



Cour  
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International  
Criminal  
Court

ICC-PIDS-CIS-SUD-02-001/09\_ENG  
Updated: 4 March 2009

# Case Information Sheet

*Situation in Darfur, Sudan*

*The Prosecutor*

*v.*

*Omar Hassan Ahmad Al Bashir*

*("Omar Al Bashir")*

*Case n° ICC-02/05-01/09*




Date of birth	1 January 1944
Place of birth	Hoshe Bannaga, Shendi Governorate in the Sudan
Nationality	Sudanese
Tribe	Jaali of Northern Sudan
Current status	President of the Republic of Sudan since 16 October 1993
Warrent of arrest	4 March 2009
Surrender to the Court	Pending
Counts	The warrant of arrest for Al Bashir lists seven counts on the basis of his individual criminal responsibility under Article 25(3)(a) of the Rome Statute as an indirect (co) perpetrator including:

- **five counts of crimes against humanity:** murder - Article 7(1)(a); extermination - Article 7(1)(b); forcible transfer - Article 7(1)(d); torture - Article 7(1)(f); and rape - Article 7(1)(g);
- **two counts of war crimes:** intentionally directing attacks against a civilian population as such or against individual civilians not taking part in hostilities - Article 8(2)(e)(i); and pillaging - Article 8(2)(e)(v).

## Alleged crimes

Pre-Trial Chamber I is of the opinion that there are reasonable grounds to believe that:

- From March 2003 to at least 14 July 2008, a protracted armed conflict not of an international character existed in Darfur between the Government of Sudan (GoS) and several organised armed groups, in particular the Sudanese Liberation Movement/Army ("SLM/A") and the Justice and Equality Movement ("JEM"),
- soon after the April 2003 attack on the El Fasher airport, Omar Al Bashir and other high-ranking Sudanese political and military leaders of the GoS agreed upon a common plan to carry out a counter-insurgency campaign against the SLM/A, the JEM and other armed groups opposing the Government of Sudan in Darfur,
- a core component of that campaign was the unlawful attack on part of the civilian population of Darfur - belonging largely to the Fur, Masalit and Zaghawa groups - who was perceived to be close to



the organised armed groups opposing the Government of Sudan in Darfur. The campaign was conducted through GoS forces, including the Sudanese Armed Forces and its allied *Janjaweed* Militia, the Sudanese Police Forces, the National Intelligence and Security Service ("NISS") and the Humanitarian Aid Commission ("HAC"). It lasted at least until the date of the filing of the Prosecution Application on 14 July 2008.

- During the campaign, GoS forces allegedly committed crimes against humanity within the meaning of article 7(1)(a), (b), (d), (f) and (g) of the Statute and war crimes within the meaning of article 8 (2)(e)(i) and article 8 (2)(e)(v) of the Statute, and in particular:
  - a. carried out numerous unlawful attacks, followed by systematic acts of pillage, on towns and villages, mainly inhabited by civilians belonging to the Fur, Masalit and Zaghawa groups;
  - b. subjected thousands of civilians - belonging primarily to the Fur, Masalit and Zaghawa groups - to acts of murder, as well as to acts of extermination;
  - c. subjected thousands of civilian women - belonging primarily to the said groups - to acts of rape;
  - d. subjected hundreds of thousands of civilians - belonging primarily to the said groups - to acts of forcible transfer; and
  - e. subjected civilians - belonging primarily to the said groups - to acts of torture.

Pre-Trial Chamber I also found that there are reasonable grounds to believe that:

- Omar Al Bashir, as the *de jure* and *de facto* President of the State of Sudan and Commander-in-Chief of the Sudanese Armed Forces at all times relevant to the Prosecution Application, played an essential role in coordinating the design and implementation of the common plan;
- and, in the alternative, that Omar Al Bashir also:
  - a. played a role that went beyond coordinating the implementation of the said GoS counter - insurgency campaign;
  - b. was in full control of all branches of the "apparatus" of the State of Sudan, including the Sudanese Armed Forces and their allied *Janjaweed* Militia, the Sudanese Police Forces, the NISS and the HAC; and
  - c. used such control to secure the implementation of the said GoS counter-insurgency campaign.

## Key judicial developments:

### Referral and opening of the investigation

- The International Commission of Inquiry on Darfur was established by former United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan pursuant the Security Council resolution 1564. The Commission reported to the UN in January 2005 that there was reason to believe that crimes against humanity and war crimes had been committed in Darfur and recommended that the situation be referred to the ICC.
- Using its authority under the Rome Statute, the United Nations Security Council referred the situation in Darfur since 1 July 2002 to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court in resolution 1593 on 31 March 2005.
- Following the referral from the United Nations Security Council, the Prosecutor received the conclusion of the International Commission of Inquiry on Darfur. In addition, the Office of the Prosecutor requested information from a variety of sources, leading to the collection of thousands of documents. The Prosecutor concluded that the statutory requirements for initiating an investigation were satisfied and decided to open the investigation on 6 June 2005.

### Warrant of arrest:

- On 14 July 2008, the Prosecutor submitted an application for the issuance of a warrant of arrest for the Sudanese president Omar Al Bashir.
- On 15 October 2008, Pre-Trial Chamber I requested additional supporting material in relation with the Prosecution Application.
- On 17 November 2008, the Prosecutor submitted further material in compliance with the above-mentioned decision of the Pre-Trial Chamber.
- On 4 March 2009, Pre-Trial Chamber I issued a warrant of arrest for Omar Al Bashir.



**Composition of Pre-Trial Chamber I**

Judge Akua Kuenyehia (Ghana), Presiding Judge  
Judge Anita Ušacka (Latvia)  
Judge Sylvia Steiner (Brazil)

**Representation of the Office of the Prosecutor:**

Luis Moreno Ocampo, Prosecutor  
Essa Faal, Senior Trial Lawyer

**Defence Counsel for Al Bashir:**

N/A

**Legal Representatives of Victims:**

N/A

