

Relevant extract from email 11 January 2017 – Khartoum Media Summary

Sudan, UK Keen to Upgrade Political, Economical and Humanitarian Ties. (*Sudan vision, Almeghar Alsyasy Front page*)

- Sudan and the United Kingdom on Tuesday reiterated their willingness to enhance their bilateral ties in political, economic and commercial fields.
- Official Sudanese-British talks were held in Khartoum Tuesday, co-chaired by Sudanese Foreign Ministry's Under Secretary Abdul-Ghani Al-Naeem and Permanent Under-Secretary at the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Sir Simon McDonald. "This visit of the British official reflects the level of development in the relationship between the two countries," Al-Naeem told reporters following the talks.
- We have discussed all issues, where on bilateral field we have reiterated the two countries' willingness to enhance their relations in the different fields," he added
- He said "at the regional level, we have discussed the issue of South Sudan and the necessity to achieve peace there, while at the international level, we discussed the issue of human trafficking McDonald, for his part, said that "we were able to discuss international, regional and bilateral issues, and have productive discussions in all these areas."
- The Ministry of International Cooperation has also held bilateral talks in which they discussed issues of mutual concern with the UK delegation along with method of extending humanitarian assistance to Sudan .
- The Under-Secretary of the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Sir Simon McDonald. Said Sudan demanded supporting its relations with the international economic organizations and he expressed his delight over visiting Sudan expressing readiness for extending the required support in all spheres so that Sudan may reach a lasting peace.
- Simon described the talks which discussed the challenges facing the humanitarian work and lay down long-term economic programs as "excellent "
- "The United Kingdom and Sudan have historic relations and we are building on those his7toricrel "The United Kingdom and Sudan have historic relations and we are building on those historic relations," he noted.
- The United Kingdom has affirmed that it will enhance Sudan's relations with all international economic institutions for lifting the economic blockade imposed on Sudan and tackling Sudan's debts file.

- For his part the Minister of International Cooperation, Osman wash has affirmed that the meeting has touched on many aspects including Britain's contribution in Sudan's debts as Britain has a big role in this sphere.

Email 10 January 2017

Dear PUS Action,

[REDACT SECTION 40], Simon's PS, has asked me to let you know that she's unable to get data connection, and she'll be out and about for a few more hours until she is back onto Wifi.

In meantime please can you copy any emails you need to get to her, to **[REDACT SECTION 40]** and myself on the personal accounts copied in. We will be with her throughout the afternoon and able to get messages to her.

Best,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 9 January 2017

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Sent: 09 January 2017 15:42

To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Cc: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Subject: RE: Transport plan - visit

Sorry ! [here is the attachment](#)

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Sent: 09 January 2017 15:40

To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Cc: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Subject: RE: Transport plan - visit

[REDACT SECTION 40],

Please see updated transport plan.

Thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 09 January 2017 10:55

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Transport plan - visit

[REDACT SECTION 40],

Please see the attached the transport plan for the VIP visit for double check.

Thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 09 January 2017 09:45

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Transport plan - visit

Perfect – I'll pop down then

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 09 January 2017 09:45

To: [REDACT SECTION 40] (Sensitive)

Subject: RE: Transport plan - visit

Morning [REDACT SECTION 40],

I am ready , if you are free let's meet at 10:00.

Thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 09 January 2017 09:41

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: Transport plan - visit

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

[REDACT SECTION 40] has sent me an updated copy of the programme for the PUS visit. It has changed a little – could you and I sit down to go through the this and the transport plan to check they match up?

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 9 January 2017

Email relates to a press statement for the PUS visit. The final version can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/world-location-news/high-level-british-delegation-visits-sudan>

Email 9 January 2017

Dear [REDACT SECTION 40]

To note the change of time and location for tomorrow, if you haven't heard from [REDACT SECTION 40].

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 08 January 2017 16:55
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: Meeting with FCO/ DFID PUS: Change of time/ location

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Thanks for the useful meeting earlier.

To confirm, due to programme changes from MFA, the meeting with yourselves and the Parliamentary Under-Secretaries from DFID (Mark Lowcock) and FCO (Simon MacDonald) will now be at the Ambassador's Residence. It is likely to start at 1615/1630 although you may want to get there a little early to set up the presentation. [REDACT SECTION 40] will be there from 1600.

We invite two from each agency, so please confirm who will accompany you

Many thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 9 January 2017

Excellent, thank you,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 09 January 2017 14:37
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: Meeting with FCO/ DFID PUS: Change of time/ location

Dear [REDACT SECTION 40]

To confirm that Mario Lito Malanca will attend the meeting tomorrow. I will accompany him.

Best

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: Sunday, January 08, 2017 6:04 PM

To: '[REDACT SECTION 40]

cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Meeting with FCO/ DFID PUS: Change of time/ location

Dear [REDACT SECTION 40]

Will do.

Best

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: Sunday, January 08, 2017 4:55 PM

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: Meeting with FCO/ DFID PUS: Change of time/ location

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Thanks for the useful meeting earlier.

