probably occurred on a large and systematic.”			
October 2004				1 OCTOBER 2004 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Le Monde</i> (France), ‘Genocide, Upping the Stakes,’ by Rony Brauman, MSF France Foundation: elaborates on ICTY precedent ruling that there was genocide in Srebrenica in 1995. • <i>The Lancet</i> ‘Violence and Mortality in West Darfur, Sudan (2003–2004): Epidemiological evidence from Four Surveys.’ by MSF & Epicentre: based on results of several Epicentre surveys and IDP accounts collected in various sites in Darfur. 5 OCTOBER 2004 Pro-government <i>Sudan Vision</i> ‘Médecins Sans Frontières challenges US Darfur genocide claim’, praising MSF statement that “government troops and militias had committed massacres, but not genocide.”
				18 OCTOBER 2004 <u>MSF France Foundation</u> organises a “conflicting debate on the definition of genocide and the broader application of the 1948 convention.”

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2004 October 2004		28 OCTOBER 2004 <u>Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir</u> strong statement that NGOs true enemy in Darfur, talk of “ <i>plot against Darfur.</i> ”		
November 2004	9 NOVEMBER 2004 Two short-term agreements signed in Abuja: • no-fly zone over NSA-held areas of Darfur. • commitment to unrestricted humanitarian access.			1 NOVEMBER 2004 <u>MSF Holland/OCA report</u> , ‘Persecution, Intimidation, and Failure of Assistance in Darfur.’ • includes accounts from IDPs in camps in Darfur and extracts from Epicentre survey. • to aid understanding of magnitude and depth of suffering and failure to address problems • violence rather than disease or malnutrition leading cause of death for over 5 years. 18 & 19 NOVEMBER 2004 • <u>MSF Movement internal conference</u> in Geneva on “dilemmas and MSF Speaking out”, based on MSF Speaking Out Case Studies on the genocide of Rwandan Tutsi. o representatives from whole movement

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
<p>2004 November 2004</p>	<p>19 NOVEMBER 2004 <u>UNSC</u> resolution 1574: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting “the decisions of the African Union to increase its mission in Darfur to 3,320 personnel and to enhance its mandate.” • calls on all parties to “cooperate fully with the International Commission of Enquiry established in early October by the UNSG.” </p> <p>22 NOVEMBER 2004 <u>Oxfam</u>: EU must act to stop violence in Darfur; one of last hopes for tough action to press parties to stop continued violence and insecurity in Darfur.</p>			<p>o discussion on relevance of MSF defining genocide, specifically on Darfur.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MSF IC President</u>, Rowan Gillies, letter to UNSC posted on MSF website, highlighting serious health impact of ongoing massive displacement, precarious living conditions, food shortages in Darfur. <p>26 NOVEMBER 2004 <u>MSF Belgium Website</u>, “Renewed violence in North Darfur state forces MSF to evacuate from health centre,”</p>

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2005 January 2005	<p>25 JANUARY 2005 <u>Report of International Commission of Inquiry on Darfur to UNSG: recommend UNSC “immediately refers the situation of Darfur to the International Criminal Court (ICC).”</u></p>			<p>31 JANUARY 2005 <u>MSF Holland/OCA advocacy strategy on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) response in Darfur.</u></p>
March 2005	<p>24 MARCH 2005 <u>UNSC resolution 1590 establishes United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS).</u></p> <p>29 MARCH 2005 <u>UNSG Kofi Annan off the record meeting with INGOs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Be united” in stance towards the GoS. • NGOs discussed urgent need for further action by UNSC - including targeted sanctions and referral of Darfur situation to ICC. 			<p>8 MARCH 2005 <u>MSF Holland/ OCA PR & report/briefing paper release, “Rape and Sexual Violence Ongoing in Darfur, Sudan”</u></p> <p>29 MARCH 2005 <u>MSF International Council President, Rowan Gillies in statement (not directly read during the meeting with UNSG Kofi Annan), distances MSF from UNSG and INGO position. Statement posted on MSF USA website.</u></p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2005 March 2005				LATE MARCH 2005 <u>MSF Holland/OCA Briefing paper on rape</u> distributed at INGO meeting with UN Deputy General Secretary for Humanitarian Affairs on Darfur, Jan Egeland, who will later use it to brief Sudanese and international officials.
April 2005	31 MARCH 2005 UNSC resolution 193 deciding to refer situation in Darfur beginning 1 July 2002 to ICC.		1 APRIL 2005 <u>MSF France/OCP Update</u> : Security incidents increased in Darfur.	6 APRIL 2005 <i>The New York Times</i> 'The Pope and hypocrisy' Op-ed by Nicholas Krystof: • mentions MSF Holland/OCA report on rape in Darfur. • Paraphrases <u>MSF Holland/OCA Director of Operations Kenny Gluck</u> , "the aid effort is sustaining victims so they can be killed with a full belly," to argue need for security force to stop violence.
May 2005	26 MAY 2005 <u>EU and NATO</u> to bring logistic support to AU forces in Darfur.			

