

Security Council Member States Statements on Resolution 1564 on Darfur Relating to R2P

The following are excerpts of Security Council Member States' statements on Security Council Resolution 1564, at the 5040th Security Council meeting, on 18 September 2004. These excerpts specifically highlight statements by Ambassadors relating to the international community's Responsibility to Protect, and how this responsibility is addressed in the Resolution and should be addressed by the international community.

The full responses of Security Council Member States can be found in meeting record [S/PV.5040](http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/scact2004.htm) at: <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/scact2004.htm>

Benin: Mr. Adechi

We believe that the international community is well equipped to play a role in finding a solution to the humanitarian crisis. It is urgent that we halt the hecatomb in Darfur. The situation there is totally unacceptable as regards the renewed commitment of the United Nations in favour of human dignity, which is denied to millions of citizens of a country that is a full Member of the United Nations and where the principles enshrined in the Charter proclaim their faith in the fundamental rights and the dignity and the worth of the human being.

Brazil: Mr. Sardenberg

Resolution 1564 (2004) focuses on some of those goals by insisting on the need for further and unequivocal actions by the Government of Sudan in carrying out its primary responsibility to extend protection and security to the civilian population and to rein in the militias, as well as by pressing, in an appropriate manner, the issue of the voluntary return of refugees and displaced persons and by renewing the appeal for urgent international support for humanitarian efforts undertaken both in Sudan and in Chad.

Germany: Mr. Pleuger

In this resolution, we again call on the Government of the Sudan to fulfill its responsibility towards its own population and its commitments under resolution 1556 (2004). We are convinced that we need to apply — and to continue to apply — pressure to achieve that goal, but we also want to pursue a dialogue with the Sudan on the best way to honour those commitments... The main point of the resolution, however, is to support the role of the African Union in solving the Darfur crisis and to obtain the cooperation of the Sudanese Government with an expanded African Union mission.

Philippines: Mr. Baja

A State has the responsibility to protect its citizens, and, if it is unable or unwilling to do so, the international community — the Security Council — has the moral and legal authority to enable that State to assume that responsibility.

Romania: Mr. Motoc

The resolution fulfills the major test we all imposed upon ourselves, namely to achieve a fair balance between acknowledging progress where credit is due and, on the other hand, continuing to provide energetic and continuous encouragement to the Government of Sudan to deliver in full on the commitments and pledges it made to the international community and to its people, and with the sense of urgency imposed by the unfolding human drama in the Darfur

region. The resolution is equally balanced when it recognizes the rebels' share of responsibility and when it calls upon all parties concerned to comprehensively address the full spectrum of political and security challenges confronting Sudan at present...

The resolution recognizes regional ownership at work in this crisis situation and encourages and supports further contributions by the African Union to address the crisis in the western part of Sudan. This resolution also adequately reflects the architecture of cooperation displayed in support of the United Nations addressing the Darfur situation in conjunction with the African Union, the European Union and many individual nations from Sudan's neighbourhood as well as from all over Europe, Asia and America. That approach is essentially important for Romania as a proponent of an updated and consolidated reading and practice of Chapter VIII provisions in our times...

In our twenty-first-century world, it should not be possible for the international community — for the Security Council in particular — to confine themselves to only taking a political look at events that involve tens of thousands of victims of targeted violence, especially when we hear no denial of such tragic reported facts. There should be no moral hesitation in the Council in taking up its responsibilities. While it may be true that it is not for the Council to make legal findings, it is certainly within its political, legal and moral obligation to ring the alarm bell and foster — and, indeed, urge — proper consideration of such acts in the appropriate venues.

To sum up, Romania supported resolution 1564 (2004) as an important act of the Security Council in the discharge of its responsibilities under the United Nations Charter, trusting that it will make a difference on the ground for all people who are suffering or at risk in the Darfur region of Sudan, which is the ultimate credibility test for our work and our presence in the Council. The ability of the Security Council to respond to international crises is also the ability of the Security Council to explain simple things to common people asking straightforward questions such as: why are so many people now dead or suffering in Sudan? What are we doing about this?

Spain: Mr. Yáñez-Barnuevo

In spite of the progress made compared to the situation prevailing just a month and a half ago, regrettably, the Darfur region remains the scene of serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law. For that reason, the Security Council cannot neglect its responsibilities; it must act accordingly.

United Kingdom: Sir Emyr Jones Parry

The United Kingdom believes it is the pressure of the international community that has been chiefly responsible for this progress. By repeating the clear threat of measures, the Council is underlining our commitment to ensure that the Government of Sudan achieves the targets we have set and, moreover, that it meets its responsibilities, the most basic of which is to protect its own citizens.

United States: Mr. Danforth

He (US President Bush) said that Darfur is a catastrophe that the Council should address on an urgent basis. He underscored the importance of the expanded mission of the African Union, which he asked us to support by this resolution and logistically. He asked that the international community fulfill its commitments to humanitarian assistance for the people of Darfur...

The point before the Security Council, once again, is to protect the people of Darfur, who have been suffering terribly and in a way that is unique in the tragedies of the world today: suffering from armed attacks by militias, but also directly by the Government of the Sudan; suffering from attacks after the Government of the Sudan reached a ceasefire agreement, after the Government of the Sudan issued the joint communiqué with the Secretary-General relating to

commitments on disarming the Janjaweed, and after the Security Council adopted resolution 1556 (2004) — attacks involving helicopters, shooting into civilian villages.