To confirm, due to programme changes from MFA, the meeting with yourselves and the Parliamentary Under-Secretaries from DFID (Mark Lowcock) and FCO (Simon MacDonald) will now be at the Ambassador's Residence. It is likely to start at 1615/1630 although you may want to get there a little early to set up the presentation. **[REDACT SECTION 40]** will be there from 1600.

We invite two from each agency, so please confirm who will accompany you

Many thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Hi all,

For info only, please see convoy plan for the visit tomorrow.

Car 1: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Car 2: VIP 1; HMA; **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Car 3: VIP 2; **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Car 4: Julian Reilly; **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Car 5: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Car 6: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Car 7: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Car 8: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Car 9: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Car 10: Extra vehicle.

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 8 January 2017

Transport

Is there another car for [REDACT SECTION 40] or does he need to be collected from the [REDACT SECTION 40] either before [REDACT SECTION 40] or after [REDACT SECTION 40]?

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 08 January 2017 12:35
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: VIP visit: updated planning docs
Importance: High

Hi all,

Bad news I'm afraid... WFP have now confirmed that the advance party have to be at the airport by 0530 at the latest. Please see revised collection times below. **Transport team:** please confirm receipt.

0445: [REDACT SECTION 40]

0455: [REDACT SECTION 40]

0515: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 08 January 2017 10:55
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: VIP visit: updated planning docs

Hi all,

Happy New Year!

Please note that the following changes need to be made to the transport plan – **[REDACT SECTION 40]**, are you able to revise it and send round an updated version? Apologies if any of this has already been covered in other emails, I just want to be sure that it's captured in one place so we're all sure of the details.

[REDACT SECTION 38]

Please can you also confirm contact details for all the drivers (including those doing the earlier collections tomorrow e.g. **[REDACT SECTION 40]**).

Many thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 04 January 2017 13:14

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: VIP visit: updated planning docs

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Please see the attached for double check against the visit programme.

Three driver are dedicated for this visit and they are [REDACT SECTION 40] contact number [REDACT SECTION 40], [REDACT SECTION 40]contact number [REDACT SECTION 40], and [REDACT SECTION 40] contact number [REDACT SECTION 40].

Kind Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 04 January 2017 13:06

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: VIP visit: updated planning docs

Thanks to everyone who came to the planning meeting this morning.

Please find attached two updated docs:

- Visit programme
- Logistics plan

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 8 January 2017

Thank you - that's all really helpful. Can confirm we are all hand luggage only.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

-

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: Sunday, 8 January 2017 11:20

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Airport

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

One of our protocol officers, [REDACT SECTION 40], will meet you at the plane and escort you to the VIP lounge where he will take care of the immigration formalities. His phone number is [REDACT SECTION 40].

Can you confirm whether you are travelling with hand luggage only, or hold luggage? If hold luggage, [REDACT SECTION 40] has asked whether it would be possible for you to mark your bags clearly with 'British Embassy', and send him a picture of the bags (you can whatsapp or email it to me, whatever is easiest) so that he can easily identify them when he goes to collect them.

Collection has now been changed to [REDACT SECTION 38] However please note that we have had to schedule a security briefing for 0615 at the residence for you, so that it can be delivered in a secure environment. We appreciate that this is very early and will make sure there's lots of coffee available!

A breakfast box will be provided for you on the plane. WFP have asked me to let you know that there are no toilets on the plane.

If you have any queries or problems on arrival, please do not hesitate to call me – I will be happy to help. My number is [REDACT SECTION 40].

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 08 January 2017 14:10

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: Re: Airport

-

Also, given we will arrive late and no-one around to give us instructions, could you let us know what time we will leave the Residence tomorrow morning(7.10 from memory) , whether we need to be awake sufficiently before that for breakfast or whether we'll have a breakfast box en route etc?

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

-

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: Sunday, 8 January 2017 06:46

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: Re: Airport

-

Excellent, thank you. Do you know whereabouts they will be?(before or after customs etc?) And think [REDACT SECTION 40] has fed in already but please pass on that we are not

at all expecting **[REDACT SECTION 40]** or the Ambassador to come to the airport and meet us - the hour of arrival is very antisocial!

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

-

Hi Both

Contact details for the drivers meeting you at the airport tonight are copied below:

[REDACT SECTION 40] contact number **[REDACT SECTION 40]**, **[REDACT SECTION 40]** contact number **[REDACT SECTION 40]**, and **[REDACT SECTION 40]** contact number **[REDACT SECTION 40]**.

All the best

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Sent: 06 January 2017 19:28
To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Cc: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Subject: Airport

[REDACT SECTION 40],

If you could also confirm who will meet us at the airport and where, and a contact number please.

Many thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 6 January 2017

Hi all,

Here is box info for the trip. Times are in GMT (both Juba and Khartoum are 3 hours ahead).

Saturday 7 January: No box. Email me anything urgent and I'll raise with Simon during the day.