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2005 May 2005	<p>28 MAY 2005 UNSG Kofi Annan visit to Kalma camp in Darfur:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • challenged by displaced people with accounts of rape and murder of civilians. • media and international stakeholders' interest in MSF Holland/OCA report, "The Crushing Burden of Rape" reactivated. 		<p>30 MAY 2005 MSF Holland/OCA Coordinator in Sudan Paul Foreman, arrested, questioned and under house arrest.</p> <p>31 MAY 2005 MSF Holland/OCA Coordinator in Darfur, Vincent Hoedt, arrested in Nyala, transferred to Khartoum, questioned and under house arrest with Paul Foreman.</p>	<p>31 MAY 2005</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSF Holland/OCA PR (relayed by MSF Movement), "MSF shocked by arrest of Head of Mission in Sudan – charged with crimes against the state." • MSF Holland/OCA PR (relayed by MSF Movement) "Second arrest in Sudan; Dutch coordinator for MSF in Darfur held this morning." • MSF Holland/OCA communication and lobbying strategy to push for charges against Paul and Vincent to be dropped. Decision to be "hard-hitting and high-profile towards the Government of Sudan." • MSF Holland/OCA Website: "High Commissioner for Human Rights concerned over arrest of MSF head in Sudan."

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2005 June 2005	<p>14 JUNE 2005 UNSG Special Representative to Sudan, Jan Pronk, expects charges against MSF members in Soudan to be dropped within hours; in vain.</p>		<p>5 JUNE 2005 <u>Letter from MSF Holland/OCA to Prosecutor General</u> – Ministry of Justice to appeal charging Paul Foreman and Vincent Hoedt for crimes against the State.</p>	<p>1 JUNE 2005 <u>Sudanese authorities</u> “memorandum of charges” against Paul Foreman and Vincent Hoedt, charging individuals, not “MSF itself or its charitable work being rendered for interest of humanity and Sudanese community.”</p> <p>14 JUNE 2005 MSF Holland/OCA Draft PR, ‘Médecins Sans Frontières Welcomes Dropping of Charges against its Representatives in Sudan.’”</p> <p>17 JUNE 2005 <i>The Sudan Tribune</i>, “Aid groups to meet war crimes prosecutor on Darfur” including photograph of MSF nurse in a refugee camp in Darfur. <u>MSF Holland/OCA letter to editor</u> asking for rectification to avoid misimpression of MSF involvement in collaboration with ICC.</p>

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2005 July 2005				<p>27 JULY 2005 <u>MSF Belgium/OCB Coordinator</u> in Darfur, Dr Nathalie Civet to <u>UN Arria Formula</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perpetuation of violence, precariousness of humanitarian response, based on MSF programmes in Darfur. • GoS constant pressure on displaced for them to relocate. • Changing nature of conflict increases insecurity.
August 2005	<p>29 JULY 2005 <u>UN High Commissioner for Human Rights</u> report 'Access to Justice for Victims of Sexual Violence.'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow-up to promised improvements from GoS during UNSG Kofi Annan's visit in early June. • Steps taken by GoS fail to investigate allegations of sexual violence and "to end impunity for these crimes and thus contribute to their prevention." 			<p>3 AUGUST 2005 <u>MSF International PR</u> "Médecins Sans Frontières alarmed about ongoing violence in Darfur, Sudan" summarises Arria Formula presentation using data from draft of MSF intersectional report on Darfur.</p>

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2005 August 2005				11 AUGUST 2005 <u>MSF France/OCP</u> asked for story of experience of <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> account collector for 'The Crushing Burden of Rape'" report to be withdrawn from MSF international website, for fear information be used by investigators on Darfur, such as ICC.
September 2005	20 SEPTEMBER 2005 <u>AU</u> to extend and strengthen its force's mandate in Darfur until 31 December; decision follows GoS refusal to replace AU troops with UN force. 28 SEPTEMBER 2005 • <u>Under-SG for Humanitarian Affairs, Jan Egeland</u> , threatens to suspend humanitarian aid in Darfur because of insecurity. • INGOs ask for increased security for humanitarians, more resources for AU forces and deployment of UN helicopters to ensure movement.	SEPTEMBER 2005 Further splits in NSA groups and accumulating attacks fuelled insecurity in Darfur.		
November 2005				NOVEMBER 2005 <u>MSF Intersectional report</u> , launched in April, still uncompleted. Now thinking of using case study of a single location rather than global overview of Darfur situation.

