



SAMPLE MEETING AGENDA

*This is just a sample to guide you; use your own words and let the conversation flow as much as possible!
Remember – if they ask a question and you don't know the answer, it's a great opportunity to say:
"I don't know, but I'll find out and get back to you!"*

Don't forget your pre-meeting preparation:

See these and more via our lobbying guide, accessible at decisiveactionsudan.org

- If you are meeting with your Representative, be sure to know if they have co-sponsored HR 1692, The Sudan Peace, Security, and Accountability Act of 2013.
- Identify House or Senate committees your Member of Congress is on, and tie Sudan/South Sudan to their work.

1. Introduction

_____: Introduces participants and the Decisive Action Sudan campaign.

- a. "Decisive Action Sudan is a nation-wide campaign bringing attention back to the escalating violence in Sudan and the more recent crisis in South Sudan. 10 years after Congress declared the conflict in Darfur to be a genocide, the Sudanese government is continuing their violent campaign against their own people. Deeply concerned citizens across the U.S. are asking their Congressional leaders to take action during the August recess this year."
- b. Give participant names, any relevant affiliations (if applicable), and mention if constituent.
- c. Give Staff Leave-Behind, mention that it covers all details and Asks.
- d. Ask how much time they have (to ensure all topics are appropriately prioritized).

2. Thank You

_____: Thanks the MOC/staff for any support for past or current legislation and for taking the time to meet.

3. Personal Story

_____: Gives personal story about why he/she cares about ending genocide and mass atrocities, and why Congressional support for these issues is important to them and their community. *Ask MOC/staff about their experiences.*

4. Situation Update/Talking Points

_____: Gives brief update on situation in Sudan and South Sudan.

a. Sudan

- i. "Sudan experienced multiple conflicts over the past few decades – a civil war that killed over 2.5 million and resulted in South Sudan breaking off as a new country, the genocide and worsening violence in Darfur, and more recent attacks against civilians and blocking humanitarian aid from entering South Kordofan and Blue Nile states."
- ii. "The root of problems lies with the government in Khartoum which economically and politically marginalizes the periphery areas and attacks civilians to maintain control. Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir is indicted by the International Criminal Court for genocide and crimes against humanity, yet continues to rule the country."
- iii. "The infamous Janjaweed militias from Darfur have now been reconstituted as 'Rapid Support Forces,' carrying out violence throughout Sudan as an official part of Sudan's government."

b. South Sudan

- i. "What was largely a political crisis within the ruling party mutated into a violent conflict on December 15, 2013. Fighting spread beyond the capital and violence between the two armed



groups has resulted in the deaths of thousands, displacement of 1.5 million, and 6 million in need of humanitarian assistance.”

- ii. “In January, a Cessation of Hostilities agreement was signed between the Government of South Sudan and opposition forces, but violence has continued. In June, a 60-day deadline for dialogue to create a transitional government, but progress has been stalled, and the deadline has now expired with little substantive progress made – all while a famine declaration is looming.”

5. Asks

_____ : Makes Asks of Member/staff (*these should be tailored to individual Member’s particular interests or opposition, if possible*)

“Congress can support:

1. Enhanced U.S. leverage and increased capacity for sanctions on both Sudan and South Sudan by allocating additional resources to the Department of Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control for investigation and enforcement. Highlight how Sudan’s gold exports are fueling its wars and that a significant portion of gold being sold abroad is linked to recent deadly conflicts over gold in North Darfur, by calling for the amendment of existing Executive Orders on Sudan to include gold sanctions, and encouraging the global gold industry to label gold exported from Sudan as “conflict-affected.”
2. Continued work by the State Department to build the capacity of institutions and opposition forces, including the SRF, that promote free, transparent and democratic reform in order for these groups to participate more effectively in negotiations, advocacy, and a credible national dialogue process.
3. Full and unimpeded access for international humanitarian aid organizations throughout Darfur, South Kordofan, Blue Nile, Abyei, and other parts of Sudan. Prioritize the protection of civilians by supporting a restructured and better equipped UNAMID peacekeeping force focused on protection of civilians in Darfur; and call for an investigation of charges of UNAMID’s failure to document and address attacks on civilians.
4. Accountability by working with the UN Security Council to expand the International Criminal Court’s mandate beyond Darfur to include atrocities committed in South Kordofan, Blue Nile, Abyei and other parts of Sudan, and by directly encouraging neighbor states to arrest Bashir and others wanted by the ICC.

(If you’re meeting with a Representative, not a Senator:) “H.R. 1692, the Sudan Peace, Security, and Accountability Act of 2013 is one vehicle through which many of these issues are addressed. It has more than 100 cosponsors, and now needs to be moved forward by Representative Ed Royce, Chair of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. “

6. Close

_____ : Thanks the Staff Member for their time

- a. Find out if staff member has questions or would like any additional information.
- b. Ask when would be a good time to follow-up; set a potential time to check back in.
- c. Be sure to get contact information for any relevant staff members!
- d. End with a final thank you for time and support, and that you look forward to staying in touch.