Sunday 8 January: Time to be confirmed due to a change in programming which Post are still finalising, but **provisionally 1100**. I've asked Desk to update you when box time is confirmed. Please send to [REDACT SECTION 40], [REDACT SECTION 40] in Juba.

Monday 9 January: 1600. Please email to [REDACT SECTION 40] in Khartoum.

Tuesday 10 January: 1600. Please email to [REDACT SECTION 40] in Khartoum.

Wednesday 11 January: No box. Simon is going straight home after the flight but I'll try to come in.

Kind Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 6 January 2017

[REDACT SECTION 40],

If you could also confirm who will meet us at the airport and where, and a contact number please.

Many thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 6 January 2017

Could you please print one copy of the attached? Thank you!

Kind Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 06 January 2017 10:36

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: FW: Otash Mission--Fact Sheets for Briefing Packs

[REDACT SECTION 40]

In case of interest, World Food Programme (WFP) have provided us with factsheets about the Otash IDP camp in Darfur, which Simon and Mark are currently scheduled to visit on Monday 9 Jan. They are keen for them to be shared with the PUS'; there are five factsheets attached – apologies for the size!!

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 04 January 2017 17:08

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Otash Mission--Fact Sheets for Briefing Packs

Dear [REDACT SECTION 40],

Please find attached one final WFP fact sheet to be include in the Otash mission briefing packs. This one is specific to cash based transfer in Otash camp.

Thanks for all the support.

Best regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: Thursday, December 29, 2016 4:28 PM

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: Otash Mission--Fact Sheets for Briefing Packs

Dear DFID Colleagues,

For the high-level mission to Otash, it's my understanding that DFID will be preparing the briefing/information packs. I'm not sure who is coordinating this from your side, so please forward on if that person is not on this email.

I'm attaching four factsheets that we'd be grateful if you could please include in the briefing packs. There is one additional fact sheet that is undergoing final clearance with **[REDACT SECTION 40]**, but I wanted to send these to you now since they are ready to go.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Wishing you all a very happy New Year!

Cheers,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 5 January 2017

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40]

,

Thanks very much for this. It will be invaluable to the PUS'.

Just a quick stock-take of what's left-

There are a couple places with placeholders for updates (e.g. the programme change, lists of participants and the US offer)- let me know if there are any further changes, and if we are at Post by then please also have Post tell us in person.

I'd be grateful if you could confirm who will be our printing contact in Juba (for both Firecrest and conf)- we need this by noon tomorrow at the latest.

I haven't received anything on Nigeria yet but am happy to chase this if you let me know who you spoke to.

Have a good night!

Kind Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Please find attached a final version of the briefing pack for the DFID/FCO PUS trip to Juba and Khartoum. Thank you to all those on the cc list who contributed to this.

As you know, **[SECTION 38]** decision to alter the flight times has forced a change of plans for the arrival in Khartoum. Unfortunately the consequences will not be clear until nearer the arrival in Sudan, and so we have therefore agreed with post that the PUS's will be given an updated programme then.

Many thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 5 January 2017

Thanks both. Looking forward to meeting you this weekend!

Kind Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 05 January 2017 09:18
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: Dress code for Sudan/South Sudan

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

In Khartoum/ Darfur, you should wear long clothing (trousers/ skirt down to your feet, and sleeves minimum three quarter length). It's "winter" so won't be blazing hot, but will still seem warm to you! So I suggest light fabrics (cotton/ linen) and then bringing a scarf for if you get chilly either in the evening or under air conditioning. Recommend comfy flat shoes for footwear – you'll be walking a lot on dusty and unstable ground, and on your feet in Darfur.

For work meetings a jacket is the norm as elsewhere.

I normally wear regular work trousers (either linen or normal) with a cotton shirt, and bring a work jacket/ shawl to take on and off as needed.

Hope that helps

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 05 January 2017 12:12
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: Dress code for Sudan/South Sudan

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

Thanks for all your help so far on the upcoming PUS visit. I have a quick question- what would you recommend we ([REDACT SECTION 40] & I) wear in Juba/Khartoum/Darfur? Just wanted to check in advance- thanks!

Kind Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 4 January 2017

Final tweet published: 3 January @ChrisTrott

[REDACT SECTION 40],

Thanks. I tweeted last night. Please retweet.

I will write back to **[REDACT SECTION 40]** saying we are following it closely, but don't have details yet.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Sent: 03 January 2017 15:32
To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Cc: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Subject: RE: Nertiti OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

[REDACT SECTION 40]

We haven't yet had an opportunity to raise this with GoS. We should definitely put it on the PUS' agenda as it demonstrates (i) ongoing instability in Darfur, **[REDACT SECTION 27]** (2) facts are still emerging and are disputed; and (3) there are questions about the role of UNAMID.

Please see attached the report from **[REDACT SECTION 40]** based on media and personal contacts, who put the death toll at 14 with 47 injured. This is similar to what is being reported in some media (9 dead, 60 injured according to [Sudan Tribune](#)) and fanned by advocacy groups who are terming it a massacre.