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2006 May 2006		5 MAY 2006 Signature of Abuja Agreement by GoS with a faction of the SLA. However, rejected by JEM and a rival faction of the SLA.		
September 2006	SEPTEMBER 2006 Save Darfur Coalition, supported by intellectuals and celebrities, arouses US and international public opinion.		11 SEPTEMBER 2006 MSF France/OCP team violently attacked on Zalingei-Nertiti road, area under GoS control.	
	13 SEPTEMBER 2006 UNSG Kofi Annan begging GoS to accept deployment of UN force.			
	14 SEPTEMBER 2006 Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel and actor George Clooney informally brief the UNSC on Darfur.			
October 2006			29 OCTOBER 2006 MSF Switzerland/OCG team witness attack on Seleah where several dozen men, women and children killed, and town emptied.	EARLY OCTOBER 2006 MSF Holland/OCA teams treat victims of wave of extreme violence in Muhajariya. Intended strong PR cooled by authorities' warning of legal consequences.

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2006 November 2006				<p>12 NOVEMBER 2006 MSF Website 'MSF Provides Assistance to 50,000 Newly Displaced in South Darfur.'</p> <p>16 NOVEMBER 2006</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSF Switzerland/OCG PR 'Civilians in West Darfur Deprived of Assistance as Attacks Intensify' describes increasing attacks in Jebel Moon locality. • MSF Website, Opinion piece by Rowan Gillies, MSF International Council President, 'Who is really Feeling the Pressure over Darfur?'
December 2006		<p>23 DECEMBER 2006 Sudan President al-Bashir accepts principle of UN-AU force though evasive on deployment of 20,000 blue helmets planned by outgoing UNSG Kofi Annan.</p>		
2007 January 2007	<p>5 JANUARY 2007 Darfur top of <u>new UN Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon's</u> agenda.</p>			<p>JANUARY 2007 MSF France CRASH report 'A Critique of MSF France/OCP Operations in Darfur October 2003-October 2004'</p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2007 January 2007	<p>28 JANUARY 2007 At <u>AU summit</u> in Addis Ababa, 6 INGOs (not MSF) warn about humanitarian situation in Darfur.</p>			<p>28 JANUARY 2007 <i>Newsweek</i> (USA), 'Africa: War on the Rescuers,' MSF France Coordinator in Darfur, Jean-Guy Vataux: during 11 September 2006 attack on Zalingei-Nertiti road, MSF staff "subjected to a serious sexual assault." Information not previously divulged.</p>
March 2007	<p>20 MARCH 2007 French <u>Urgence Darfur</u> call for international armed intervention in Darfur.</p>			<p>23 MARCH 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Libération</i> (France), 'An Appeal for Darfur, Killings and Demagogy,' by MSF France Board President Jean-Hervé Bradol, and MSF France CRASH, Fabrice Weissman. • MSF France Board President Jean-Hervé Bradol to AFP: no relief organisations in Darfur supports Save Darfur's appeal for armed intervention. <p>27 APRIL 2007 Françoise Bouchet-Saulnier, Fabien Dubuet, MSF France <u>Legal Department</u>, 'Legal or Humanitarian Testimony? History of MSF's Interactions with Investigations and Judicial Proceedings.'</p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2007 May 2007	<p>MAY 2007 <u>French MoFA</u> Bernard Kouchner proposes to create humanitarian corridor from Chad to assist populations in Darfur, including with military security.</p> <p>19 MAY 2007 <i>The Guardian</i> (UK) 'Not on Our Watch - How Hollywood Made America Care about Darfur: Cannes Premiere Is Latest Event to Be Used to Draw Attention to African Crisis.'</p>			<p>MAY 2007 <u>MSF USA General Director</u> Nicolas de Torrente declines proposal from George Clooney's representative to organise an awareness- and fundraising event calling for armed intervention in Darfur during Cannes film festival for MSF.</p> <p>31 MAY 2007 <u>MSF Website</u>, "'Safe Humanitarian Corridors" in Darfur: A Dangerous Military and Humanitarian Muddle,' Interview with MSF France/OCP Programme Manager Dr Denis Lemasson.</p>
July 2007	<p>31 JULY 2007 UN Resolution 1769 authorising deployment of United Nations African Mission in Darfur (UNAMID).</p>			
August 2007				<p>1 AUGUST 2007 <u>MSF communications departments</u> Q&A on MSF position on UNAMID.</p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2007 October 2007	<p>15 OCTOBER 2007 <u>EU</u> approves deployment of European force on Chad/CAR border with Sudan.</p> <p>OCTOBER 2007 French NGO L'Arche de Zoé members arrested for having tried to evacuate children they presented as orphans, victims of conflict in Darfur.</p>			<p>OCTOBER 2007 MSF France <u>CRASH</u> Rony Brauman to French media:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L'Arche de Zoé influenced by prevailing discourse of associations such as Urgence Darfur. • “Moral responsibility” of French intellectuals supporting discourse on genocide.
December 2007	<p>31 DECEMBER 2007 <u>UNAMID</u> struggles to secure material and human resources.</p>			
2008 January 2008	<p>JANUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>UN</u> convoy of more than 20 “clearly marked” vehicles protected by South African peacekeepers fired on while on its way to western Darfur. • <u>France</u> increases troops and helicopters in Chad to help EUFOR. 		<p>9 JANUARY 2008 <u>UNAMID</u> troops demand access to <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> clinic in Kalma camp to investigate on reported rape cases and names of victims treated by MSF. MSF refuses.</p>	

