

**Public Information Office****UNMIS NEWS BULLETIN****19 February 2008****UN and Partners shift to recovery and development***

Recovery transition and development will share the focus of humanitarian efforts throughout the whole of Sudan in 2008, UNMIS Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General Ameerah Haq said today at the Khartoum launch of the 2008 UN and Partners Work Plan for Sudan.

Ms. Haq was joined at the launch by Sudanese Minister of International Cooperation Al Tijani Saleh Fidail. She noted that when it comes to Southern Sudan and Southern Kordofan, up to 75 per cent of the humanitarian needs would be directed to recovery and development. "This is a considerable shift in a brief period of time," she said.

According to the Work Plan some \$ 2.29 billion was needed for humanitarian assistance, early recovery and development projects in 2008. Over 20 per cent of the designated amount has been secured.

Turning to Darfur, Ms. Haq stated that "tangible progress remains slow", because insecurity and lack of access continues to compromise work on the ground. As a result, humanitarian needs remain a priority in Darfur, with \$825 million required for assistance, she said.

Noting this is the last annual Work Plan, Minister Fidail pointed out that next year will mark the switch to a national strategic five-year plan reflecting the shift in Sudanese needs from humanitarian towards recovery and development. "This plan is complemented by a joint UN and government process to develop a UN Development Assistance Framework for Sudan, covering the period 2009 to 2012," he said.

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