

press release

For immediate release

Contact

Anna Lindenfors, Country Director, Save the Children Sweden in southern Sudan, annal@ecaf.savethechildren.se

Amin El Fadil, Country Director, Save the Children Sweden in northern Sudan, aminelfadil@gmail.com

David Neveling, Regional Communications Officer, Save the Children Sweden. davidn@ecaf.savethechildren.se

Phone +254 20 386 5888

www.ecaf.savethechildren.se

Children's Rights in the Sudan – challenges and opportunities for boys and girls

Nairobi, 4 October, 2006

New publication: *Children's Rights in the Sudan – an Analysis Based on the CRC Reports*, September 2006.

The next CRC report from the Sudan to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child is due in September 2007.

In order for Save the Children Sweden to get a better understanding of the process up to now, an analysis of the previous state and alternative reports to the UN Committee was conducted. This study shows that scarce economic, material and human resources due to years of civil war, drought and famine have seriously limited the authorities' capacity to ensure the rights of Sudanese boys and girls.

However, the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in January 2005 brought promising possibilities and prospects to the war torn country, as well as enormous challenges and expectations. In this new era of peace building the forthcoming CRC report will be prepared. Learning from the previous reports and the recommendations of the UN Committee, there are four key issues that appear as crucial to consider when preparing the next CRC report:

- the importance of inclusive participation in the reporting process;
- the need for accurate and current data;
- the significance of an inclusive report, which incorporates all aspects and all regions of the Sudan; and
- the wide distribution and availability of the report once it is finalised.

The report is available in PDF-format, and can be obtained by e-mailing davidn@ecaf.savethechildren.se

###

Save the Children Sweden started working in Eastern and Central Africa in 1965. It has offices in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; Nairobi, Kenya; and Khartoum, Sudan. Save the Children Sweden has long-term child-rights based development programs in Ethiopia and Sudan, and it supports local partners in Kenya, Eritrea, Somaliland and Uganda.

The organisation focuses on building the capacity of local people, community-based structures and organisations. In Eastern and Central Africa, it works with more than forty different non-governmental organisations and government bodies. In addition, it has adopted a direct implementation approach in southern Sudan and the refugee camps of western Ethiopia. All of the work in the region focuses on children's rights, and tackles issues that affect marginalised children. The core of the work focuses on children affected by conflict, discrimination, abuse, exploitation, and HIV/AIDS. Save the Children Sweden's focus also includes education, child participation and good governance in the best interest of the child.

Save the Children Sweden is a non-governmental organisation. It is an active member of the International Save the Children Alliance – a global movement for children's rights. Through 18 offices around the world, the organisation contributes ideas, experience and funds to 500 projects in more than 60 countries.

Save the Children fights for children's rights. We deliver immediate and lasting improvements to children's lives worldwide. Save the Children works for a world:

- which respects and values each child
- which listens to children and learns
- where all children have hope and opportunity

Eastern and Central Africa Region

Regional/Kenya office

Box 19423

202 KNH – Nairobi, Kenya

Tel +254 20 386 5888/90

Fax +254 20 386 5889

Ethiopia office

Box 3457

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Tel +251 11 321 0960

Fax +251 11 321 4234

Northern Sudan office

Box 6134

Khartoum, Sudan

Tel +249 183 256 415/16

Fax +249 183 241 589

Southern Sudan office

Box 19423

202 KNH – Nairobi, Kenya

Tel +254 20 386 5888/90

Fax +254 20 386 5889



Save the Children

Sweden