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2008 January 2008			<p>25 JANUARY 2008 <u>MSF Holland/OCA Coordinator</u> complained to UNAMID:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • troops demanding access to MSF clinic not acceptable. • requesting confidential information from health workers inappropriate. 	
February 2008	<p>FEBRUARY TO MAY 2008 Olympic Games in China and 24th anniversary of genocide of Rwandan Tutsi: supporters of Save Darfur campaign to put Darfur crisis under the spotlights.</p> <p>10 FEBRUARY 2008 <u>Sudan/UN</u> agreement on “how the ‘hybrid’ force in Darfur is to operate.”</p> <p>14 FEBRUARY 2008 <u>President of the International Olympic Committee</u>, Jacques Rogge, signs letter in aid of Darfur.</p>	<p>FEBRUARY 2008 Sudanese authorities and militias increase strategies to dismantle Darfur camps, including Kalma, and forcibly relocate displaced people.</p>		<p>EARLY FEBRUARY 2008 MSF Holland/OCA briefing paper ‘Lives Enclosed – a Look Inside Kalma Camp South Darfur, Sudan’: impact of conflict on health of people living there.</p> <p>13 FEBRUARY 2008 MSF Switzerland/OCG PR, ‘Aerial Bombings and Attacks Lead Thousands of Civilians to Flee to Chad.’</p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2008 February 2008	20 FEBRUARY 2008 <u>US President George W. Bush</u> calls to "put an end to" the Darfur conflict.			29 FEBRUARY 2008 <u>MSF France/OCP Website</u> , reopening of a mother and child healthcare clinic in Zalingei.
March 2008		10 MARCH 2008 <u>Sudan</u> admits its forces' involvement in attack on peacekeepers in Darfur: attack result of a "shared mistake"; UN should have informed of convoy's movements.		
April 2008	8 APRIL 2008 <u>US presidential candidate Hillary Clinton</u> calls on George W. Bush to boycott opening ceremony of Beijing Olympic Games unless China significantly changes in stance on Tibet and Darfur. 11 APRIL 2008 Nobel Peace Prize laureate <u>Wangari Maathai</u> pulls out of Olympic torch relay in solidarity with Darfur victims.		APRIL 2008 <u>HAC</u> informed about certain <u>MSF France/OCP</u> former projects being funded by American Jewish Health Service via MSF USA.	
May 2008				MAY 2008 <u>MSF France/OCP Website</u> , 'Surviving in the Chaos: Stories from Darfur,' stories collected in health facilities in Zalingei, Nertiti and Kutrum and in IDP camps of Zalingei (West Darfur) and Bulbul (South Darfur).

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2008				
May 2008	<p>28 MAY 2008 <u>US presidential candidates (Clinton, McCain, Obama) joint statement:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “We Stand United on Sudan” • “United Resolve to End the Darfur Genocide.” 			
June 2008	<p>16 JUNE 2008 <u>ICC Prosecutor Luis Moreno Ocampo asks judges to issue arrest warrants for 2 Sudanese senior officials responsible for crimes in Darfur: Ahmad Muhammad Harun, former interior minister now minister of humanitarian affairs, and Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-Al-Rahman, a Janjaweed commander.</u></p>		<p>JUNE 2008 False rumours about <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> team in Goz Beida (Chad) being evacuated by EUFOR troops.</p>	<p>JUNE 2008 <u>MSF France/OCP</u> acceptance of AJWS funds used as pretext for expulsion of <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> Coordinator. <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> to not comment publicly on this expulsion.</p> <p>JUNE 2008 <u>MSF France/OCP</u> prepares answers to media questions or possible ICC requests.</p> <p>30 JUNE 2008 <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> memo: ‘Summary of Analysis and Response to HAC Investigation and Expulsion of HoM from South Darfur.’</p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2008 July 2008	<p>8 JULY 2008 <u>7 UN/AU peacekeepers</u> killed in militia attack in North Darfur, rumours circulating on imminent ICC indictment of Sudan President Omar al-Bashir: seen by UN as warning from Khartoum of what could happen in case of “wrong decisions” by international community.</p> <p>14 JULY 2008 <u>ICC prosecutor Luis Moreno Ocampo</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • presents evidence to ICC judges of genocide allegations in Darfur against Sudanese president, Omar al-Bashir. • requests that arrest warrant be issued. • judges have 2 to 3 months to decide. </p>	<p>14 JULY 2008 <u>Sudan President al-Bashir</u> on Sudanese television: ICC has no jurisdiction in Sudan and prosecutor’s accusations are “false.”</p>		<p>8 JULY 2008 <u>MSF Holland/OCA letter</u> to Sudanese Media Centre: MSF Holland/OCA received no funding from Jewish World Service for work in Darfur or elsewhere in Sudan.</p> <p>11 JULY 2008 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MSF International Internal note</u> about MSF position on arrests warrants by ICC in Sudan: MSF to limit participation in proceedings before ICC. • <u>MSF Liaison with UN</u>, Fabien Dubuet’s message to MSF Sudan Programme Manager: strongly recommends suspending all teams’ movements, to regroup staff and keep low profile for next 4 days. <p>17 JULY 2008 <u>MSF Holland/OCA Q&A</u> in readiness for media questions about MSF position on ICC arrest warrants.</p> </p>

