



November 22, 2009

U.S. Special Envoy to Sudan General Scott Gration

**Transcript of Remarks to the Media Following a Meeting at the
Khartoum State Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, on November 22, 2009**

Good afternoon. I have had another very nice trip to Sudan. And, again, I appreciate the hospitality that has been shown to me throughout this visit. As many of you know, I have had the opportunity to spend time in Khartoum. I also went to Abyei, where I had an opportunity to spend time in Abyei town, and then I went up to Muglad also. I went out to Darfur, and had the opportunity to spend time in El Fasher, talking to UNAMID and a variety of other people and then went out to El Geneina where I had an opportunity again to see the Mission there run by UNAMID and to talk with representatives from civil society about the issues going on there, about the security issues, the stability issues, and then, of course, we spent a bit of time talking about the border monitoring and the recent events having to do with Chad and Sudan. We appreciate the efforts that the government is doing to improve relations with Chad and Sudan. I also had an opportunity in all of these places to visit registration centers. I went to registration centers here in Khartoum, in Abyei and in Darfur. And I would encourage people to register to vote. This is a responsibility that I take very seriously. In my country, I vote in every election that I get a chance to vote. I make my will known. It is part of the democratic process. And we are pleased to see that Sudan is entering into the registration period, that things are proceeding, and we look forward to a good election in April. So thank you very much.

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