

Press Release

Darfur Administrative Referendum

In fulfillment of article 10 of Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (DDPD) signed between the Government of the Sudan and the Liberation and Justice Movement in 2011, The Government conducted an administrative referendum to decide the administrative status of Darfur. The said Agreement gives the people of Darfur the chance to decide whether to keep Darfur's current status of five separate states or to return to the one region system.

The referendum took place between 11-13 April 2016, with the participation of three millions and 300 thousands citizens of those entitled to vote, in a peaceful and objective atmosphere. All polling centers in the five states were secure, stable and quiet. A number of international and national observers participated in the referendum such as, the African Union and the Arab League. The observers expressed their complete satisfaction regarding the organization, the procedures and the transparency of the referendum.

The result of the referendum affirmed that the people of Darfur opted for the current administrative status which is the five states. The results were announced on 23 April 2016 by Darfur Referendum Commission at a press conference, 97.72 of the registered voters voted for the five states option. The positive aspects of the five states option include among others, facilitations of provision of services, it offers more balanced and equitable power and resource sharing, it furthermore shortens the administrative shadow.

Mindful of its responsibility to realize durable and comprehensive peace in Darfur, the Government of the Sudan undertook this constructive and positive step of conducting this referendum in its due time. By so doing, the Government honoured its commitment and obligation vis a vis the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur, which is regionally and internationally recognized as a solid document to realize peace, stability and development in the region.

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