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<p>2008 July 2008</p>	<p>30 JULY 2008 UNSC resolution extending UNAMID mandate by one year. Rejection of Russian and Chinese request for resolution to consider freeze on ICC prosecution of al-Bashir.</p>	<p>SECOND HALF JULY 2008 Sudanese forces' offensive in Jebel Marra (Tawila, Shangil Tobaya) in North Darfur.</p> <p>23 JULY 2008 Khartoum ready to set up special courts to try those responsible for human rights violations in Darfur. Arab League to monitor trials together with UN and AU.</p>	<p>SECOND HALF JULY 2008 MSF Spain/OCBA teams in Tawila and Shangil Tobaya attacked by armed men in compounds.</p> <p>24 JULY 2008 Sudanese newspaper <i>Akhir Lhaza</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accuses MSF France/OCP of conspiracy against President of Sudan • states that MSF supports ICC indictment of President al-Bashir • mentions MSF France's alleged links with French MoFA Bernard Kouchner • statement finally retracted, but MSF must provide HAC with clarification of position on ICC decision. </p>	<p>30 JULY 2008 MSF International Council President Christophe Fournier: 'MSF's position Regarding the International Criminal Court's Prosecutor's Case Presentation against the President of Sudan.'</p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2008 August 2008	<p>4 AUGUST 2008 <u>AU President</u> criticises ICC request for arrest warrant against Sudanese president and asks UNSC to discuss resolution to postpone procedure.</p>			<p>2 AUGUST 2008 <u>MSF Spain/ OCBA PR</u>, 'MSF Evacuates Teams After Series of Assaults on Staff in North Darfur - 65,000 People in Tawila and Shangil Tobaya Left Without Medical Assistance.'</p>
September 2008			<p>26 AUGUST 2008 Armed attack against <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> teams in Kalma camp.</p> <p>LATE SEPTEMBER 2008 <u>Sudanese authorities</u> order MSF to suspend Plumpy'Doz distribution in Darfur, alleging abnormal levels of aflatoxin. Despite negative results of MSF-commissioned counter-expertise, MSF not authorised to use Plumpy'Doz.</p>	<p>26 AUGUST 2008 <u>MSF Website</u>, 'MSF Evacuates 49 Wounded from Kalma Camp, Darfur, Sudan.'</p>
October 2008			<p>OCTOBER 2008 <u>MSF Holland/ OCA</u> requested to remove mental health programme from technical agreement proposal. <u>MSF Holland/ OCA</u> refused.</p>	<p>30 SEPTEMBER 2008 MSF inter-desk meeting to set up common reaction on security incidents.</p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2008 October 2008	<p>15 OCTOBER 2008 ICC Pre-Trial Chamber request from prosecution to submit additional supporting material for Omar al-Bashir arrest warrant by 17 November 2008.</p>		<p>16 OCTOBER 2008 HAC letter to <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> announcing suspension of activities due to lack of technical agreement, immediately lifted until end October. Access to medical facilities and medical cargo blocked.</p> <p>OCTOBER 2008 <u>MSF France/OCP</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • same constraints and restrictions as MSF Holland/OCA on programmes and staff • told by HAC to close home visitors program. </p>	<p>2 OCTOBER 2008 <u>MSF International Website</u>, 'Ongoing Violence in Chad Jeopardizes MSF's Humanitarian Assistance to Population.'</p> <p>MID-OCTOBER 2008 MSF movement internal discussions on mitigation of risks for certain MSF documents to be used in legal procedure. MSF Legal Advisor to find out if any further MSF information in hands of ICC or lawyers of the accused, possibly compromising testifying victims' safety.</p> <p>20 OCTOBER 2008 <u>MSF Inter-section memo</u>, 'Darfur and the ICC Arrest Warrant for President Bashir – Analysis of the Operational Environment.'</p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2008 October 2008		<p>22 OCTOBER 2008 <u>Sudanese Media Centre Website, GoS</u> legal procedures to halt 6 INGOS projects in Darfur, including MSF Holland/OCA.</p>	<p>26 OCTOBER 2008 <u>HAC</u> letter to <u>MSF France/OCP</u> posing conditions to endorsement of technical agreement for Zalingei:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suspension of Home Visitor Programme • reduction of international Staff to 2 per location • handover of all assets to MoH at project closure. 	<p>22 OCTOBER 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> to prepare a communication reactive line for media requests. • <u>MSF directors of operations</u> to send MSF international high-level delegation to discuss with Sudanese authorities about insecurity and administrative blockages. <p>27 OCTOBER 2008 <u>MSF International Website,</u> 'Sudanese Authorities Threaten to Suspend MSF Activities in South Darfur.'</p> <p>30 OCTOBER 2008 <u>MSF Holland/OCA Director of operations Arjan Hehenkamp's</u> letter to Head of HAC reaffirming MSF's position with regards to ICC.</p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
<p>2008 November 2008</p>			<p>10 NOVEMBER 2008 <u>Sudanese Media Centre Website</u>, 'Sudanese Official Terms Aid Agency's Work as Intelligence Gathering':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSF update presented by HAC as intent to hide truth and to give impression that HAC hinders MSF activities. • "so-called mental health programme was mostly an intelligence-gathering activity which had nothing to do with health." <p>17 NOVEMBER 2008 <u>MSF France/OCP</u> Coordination team meeting with head of HAC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suspension of home visiting and mental health activities. 	<p>3 NOVEMBER 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MSF International Council President</u> Christophe Fournier letter to GoS requesting urgent meeting to discuss issues concerning MSF humanitarian work in Sudan. • Message from <u>MSF Coordinators in Sudan</u> to RIOD asking for high-level delegation meeting with GoS to be postponed to January 2009, along with information package and threat of intersectional public communication. <p>7 NOVEMBER 2008 <u>MSF Website</u>, 'Suspension Withdrawn, but MSF Instructed to Close Mental Health Programmes in South Darfur, Sudan.'</p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2008 November 2008			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no authorisation to use Plumpy'Doz; <u>MSF France/OCP</u> team implicitly told to "give up the issue." 	<p>20 NOVEMBER 2008 <u>MSF Programme Managers</u> letter to directors of operations recommending:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to abstain from requesting institutional funds as long as MSF still negotiating its presence in Darfur • to launch a joint evaluation of all MSF programmes in Sudan, to assist in negotiations with Sudanese authorities. <p>DECEMBER 2008 <u>MSF France/OCP's communication on Darfur's review:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • general reduction in MSF working space in Darfur. • deterioration of MSF public voice on Darfur crisis • real interest in having intersecting communication on important issues.
December 2008				
2009 January 2009			<p>MID- JANUARY 2009 <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> base in Muhajariya destroyed by attack and part of team evacuated. Skeleton team remaining to provide basic service in untouched clinic.</p>	