However the latest from UNAMID is that 2 people were killed by security forces and 26 injured (4 of whom were policemen). This chimes with the [Wali's comments](#) today that 28 people were wounded, including 4 policemen and 19 women.

UNAMID have picked up reports that while the main incident was underway in the Habat area, there were reports of GoS forces attacking the Straha area. However no victims have been confirmed.

I requested a report from UNAMID today which is copied below. The situation around Nertiti is described as “calm” thanks to intervention of the Deputy Wali, and UNAMID patrols have been stepped up. The Defence Minister and senior NISS officials are due in Zalingei tomorrow.

Recommendation

- We should tweet our concern. Since the numbers are disputed we should say something along the lines of: Concerned by reported violence in #Nertiti central #Darfur. Urge Govt of #Sudan to calm situation, investigate & allow full access to #UNAMID. Since Michael is currently away, would you like to do this from the Sudan Unit account then we'll retweet?
- We should raise it with GoS and UNAMID during the PUS visit
- We'll continue to monitor developments closely including liaising daily with UNAMID and local contacts to establish facts.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

UNAMID update: 03 January

The situation in Nertiti is assessed as calm. No major development/incident was reported today.

The following action points were decided:

1. Continuous monitoring of the security situation in Nertiti.
2. Intensified UNAMID patrols in the IDP camps to be continued.
3. The Civil Affairs Section to monitor the mediation process between the security forces (GoS Military and Police) in Nertiti to determine areas of possible UNAMID intervention/support.
4. Sector leadership to meet with the Wali to commend his efforts, so far, in dealing with the situation and ascertain possible areas of UN/UNAMID intervention/assistance to avert further revenge from any of the two parties.
5. UNAMID Police to visit and assess the conditions of the injured victims at Nertiti Hospital.

Email 4 January 2017

Please arrive promptly at 08.45 for your meeting with the PUSs. This is your opportunity to hear news from London and to ask questions from the most senior officers in FCO and DFID.

I shall be grateful if **Consular and Visa staff** could be sure to return to their offices very quickly after the all staff meeting as the visitors will visit all staff in their offices and in the FCO we will start on the ground floor. I shall be grateful if **[REDACT SECTION 40]** could be on standby to open the door from Consular waiting room so that I can bring the PUS in on the ground floor and work our way up. Grateful if **[REDACT SECTION 40]** can be listening for a knock on the visa section door to let us in.

All other staff please return to your desks asap and be ready to meet the PUS and tell him about your work. Please do not schedule meetings until after 0915 on 10th January.

DfID staff will be briefed by **[REDACT SECTION 40]** or **[REDACT SECTION 40]** on the DFID walk around.

With thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 4 January 2017

To clarify, I said to **[REDACT SECTION 40]** we'd be happy to have the VTC is there were particular issues on the briefing pack the SU team wanted to discuss. If not, then I thought we could finalise things over email.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Sent: 04 January 2017 13:17
To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Cc: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Subject: PUS briefing

[REDACT SECTION 40]

We had suggested that we use today's VTC to go over the briefing for the PUSs' visit, which has to be submitted by the end of today, but **[REDACT SECTION 40]** has suggested we do this by email. I am happy with this idea, but the point I wanted to make is that this briefing needs to be got right, and needs to reflect our current priorities. Our assumption is that we do not need to provide detailed points to make for each meeting, but rather that they will be briefed in advance before each one. Can I check that it has been looked at by you (in Michael's absence) and **[REDACT SECTION 40]**, and that you are both happy with it? We are not going to have much capacity to go through it ensuring consistency or doing spell checks this afternoon as we are preparing for FCO orals etc.

Thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 8 January 2017

Hi **[REDACT SECTION 40]** – Blackberry's don't work here and the new phones are just being rolled out so no-one will have seen this (I have sadly just popped in to do a few bits). I don't think there is anything pressing so we will probably give the PUS a free couple of hours..

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

[REDACT SECTION 38]

Email 6 January 2017

We've been getting them too. Our travel centre advised us just to wait a few hours but if it doesn't work by noon I'll ask [REDACT SECTION 40] to get in touch with the airlines.

Yes- see you in the lounge. My personal number is [REDACT SECTION 40] if you need it.

Kind Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 06 January 2017 11:28

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: PUS Visit - New Flights

Yes, think so! We've tried to check in online though and are getting error messages – have you had any luck at your end?

In terms of meeting – shall we all meet in the lounge at Heathrow? I'll stick your mobile number in my phone so I have it to hand.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 06 January 2017 09:46

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: PUS Visit - New Flights

Morning! Do you have everything you need for today?

I spoke to Simon and he's not bothered about where we all sit on the way there, so we'll go ahead and get checked in now.

Kind Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

[REDACT SECTION 38]

Relevant extract from email 4 January 2017

[REDACT SECTION 38]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 04 January 2017 12:36
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: PUS visit to Juba Saturday 7th January

Great- shall we meet in the airport lounge past security? Sure, that's no problem.

Have you heard something about delayed flights to Khartoum? Just trying to get full details now.

