

R043-0708

10 A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE 2008 BEIJING OLYMPICS

20 **WHEREAS:** China has offered Sudan support threatening to use its veto
30 on the U.N. Security Council to protect Khartoum from sanctions and
40 has been able to water down every resolution on Darfur in order to
50 protect its interests in Sudan.
60 **WHEREAS:** Sarah Wykes, a senior campaigner at Global Witness, an NGO
70 that campaigns for better natural resource governance,
80 publically stated: "Sudan has purchased about \$100 million in arms from
90 China and has used these weapons against civilians in Darfur."
100 **WHEREAS:** Calls for sustained pressure and possible boycotts of the
110 Olympics have come from French presidential
120 candidate François Bayrou, actor and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador
130 Mia Farrow, Genocide Intervention Network Representative Ronan Farrow,
140 author and Sudan scholar Eric Reeves, and Dr. Arun Gandhi, grandson of the late
150 Mohandas Gandhi.
160 **WHEREAS:** An estimated 300,000 Sudan citizens have been killed in the conflict; also, nearly
170 2,000,000 Sudan citizens are 120 internally displaced.
180 **WHEREAS:** China is Sudan's largest trading partner and the main
190 foreign investor in Sudan's oil industry. China National 140 Petroleum
200 Corp. has a 40 percent share in the international consortium extracting
210 oil in Sudan, and it is building refineries 150 and pipelines, enabling
220 Sudan to benefit from oil export revenue since 1999. Some allege these
230 "oil interests" to be responsible for China's lack of action towards the conflict in
240 Darfur.
250 **WHEREAS:** Many people from all around the world are calling the 2008 Olympics, "The
260 Genocide Olympics."
270 **WHEREAS:** If the United States, boycotted the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, the result will
280 pressure China to alter policy with Sudan, hopefully allowing proper intervention and
290 sanctions to end, or help to mitigate, the conflict.
300 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Maryland Student Legislatu urges
310 the United States federal government to boycott 210 the 2008 Beijing
320 Olympics.
330 **MANDATES:** President George W. Bush
340 Robert Gates, Secretary of Defense
350 Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House
360 Harry Reid, Senate Majority Leader
370 Mitch McConnell, Senate Minority Leader
380 Steny Hoyer, House Majority Leader
390 John Boehner, House Minority Leader

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