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2009 February 2009	<p>25 FEBRUARY 2009 <u>ICC</u> sets Wednesday 4 March 2009 as date for a decision to issue arrest warrant for President al-Bashir or not.</p>		<p>17 FEBRUARY 2009 <u>HAC</u> informs MSF that dates for high-level delegation meeting not suitable. Told to try again in mid-March.</p>	<p>12 & 13 FEBRUARY 2009 <u>MSF Directors of Communication & Fundraising</u> draft position paper on MSF relations with ICC, sticking to July 2008 MSF International President Christophe Fournier's 3-point message:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSF respects ICC but never comment on judicial decisions. • MSF specific policy of refraining from cooperation with ICC and independence from judicial instances. • MSF continues to help people in Darfur despite difficulties. <p>18 FEBRUARY 2009 <u>MSF Holland/OCA Website</u>, 'South Darfur: MSF Team Returns to Provide Health Care to the People Affected by Heavy Fighting in Muhajariya.'</p> <p>20 FEBRUARY 2009 Fabien Dubuet, <u>MSF International Liaison to UN</u>, requests support from Permanent Representative of Sudan to UN after MSF high-level delegation meeting with GoS cancelled.</p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2009 March 2009			<p>1 MARCH 2009 <u>HAC orders to MSF France/OCP and MSF Holland/OCA</u> Coordinators, along with coordinators of 6 other NGOs, to leave 10 sites before 4 March, “due to credible security threats.”</p>	<p>MARCH 2009 <u>Sudanese Minister for Humanitarian Affairs, Ahmed Haroun</u>, to help MSF obtain visas for high-level delegation meeting in Khartoum.</p> <p>2 MARCH 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MSF Executives</u> analyse main INGOs’ forced evacuation from Darfur as pressure from GoS on international community and ICC, in view of 4 March 2009 possible arrest warrant for President al-Bashir. • <u>MSF Liaison to UN</u> Fabien Dubuet to MSF Executives: according to UN, GoS targets organisations “with a history of speaking out.” <p>3 MARCH 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MSF field teams</u> in Darfur ask for press release about forced evacuation be less political and more medical for security reasons. • <u>ICRC</u> advice to MSF: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o not to criticise GoS “for taking security measures” o to focus on humanitarian concerns.

