

Darfur: Dont Look Away Now, IAP, SERAP Urge YarAdua  
Globe for Darfur

As President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua marks his first 100 days in office, two leading Nigerian non governmental organisations, Independent Advocacy Project (IAP) and Socio-Economic Rights and Accountability Project (SERAP) have called on the president to publicly declare his support for efforts aimed at bringing lasting solution to the humanitarian and human rights crisis in Darfur Sudan.

Ahead of the 16 September 2007 Save Darfur Day being marked by several organisations - including IAP and SERAP - in different parts of the world, the organisations in a joint statement said the president has a unique opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the suffering people of Darfur by working with other African leaders to raise the profile of Darfur thereby giving it the attention it deserves.

()Following the passing of Resolution 1769, the African Union and the UN must work closely and swiftly to deploy the AU-UN hybrid peacekeeping force. Nigeria as a leading UN member state in Africa must support a prompt and sufficient deployment of the hybrid force by generating the necessary military, police and civilian personnel, as well as essential financial and material resources.

Adds SERAP's Adetokunbo Mumuni: he government of Sudan has a track record of shifting under pressure only to break its promises when the international community looks elsewhere. Until the attacks on civilian's cease and the full peacekeeping force is deployed the international community must not look away.'

The two organisations reminded the federal government that this September's meeting of 192 world leaders at the United Nations General Assembly in New York is another opportunity to address the Darfur issue.

()In September 2005 world leaders made a historic commitment at the UN General Assembly World Summit to acknowledge their **responsibility to protect** their citizens, and a joint commitment to act if a government is unwilling to fulfill this primary responsibility through the UN. This commitment was termed the

### **Responsibility to Protect**

.' Two years on, despite the adoption of the

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, the Sudanese government and the international community have failed to protect the people of Darfur. ()

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