Kind Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 4 January 2017

Hi Simon,

I'm just finalising the logistics for our trip to Sudan and South Sudan. **[REDACT SECTION 38]** changed the timing of our flight from Juba to Khartoum on Sunday so I've attached an updated itinerary. I will check you in for the flight and send a copy of your boarding pass to your mobile on Friday morning. I have a few quick questions:

- Can you please confirm you have your passport at home with the Sudanese and South Sudanese visas?
- Since we are travelling to the airport separately, shall we meet in the lounge past security? Or would you like to meet in front of security in case you have any issues with your boarding pass?
- Do you have a preference of sitting beside/ across /far away from Mark Lowcock on the way there?

Let me know if you need anything else.

Kind Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 4 January 2017

Hi

First I heard of flight time change was when **[REDACT SECTION 40]** called. I've spoken to travel centre who said there's no suitable alternate route. **[REDACT SECTION 38]**

I've attached new flight details.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 04 January 2017 12:40

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: FW: Visit problem

Importance: High

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40], did the airline email us about this? Could you please call the travel centre and ask for any alternate routes from Juba-Khartoum on 8 January by the end of today? Thanks.

Kind Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

[REDACT SECTION 38]

Email 4 January 2017

There is not much we can do until we know what flight they are arriving on. But we at least now have some ideas on how to handle it if it will be a late arrival – ask MFA if we can do their dinner on 9th after return from Darfur and persuade them that lunch following day is not needed; change economic dinner to lunch on 10th; put both PSs on VIP flight. We will also have to think about how we can handle the security briefing (at the airport in the morning? Can someone in UN do it on arrival in Darfur?) Lets confirm as a group when we have new flight times.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 04 January 2017 15:17

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40] Michael Aron (Sensitive);

Subject: Visit problem

Importance: High

Hi All

Major issue with the visit programme...

[REDACT SECTION 40] has just messaged me to let me know that their planned flight from Juba to Khartoum has been changed. **[REDACT SECTION 38]** This obviously throws off the visit programme on Sunday evening and also makes it a pretty awful overnight for **[REDACT SECTION 40]**, who is planned to be on the earlier flight to Darfur the next morning.

They are exploring different options for routes to try and get to Khartoum earlier, but wanted to flag the problem as early as possible. Is it worth having a brief meeting either this afternoon or tomorrow morning to discuss what we do?

All the best

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Sent: 04 January 2017 13:46
To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Cc: **[REDACT SECTION 40]** Michael.Aron;
Subject: FW: Updated visit programme

Can you put this request to **[REDACT SECTION 40]** at your meeting with him tomorrow please **[REDACT SECTION 40]**?

Let me know if you need support from me for this at any stage.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Sent: 03 January 2017 15:10
To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Cc: **[REDACT SECTION 40]** Michael Aron (Sensitive);
Subject: RE: Updated visit programme

[REDACT SECTION 40]

We originally wanted **[REDACT SECTION 40]**; it was **[REDACT SECTION 40]** who made us change the request to **[REDACT SECTION 40]**. If **[REDACT SECTION 40]** not available, could **[REDACT SECTION 40]** get us the originally intended meeting with **[REDACT SECTION 40]** instead?

Shame about the Minister of Interior. But **[REDACT SECTION 40]** is already doing a presentation later that day at the IOM Migration Centre and he'll be meeting the PUSs on the first evening for dinner. He's a lovely chap but three meetings might be a bit too much **[REDACT SECTION 40]**! Let's take **[REDACT SECTION 40]** steer on this one – she returns tomorrow.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Sent: 03 January 2017 14:09
To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Cc: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**; Michael Aron (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Updated visit programme

[REDACT SECTION 40]

I just met with **[REDACT SECTION 40]**. He says all on track for the visit and that the meetings requested for the programme were all confirmed except for the **[REDACT SECTION 40]** who may not be available and the Minister for Interior who will be on an official visit to Turkey. **[REDACT SECTION 40]** will cover the MoI meeting and do a presentation for the visitors. I asked if he could be sure that Professor Ghandour and other Ministers would be available if there was a cabinet reshuffle in process. He said that the Prime Minister would be announced on 10th and there would then be a short period for him to decide who to appoint to which posts in the cabinet so he was confident all would be in place for the visit. He said if the MoI was allowed to

travel as planned to Turkey we could be confident there would be no changes until after he came back.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 4 January 2017

[REDACT SECTION 40], thanks. No need to have a VTC in that case (especially as I will be in the CO at that time). We will submit the pack this afternoon and copying it to you.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Sent: 04 January 2017 10:30

To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Cc: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Subject: RE: PUS briefing

Michael and **[REDACT SECTION 40]** cleared the respective packs before they were sent to London to meet the pre Christmas deadline. Our understanding is that this would be checked by Sudan Unit – including that it was in the format that the PUSs want ready to be handed over to meet the private office dealines. We are confident that the content is correct (as of the programme to date – with the proviso of course that this is Sudan and we may have changes at the last minute).

