



Fact Sheet: State Contract Prohibition

The Sudan Accountability and Divestment Act of 2007 – which was signed into law at the end of last year – provides a powerful new tool to pressure companies that support the Sudanese government by authorizing state contract prohibition. State governments sign public contracts with companies that operate in Sudan and through this legislation now have the power to prohibit contracts with certain companies. SADA provides criteria for identifying problematic companies that operate in Sudan's oil, power, mineral and military sectors – sectors that provide revenue primarily for the Sudanese government and at the expense of marginalized populations.

Sudan's oil sector accounts for nearly 90 percent of the country's total export revenue. Up to 70 percent of this oil revenue is used to finance the country's military – which arms, trains and provides military support to the *Janjaweed* militia that continues to conduct a campaign of murder, destruction, torture, and rape in Darfur. Sudan's oil sector is dependent on these foreign companies for capital, technology and personnel.

Therefore, these companies must use their unique leverage with the Sudanese government to hasten the end of violence and destruction in Darfur. If the Sudanese government continues to be unresponsive to this pressure, companies should cease operations and/or sever economic ties with the regime in Khartoum.

In March 2008 Arizona followed the example set by SADA and passed legislation to prohibit contracts with these companies. Without such laws, states' tax dollars can help fund the Darfur genocide. The movement to ban such state contracts is gaining ground nationwide. California is currently considering contract prohibition. California Assemblyman Ed Hernandez introduced Assembly Bill 1089 in 2007, which passed in the state Assembly yet stalled in the Senate. Activists are currently urging the Senate Appropriations Committee to advance the bill this legislative year.

To involve yourself or your organization in these campaigns, please contact Sarah Grundahl, the Save Darfur Coalition's divestment coordinator at sarah@savedarfur.org.

About the Save Darfur Coalition – The Save Darfur Coalition raises public awareness about the ongoing genocide in Darfur and mobilizes a unified response to the atrocities that threaten the lives of people throughout the Darfur region. It is an alliance of more than 180 faith-based, advocacy and human rights organizations. The coalition's member organizations represent 130 million people of all ages, races, religions and political affiliations united together to help the people of Darfur. For more information on the coalition, please visit www.SaveDarfur.org. To obtain footage from the Darfur border region, coalition events, various interviews, and more, please visit the Save Darfur Coalition media gallery at <http://media.savedarfur.org>. All footage may be previewed in non-broadcast quality and may be purchased in broadcast quality by filling out the purchase request form provided on the site.