

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 27, 2012

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write with regard to next month's U.S.-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue, and to emphasize the importance of cooperation at that meeting on the subject of Sudan and South Sudan. We are pleased that the two Sudans have already been given a place on the agenda, and we encourage you to prioritize coordinated U.S.-China effort in the region.

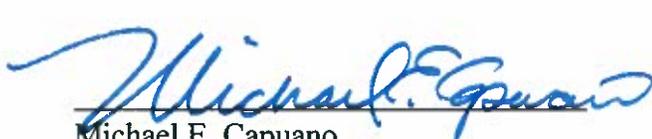
As you know, the security situation along the border between Sudan and South Sudan has rapidly deteriorated in recent weeks. South Sudan's seizure of Heglig, preceded and followed by violence, bombings, and attacks conducted by Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) within South Sudan, have further endangered civilian populations – particularly those in Southern Kordofan, Blue Nile (both in Sudan), and now Unity State (in South Sudan).

The U.S. and China have both been consistently engaged on issues relating to the Sudans, each with its own unique points of leverage. The U.S. has historically close ties with South Sudan and served as a key interlocutor for the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, and China maintains vital economic and business relationships with both Khartoum and Juba. The time has come for our nations to cooperate at a high level to improve to the lives of the people of both Sudans. In coordinating approaches and applying pressures where each is best suited to do so, the U.S. and China may be able to effect real change in the troubled relations among the parties. Realities on the ground dictate that international involvement must now be revitalized with new and innovative approaches.

We applaud your Administration's consistent engagement on Sudan and South Sudan, and we ask that you use this opportunity for strategic dialogue with China to bring the maximum possible pressure to bear for a return to negotiations approached honestly and seriously by Khartoum and Juba. By acting in concert at the highest levels, the U.S. and China can accomplish much more than either could hope to achieve unilaterally.

Thank you for your personal attention to this matter. As always, we look forward to working with you to secure a brighter future for the people of Sudan and South Sudan.

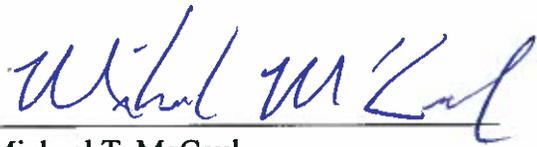
Sincerely,



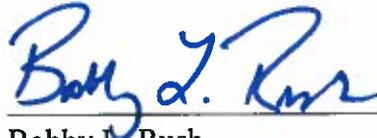
Michael E. Capuano  
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress



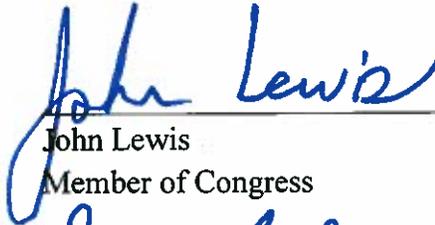
Michael T. McCaul  
Member of Congress



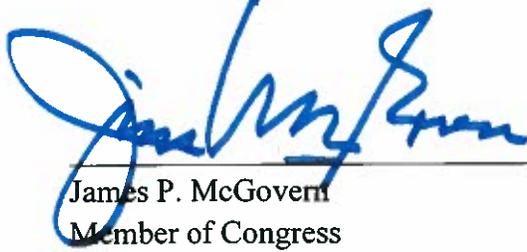
Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress



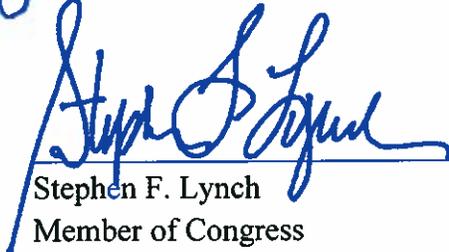
John W. Olver  
Member of Congress



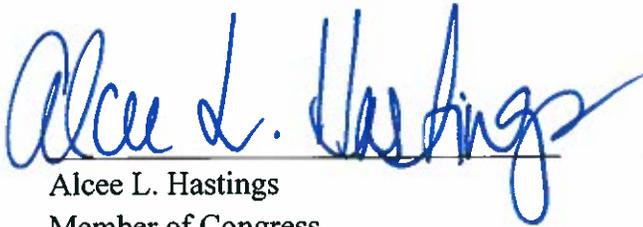
John Lewis  
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



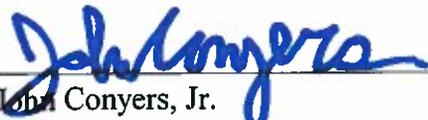
Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



Alcee L. Hastings  
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress



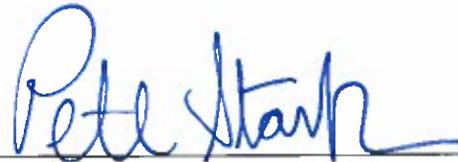
John Conyers, Jr.  
Member of Congress



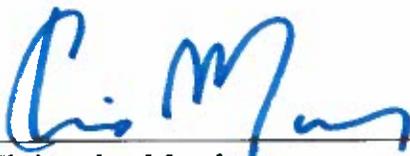
Hank Johnson  
Member of Congress



Mel Watt  
Member of Congress



Pete Stark  
Member of Congress



Christopher Murphy  
Member of Congress



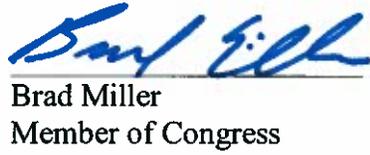
Michael Honda  
Member of Congress



Jim Moran  
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress



Brad Miller  
Member of Congress