[REDACT SECTION 40] told the team we would be happy to have a VTC if there are substantive issues to discuss on the briefing and that offer stands. We are happy to have one if it will be helpful to go through the pack together or if there is anything else you want to touch base on (although I think we are as up to date on **[REDACT SECTION 40]** as we can be at this point).

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 04 January 2017 13:17

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: PUS briefing

[REDACT SECTION 40],

We had suggested that we use today's VTC to go over the briefing for the PUSs' visit, which has to be submitted by the end of today, but [REDACT SECTION 40] has suggested we do this by email. I am happy with this idea, but the point I wanted to make is that this briefing needs to be got right, and needs to reflect our current priorities. Our assumption is that we do not need to provide detailed points to make for each meeting, but rather that they will be briefed in advance before each one. Can I check that it has been looked at by you (in Michael's absence) and [REDACT SECTION 40], and that you are both happy with it? We are not going to have much capacity to go through it ensuring consistency or doing spell checks this afternoon as we are preparing for FCO orals etc.

Thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 4 January 2017

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

Many thanks- that's really helpful. See you this weekend!

Kind Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 04 January 2017 09:41
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: PUS visit to Sudan OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

Dear [REDACT SECTION 40],

Happy new year. We're looking forward to meeting you with the PUS in Khartoum.

Just two things to bring to your attention:

- [REDACT SECTION 40] (cc) will be your contact point for box printing during the visit. Grateful if you could inform whoever will handle the box from your end.
- [REDACT SECTION 24]

Do let us know if you have any questions as you prepare for your trip.

Best wishes,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 4 January 2017

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Both these reference relate to the same slightly different versions of the same [REDACT SECTION 24] and nothing in them to cause concern.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 04 January 2017 10:10
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: Official sensitive; reports to check please OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

[REDACT SECTION 40]

,

We had a brief, extraordinary, PSC this morning to do a reality check on security issues in advance of the PUSs' visit to Khartoum next week. There have been no further calls for "civil disobedience" . There are no other security concerns at this time. We concluded therefore that there is no reason or the visit not to go ahead next week as planned with the proviso that the following report references were sent to our political team from [REDACT SECTION 40]in CTD;

[REDACT SECTION 24]

As we have no means of reading these reports at the moment could you please check that there is nothing in them that would cause concern?

With thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 4 January 2017

Third time lucky... this version has the correct dates of January not December (someone needs a holiday..)

<< File: 20161220 VISIT PROGRAMME.docx >>

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 20 December 2016 15:54
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: Updated visit programme

<< File: 20161220 VISIT PROGRAMME.docx >>

Apologies, correct version attached

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 20 December 2016 15:52

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: Updated visit programme

All

Following our meeting yesterday, an updated VIP visit programme is attached including names of proposed attendees for each meeting. Please shout if any errors spotted. FCO colleagues, this is saved in the shared area under Visits/Restricted/2017.

Many thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 30 December 2016

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Here are your etickets.

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 29 December 2016

Hello! Hope you had a good Christmas too! [REDACT SECTION 40] on the DFID side and I have actually been in touch on this separately - she is a good friend from Congo days so plan is I will stay with her if we can make it work - she is taking forwards. See you soon!

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: Thursday, 29 December 2016 09:59

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: FW: Khartoum accommodation

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

Hope you're enjoying your Christmas! For info- I don't have a problem with this but let me know if you'd like me to ask Post if one of us could stay in a hotel.

Kind Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 19 December 2016 14:04

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: Khartoum accommodation

[REDACT SECTION 40],

I just wanted to let you know that you'll be staying in the Ambassador's Residence during the visit, sharing a twin room with the other Private Secretary [REDACT SECTION 40]. This is because there are three guest rooms in the Residence, one twin, so this way we can accommodate both PUS's and PS's in the same place (rather than one staying in a hotel).

I trust this is ok with you, but let me know if any issues,

Best,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 29 December 2016

I took the opportunity of my call on [REDACT SECTION 40] this morning to thank him for the work he and his team have been doing to support the PUS's visit. He stressed that confirming appointments with Ministers would be difficult as he did not know how long the reshuffle negotiations would take or what the outcome would be. He said if necessary we would get appointments with Under Secretary or similar. I told him we appreciated the difficulties of fixing appointments in the midst of a reshuffle and would very much like to meet Ministers but would understand if this was not possible as long as our visitors saw senior officials who could discuss the issues.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 28 December 2016 15:03
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: Michael Aron (Sensitive); [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: PUSs visit programme - calls on government

Thanks for letting us know [REDACT SECTION 40]. Happy to remain flexible - once the reshuffle has taken place we can adjust the programme.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 27 December 2016 13:53
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: Michael Aron (Sensitive); [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: PUSs visit programme - calls on government

[REDACT SECTION 40]

I have just spoken to the Deputy Director Europe, MFA who warned me that there is a government reshuffle happening and that this might mean we get confirmation of calls for the PUSs at the last minute. In parallel [REDACT SECTION 40] has been asked to go into the MFA tomorrow

morning for a meeting with MFA Protocol to discuss the visit programme, this will be a working level meeting to discuss how to handle our requests in view of the reshuffle.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 28 December 2016