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2009 March 2009	<p>4 MARCH 2009 ICC arrest warrant for Sudanese President al-Bashir.</p>		<p>4 MARCH 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> Coordinator in Sudan summoned by HAC and informed that MSF Holland/OCA expelled from Sudan. • <u>MSF France/OCP</u> director of operations requesting explanation, sharply asked, “do you also want MSF France/OCP to be expelled?” <p>5 MARCH 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter from Sudanese authorities to <u>MSF France/OCP</u> in Khartoum announcing expulsion of MSF French section from Sudan. • Expulsion of 11 other INGOs. • <u>President al-Bashir</u> accuses INGOs of being biased and collaborating with ICC and denouncing Western “neo-colonialism.” 	<p>4 MARCH 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MSF International Website</u>, ‘MSF Seriously Concerned for the People of Darfur Left Without Healthcare Following an Order to Remove International Staff from Relief Projects.’ • MSF International PR, ‘Dutch Section of MSF Expelled from Darfur, Leaving Hundreds of Thousands Without Critical Medical aid.’ MSF completely independent from ICC and do not provide information. • UN and many states strongly criticise GoS over expulsion of MSF section. • <u>MSF HART</u> multiple meetings with diplomatic actors to secure support in further negotiations with GoS. <p>5 MARCH 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSF PR, ‘MSF Strongly Protests the Expulsion of a Second Section from Darfur, Sudan.’: Major medical programmes forced to halt activities; people of Darfur held hostage to political and judicial agendas – MSF calls on GoS to repeal its decision and allow vital assistance to the people of Darfur to resume. • New MSF attempt with ICRC help to ensure high-level meeting with GoS. <p>6 MARCH 2009 <u>MSF RIOD & ExCom</u> agreement on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • need to cooperate on Sudan Case • MSF to stand as one to prevent GoS from playing on divisions.

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2009 March 2009				<p>2-9 MARCH 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>TV5 Monde (France)</u>, <u>MSF France Board President Marie-Pierre Allié</u>: expulsion is out of the blue and disrespectful. MSF, as independent humanitarian organisation, feels as being treated like criminals. • <u>LCI (France)</u>, <u>MSF Belgium General Director Meinie Nicolai</u>: “They’re trampling on our independence by hinging our future on a political matter.” <p>8 MARCH 2009 <u>MSF intersectional agreement draft</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Principles defining humanitarian space for MSF in Sudan.” • To be used as basis for further negotiations with GoS. <p>9 MARCH 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MSF coordinators in Sudan</u>, <u>MSF UK Executive Director</u> and <u>MSF France/OCP Director of Operations</u> plea for focusing on “re- establishing a different relationship with the government of Sudan.” • <u>Ambassador of an Arab state to UN</u> confirms to MSF that GoS feeling threatened by INGOs’ potential to report against them. Advises MSF to rebuild confidence with GoS by avoiding public communication.

