



الهيئة النقابية للأطباء السودانيين

بالمملكة المتحدة وايرلندا

SUDAN DOCTORS UNION

U.K.& IRELAND BRANCH

**The Rt Hon David Cameron, MP, Prime Minister**

**10 Downing Street**

**London**

**SW1A 2AA**

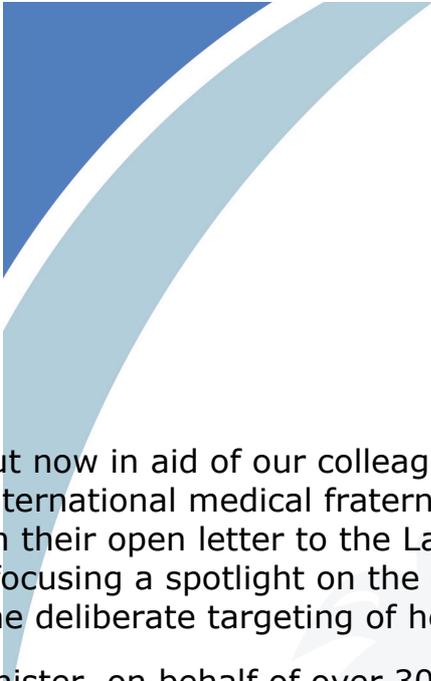
1<sup>st</sup> October 2013

Dear Mr. Cameron,

As you read this the government of Sudan continues to commit heinous acts of violence against its citizens. Unarmed peaceful protests against the lifting of fuel subsidies and rising commodity prices erupted on the 23rd of September in residential suburbs in the capital Khartoum and towns and cities throughout the country. Peaceful demonstrations are being met by a brutal crackdown with live ammunition from armed militias trained and equipped by the Sudanese government – akin to the Janjaweed-perpetrated genocide in Darfur.

According to our colleagues in Sudan the death toll stands currently at 250, most of whom were teenage boys and young men and women. At least three hundred more have been injured and almost one thousand arrested. Those killed have sustained gun shot wounds to the head, chest, back and abdomen clearly indicating a "shoot to kill" strategy employed by the perpetrators. Those few citizens arriving in critical condition at hospitals throughout the country are being denied their basic human right – that of access to healthcare. Medical doctors are prevented from treating and documenting injuries, and threatened and ordered under duress to falsify medical reports and death certificates. Those opposing such orders have been detained, beaten and tortured. Families have been forced to sign gag orders before their loved ones bodies are released for burial.

Mr Prime Minister, half the population of Sudan live below the poverty line and the current economic situation has left most people destitute. The public health services have seen a systematic disintegration with the dismantling of tertiary hospitals in the capital.

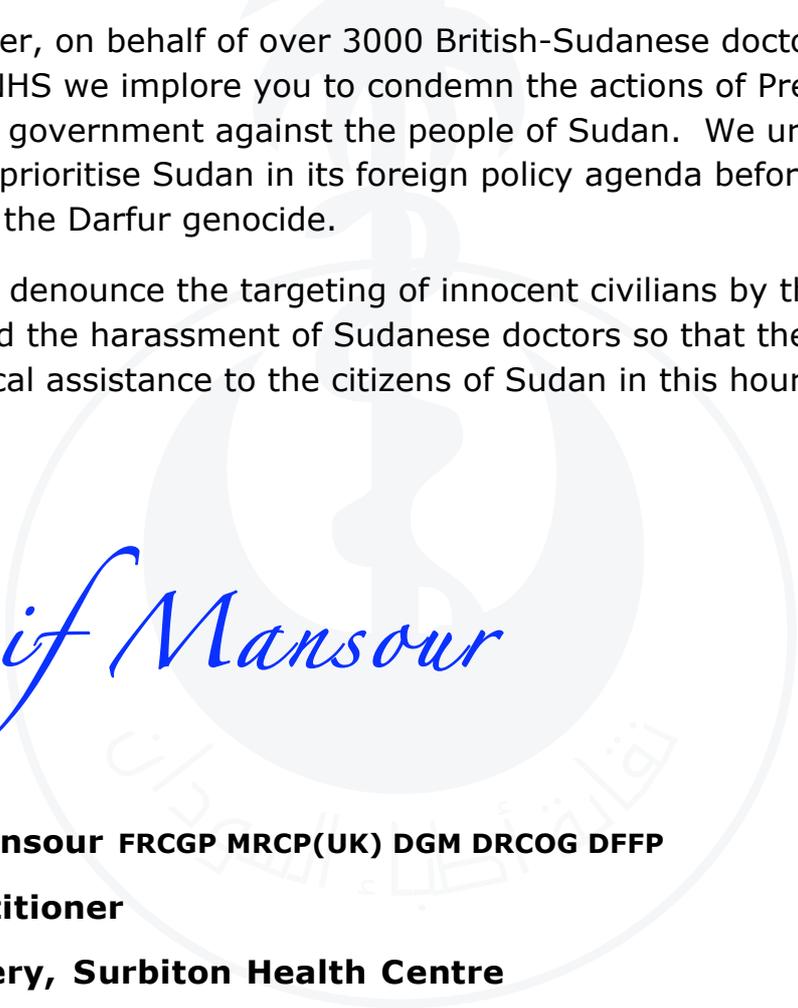


We speak out now in aid of our colleagues in Sudan as have prominent figures within the international medical fraternity recently done for their Syrian colleagues in their open letter to the Lancet medical journal on the 16th of September focusing a spotlight on the difficulties of healthcare delivery in conflict areas and the deliberate targeting of healthcare personnel and facilities.

Mr Prime Minister, on behalf of over 3000 British-Sudanese doctors proudly serving in the NHS we implore you to condemn the actions of President Omar Al-Bashier and his government against the people of Sudan. We urge your government to prioritise Sudan in its foreign policy agenda before the death toll reaches that of the Darfur genocide.

We urge you to denounce the targeting of innocent civilians by the Sudanese government and the harassment of Sudanese doctors so that they can carry on providing medical assistance to the citizens of Sudan in this hour of their greatest need.

Yours Sincerely



*Nassif Mansour*

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Cc

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