[REDACT SECTION 40]

I've attached Simon's passport data page, copy of Sudan visa and e tickets.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 28 December 2016

Thanks for letting us know [REDACT SECTION 40]. Happy to remain flexible - once the reshuffle has taken place we can adjust the programme.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 27 December 2016 13:53

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: Michael Aron (Sensitive); [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: PUSs visit programme - calls on government

[REDACT SECTION 40]

I have just spoken to the Deputy Director Europe, MFA who warned me that there is a government reshuffle happening and that this might mean we get confirmation of calls for the PUSs at the last minute. In parallel [REDACT SECTION 40] has been asked to go into the MFA tomorrow

morning for a meeting with MFA Protocol to discuss the visit programme, this will be a working level meeting to discuss how to handle our requests in view of the reshuffle.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 23 December 2016

Hi **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Just to say – thanks so much for the visa and passport copies!

Have a lovely Christmas break.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 23 December 2016

All

Please see attached requested information for Mark Lowcock and **[REDACT SECTION 40]**.

Travel Centre have already sent Simon McDonald's and **[REDACT SECTION 40]**'s details.

Let me know if there is anything else you need.

[REDACT SECTION 40] – Mark and **[REDACT SECTION 40]**'s passport's are ready to collect.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 23 December 2016

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40]

The passports are back and ready to collect.

If you need any other information please let me know.

With regards

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 23 December 2016

Thanks [REDACT SECTION 40]!

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 22 December 2016 19:54

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Passport and VISAs for DFID PUSS and [REDACT SECTION 40]

All

Unfortunately the courier didn't collect the passports today. Travel Centre will send a courier first thing tomorrow morning. As soon as I have them, I'll send the info you requested.

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Hi **[REDACT SECTION 40]**,

Thanks for speaking earlier, apologies for bombarding you with requests.

I have just heard back from the Sudanese Embassy, the passports **are ready for collection**. Travel Centre are sending a courier to collect them today. Once they have picked them up, are you still able to scan the visa and data pages and send them to **[REDACT SECTION 40]**?

Many thanks in advance.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 22 December 2016

All

Unfortunately the courier didn't collect the passports today. Travel Centre will send a courier first thing tomorrow morning. As soon as I have them, I'll send the info you requested.

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 22 December 2016 12:20

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: Passport and VISAs for DFID PUSS and [REDACT SECTION 40]

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

Thanks for speaking earlier, apologies for bombarding you with requests.

I have just heard back from the Sudanese Embassy, the passports **are ready for collection**. Travel Centre are sending a courier to collect them today. Once they have picked them up, are you still able to scan the visa and data pages and send them to [REDACT SECTION 40]?

Many thanks in advance.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 22 December 2016

Thanks [REDACT SECTION 40]! Hurray!

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 22 December 2016 15:16
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]Michael.Aron;
Subject: RE: PRIORITY; VIP Visit Brief - PUS AND PS VISA COPIES

The passports are ready for collection. A courier will collect them this afternoon.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 22 December 2016 12:05
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40] Michael Aron (Sensitive);
Subject: RE: PRIORITY; VIP Visit Brief - PUS AND PS VISA COPIES

All,

I just spoke to [REDACT SECTION 40] and Travel Centre – they are on standby to send a courier to collect the passports whenever they are ready. The Sudanese Embassy have told us that they have approval from the MFA to issue the visas for [REDACT SECTION 40] and Mark; I'm waiting for confirmation that this means we can pick them up today (they didn't pick up the phone just now). As soon as I hear back I'll let you know.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 22 December 2016 11:11
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40] Michael Aron (Sensitive);
Subject: RE: PRIORITY; VIP Visit Brief - PUS AND PS VISA COPIES

I have just called. No response. Could you please follow up later today or in the morning with private office? We need to have copies of all data pages and Sudanese passports by Tuesday to be able to get the TP in time.

Many thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 22 December 2016 13:31

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40] Michael Aron (Sensitive)

Subject: RE: PRIORITY; VIP Visit Brief - PUS AND PS VISA COPIES

[REDACT SECTION 40],

I have now spoken with the DFID **[REDACT SECTION 40]** (managed to get hold of her though she is on leave).

It turns out that the passports for DFID Perm Sec and **[REDACT SECTION 40]** were submitted for visas by FCO Private Office (**[REDACT SECTION 40]**) via the FCO Travel Centre - apparently what happened for Sri Lanka too. I have therefore also talked to **[REDACT SECTION 40]** in FCO Private Office (and emailed - see attached). **[REDACT SECTION 40]** informed me that she is expecting the passports back from the Travel Centre this Friday and has kindly agreed to copy and scan the passport data page to **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

I've informed her this is urgent due to travel permits and also that the Sudanese embassy in London willing to issue so the visas can definitely be obtained – I have asked her to follow up with the Travel Centre or to give me a number to do so in order to ensure the passports do come back on Friday latest. But just to avoid any chance of delay/ that that doesn't happen, it would be really useful if an FCO person could support me with Private Office/Travel Centre – either by talking to **[REDACT SECTION 40]** or by calling the travel centre just to emphasise urgency (and this is not DFID asking without good reason). **[REDACT SECTION 40]**, could you do that?

