



**Office of the Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for the Sudan**  
مكتب المنسق المقيم ومنسق الشؤون الانسانية للسودان

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Khartoum: 5 November 2007

Statement by the United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in the Sudan

In support of recent statements by the United Nations, including the statement of 26 October by the UN system in Chad, and the recent statement of the UNICEF Executive Director Ann Veneman, I strongly condemn the actions of the organization Arche de Zoe in attempting to remove children from Chad. Such actions contravene all international laws and standards on the movement of children and infringe on the humanitarian principles we stand for as the United Nations.

It is unacceptable to see children taken out of their home countries without compliance with national and international laws. The UN is currently assisting in the identification of these children and their places of origin, so that reunification with their relatives can take place.

The UN and Partners have been active in supporting the Chadian authorities in the protection and welfare of these children. Assistance has included provision of nutritional supplements, medical assistance and supplies as well as other items such as impregnated bed nets, blankets, mats, clothes and recreational materials and activities.

In Chad and in Sudan, the UN and national and international organizations have been effectively responding to humanitarian needs. We must continue to work together with partners in government to ensure that advances in child protection, health, and education are not derailed by the actions of an individual organization.