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2009 March 2009			<p>11 MARCH 2009 <u>MSF France/OCP</u> and <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> international staff evacuated from Sudan.</p> <p>12 MARCH 2009 Abduction of 5 <u>MSF Belgium/OCB</u> staff from MSF compound by armed men. 2 immediately released.</p> <p>13 MARCH 2009 <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> considers legal procedure such as appealing against expulsion and asking GoS for compensation for confiscated assets.</p> <p>MID-MARCH TO MID-APRIL 2009 <u>MSF Holland/OCA</u> and <u>MSF France/OCP</u> teams' efforts to close programmes in North Sudan, enduring administrative harassment, extortion of funds, lootings, threats and, for some, physical restraint, refusal of exit visas.</p>	<p>10 MARCH 2009 <u>MSF International Council President Christophe Fournier</u> letter to Sudan Minister of State for Humanitarian Affairs on MSF policy of not sharing information with international tribunals.</p> <p>11 MARCH 2009 MSF International PR, 'Concern and Confusion Following Teams' Expulsion from Darfur.'</p> <p>12 MARCH 2009 <u>MSF International PR</u>, 'MSF Confirms Abduction of Three International Staff in Serif Umra, Darfur, Sudan.'</p> <p>14 MARCH 2009 MSF International PR, 'Médecins Sans Frontières Kidnapped Staff Released in Darfur, Sudan.'</p> <p>MID-MARCH 2009 Draft Op-Ed on Darfur expulsion and MSF and ICC by Fabrice Weissman (MSF France Foundation/CRASH) circulated in MSF Movement.</p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2009 March 2009	<p>16 MARCH 2009 Sudan President Omar al-Bashir: "Darfur will be NGO-free within the year."</p>		<p>24 MARCH 2009 Noting deterioration of security, <u>MSF ExCom</u> decides to suspend all MSF operations in North Sudan. Sections not expelled to stay.</p>	<p>16 MARCH 2009 <u>MSF RIOD</u> acknowledges MSF failure to distinguish within this mess and need for lessons to be learnt when taking public position.</p> <p>19 MARCH 2009 <u>MSF OCs remaining in Sudan</u> reject MSF France PR on conditions of expulsion for using language that is "too harsh."</p> <p>20 MARCH 2009 <u>MSF Internal Memo</u>, <u>MSF UK Executive Director Marc DuBois</u>: 'Is Expulsion the Wrong Word?'</p> <p>24 MARCH 2009 <u>MSF ExCom</u> to abstain from communicating on decision to stop operations before high-level meeting with Sudanese authorities planned on 29 March.</p> <p>25 MARCH 2009 <u>MSF Holland/OCA, Humanitarian Affairs Department Kate Mackintosh</u>, internal paper, 'More Thoughts on MSF, Protection, and International Justice.'</p> <p>27 MARCH 2009 • <i>The New York Times</i> (USA), Op-ed by <u>MSF International Council President Christophe Fournier</u>, 'Punishment or Aid': "Humanitarian assistance is not compatible with punishing war criminals."</p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2009 March 2009				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSF France Board of Directors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - weakness of MSF communication toward Arab world - MSF France's expulsion linked to France's strong support of ICC - momentum of reaffirmation on sovereignty since MSF France expelled from Niger.
April 2009				<p>EARLY APRIL 2009 <u>MSF International Communication Coordinator</u> asks for Op-ed on MSF and ICC not to be proactively pushed for publication. Another Op-ed being prepared, as well as one specifically for Arabic media.</p> <p>8 APRIL 2009 <u>MSF France CRASH</u> public debate on MSF and ICC and difference between legal and humanitarian "témoignage"/ testimony.</p> <p>17 APRIL 2009 <u>Al Jazeera</u>, 'Today's Talk,' 25-minute interview of <u>MSF France Director of Operations</u> Thierry Durand criticised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by some in MSF France for being too complacent with GoS • by other OCs for not having been announced. </p> <p>22 APRIL 2009 <u>MSF Holland/OCA and MSF France/ OCP PR</u>, 'Harassed and At Risk: The Plight of Humanitarian Aid in Northern Sudan.'</p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2009 April 2009				<p>23 APRIL 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSF International Website, 'MSF Struggles to Provide Meaningful Aid Following Limited Expulsion in Darfur, Sudan.' • ICB endorsing 17 April RIOD decisions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o focus MSF action on acute emergencies, assist population's needs. o international negotiator named to continue talks with GoS. <p>28 APRIL 2009</p> <p>MSF ICB request that MSF ICC expert group review, clarify and strengthen MSF's current external and internal positions and policies on ICC.</p>
May 2009		<p>7 MAY 2009</p> <p>GoS to welcome new aid group in Darfur and allow non-expelled organisations to expand activities.</p>		<p>8 MAY 2009</p> <p>MSF reactive line for media on GoS statement, highlighting ongoing discussions with Sudanese authorities to continue to deliver needed emergency medical aid.</p> <p>14 MAY 2009</p> <p>MSF Communications Directors review of MSF communication on Darfur in preceding months.</p>

	International	Sudan / Darfur / Chad	MSF Operations in Sudan	MSF Negotiations and Public Statements
2009				
May 2009				<p><u>MSF France and MSF Holland Communications Directors</u> ask why 3 sections still in Darfur did not relay post-expulsion press releases.</p>
June 2009				<p>8 JUNE 2009 <u>MSF ExCom Meeting</u>: MSF's communication on expulsion (adopting a reactive line) was well done overall, although eventually expelled sections had different communication from those staying.</p>
October 2009				<p>13 OCTOBER 2009 <u>MSF ExCom meeting</u>: North Sudan – where are we 6 months post-expulsion?</p> <p>23 OCTOBER 2009 <u>MSF ICB</u> asks 5 OCs “to come to a commonly agreed strategy for negotiations and operations in Darfur that will describe the needs that have to be addressed by MSF and the way we can best organise ourselves to address them.”</p>