

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF SUDAN,
THE SUDAN PEOPLES LIBERATION MOVEMENT
AND THE
UNITED NATIONS
REGARDING UNITED NATIONS MINE ACTION SUPPORT TO
SUDAN

At the request of the Government of Sudan (GoS) and the Sudan Peoples Liberation Movement (SPLM), the United Nations (UN) is implementing an Emergency Mine Action Project in Sudan.

The Project intends to operate in both GoS and SPLM controlled areas with the objective of reducing mine/UXO casualties among the civilian population and humanitarian aid community with initial offices being established in Khartoum and Rumbek.

The UN will seek to assist both parties to jointly develop a National mine action strategy that meets the immediate needs of the emergency humanitarian situation and plans ahead to a post-conflict Sudan. Such a strategy will eventually lead to a mutually agreed National Mine Action Plan.

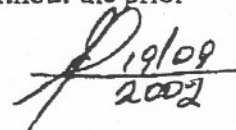
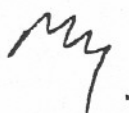
The Project will operate under the guiding principle of Sudanese ownership and will seek from the outset to support the development of a national capacity that is able to adequately manage the mine/UXO situation in Sudan.

A National Mine Action Office, supported by the UN and with representation of both parties, will be established to develop common strategies and a prioritised humanitarian clearance plan.

Key elements that will be addressed are: Accreditation, Operational Co-ordination, National Technical Guidelines and Standards, Quality Assurance monitoring, centralised reporting, appropriate resource mobilisation and capacity building. These elements will establish a framework to encompass the work of all organisations involved now, or in the future, in mine action activities within Sudan.

The UN recognises the conflict situation in Sudan and the resulting sensitivity of mine/UXO related information. Field Offices will be established where operationally appropriate and the dissemination of any mine/UXO information gathered at these locations will be limited to an agreed Area of Responsibility. Each Field Office will be equipped with the Information Management System for Mine Action.

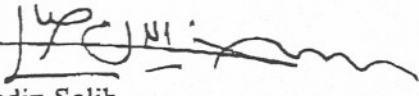
At no time will any information regarding mine/UXO's be released without the prior consent of the relevant Party.



The UN will not instigate clearance of disputed areas without explicit consent from both parties and further agrees that no direct mine clearance will take place without full consultation with both parties and prior agreement that such clearance may take place.

This agreement sets out an initial framework of co-operation and further detailed plans will be developed with full consultation of all parties.

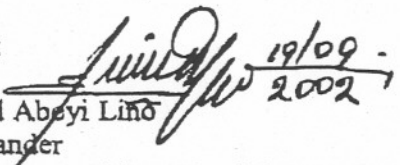
Signed:



19/9/2002

Dr Sulafadin Salih
Commissioner General
Humanitarian Aid Commission
Government of Sudan

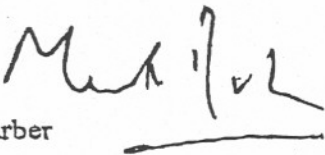
Signed:



19/09/2002

Edward Abeyi Lino
Commander
Sudan Peoples Liberation Movement

Signed:



Mr Martin Barber
Chief
United Nations Mine Action Service

Date: 19 September 2002

Place: Geneva