Many thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 22 December 2016 09:55
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40] Michael.Aron
Subject: RE: PRIORITY; VIP Visit Brief - PUS AND PS VISA COPIES

Thanks [REDACT SECTION 40]

As [REDACT SECTION 40] mentioned in the meeting the MFA has confirmed the visas have been authorised and the Sudanese Embassy in London has confirmed to [REDACT SECTION 40] that they are waiting for the passports to be sent over so that they can issue. Can you make this point when you speak to the PS please? It's not far to Cleveland Row but someone will need to go today.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 22 December 2016 09:48
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]; Michael Aron (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: PRIORITY; VIP Visit Brief - PUS AND PS VISA COPIES

[REDACT SECTION 40]

[REDACT SECTION 40] chased but I have not seen a reply – I am phoning private office this morning when they get in. As you know, info we have is that visas were not yet issued by embassy in London (though will triple check when I call) so we may/are likely to need protocol's help with that. Fully aware of the time issues.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 22 December 2016 09:43
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40] Michael.Aron
Subject: PRIORITY; VIP Visit Brief - PUS AND PS VISA COPIES
Importance: High

[REDACT SECTION 40]

We have still not seen copies of your PUS and PS's visas or been copied into correspondence to the PS to ask for them to be sent. [REDACT SECTION 40] may have done it but she is now on leave and we need to receive the copies over the holiday weekend to be able to put the Darfur permit application in on Tuesday as we are running out of time. Were you cc in on the chasing request? Can you ensure the PS sends them to the DL Protocol address please or give us the contact details so that we can follow up?

Thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 21 December 2016 20:43
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40] Michael Aron (Sensitive);
Subject: VIP Visit Brief

All,

Thank you for coming to the VIP visit logistics meeting this week. [REDACT SECTION 40] is holding another meeting with you on 28 Dec.

Please see attached a revised VIP logistics action tracker – I have tried to simplify so it is very clear what is complete and what outstanding. If your name is in the “to” field, that means there is an outstanding action for you (in red)! Please try and action your task as soon as you possibly can so we ensure the visit is a success – this is the top priority.

I hope this is comprehensive but if I have missed anything then please let me know asap. [REDACT SECTION 40] and [REDACT SECTION 40] are holding the DFID fort next week (and [REDACT SECTION 40] is FCO p.o.c)

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 22 December 2016

[REDACT SECTION 40],

Let's go with this plan. Can you produce a nice version, perhaps a couple of copies on blue paper, to hand over and then include them in the pack.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: Michael Aron (Sensitive)
Sent: 21 December 2016 16:21
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: Strategic Dialogue final action document

Good idea. I mentioned it to the Deputy Director of Europe Directorate this evening and he thought it was a good idea. He had heard from the Embassy that the list was now agreed. He noted that we were already implementing it!

Michael

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 21 December 2016 12:13
To: Michael Aron (Sensitive); [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: Strategic Dialogue final action document

All

The Sudanese Embassy confirmed that they consider our amended action list as the final document. To formalise this, what is everyone's thoughts on the PUS handing over the document when he meets El Naim during his visit in January? We had previously suggested that Neil send a letter but this might be a better way to conclude the dialogue?

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 22 December 2016

Hi **[REDACT SECTION 40]**,

Many thanks for our conversation just now. You are expecting the passports for the DFID Perm Sec Mark Lowcock and his **[REDACT SECTION 40]** (with visas) back from the Travel Centre this Friday and have kindly agreed that you and/or travel centre can copy the passport data page and the visa page and scan to both myself (**[REDACT SECTION 40]**), and to **[REDACT SECTION 40]**. This will enable the protocol team to submit for travel permits for the full VIP delegation, which they have informed me needs to be done urgently.

Protocol team have confirmed with the Sudanese MFA that all visas are approved and the Sudanese embassy in London willing to issue so the visas can definitely be obtained – it would be really helpful if you could let the Travel Centre know that or if preferred you can give me the name of the right person in the Travel Centre, I am happy to let them know, just to ensure they do come back to you on Friday!

Many thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 20 December 2016

Hi **[REDACT SECTION 40]**,

I confirm I received a safe waiver from the Head of Africa Directorate, Neil Wigan. Let me know if you need anything else.

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent using Boxer

On 20 Dec 2016 04:03, "**[REDACT SECTION 40]**" wrote:

[REDACT SECTION 40], Julian,

Just to let you know I'm going on leave from tonight, and **[REDACT SECTION 40]** will be your point of contact on the visit between now and then. Please get back to him on the below, and if you have any other questions,

Best,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Sent: 19 December 2016 17:02

To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]** Julian Reilly (Sensitive)

Cc: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Subject: SAFE waivers

[REDACT SECTION 40], Julian,

I understand that you both received a SAFE waiver form from our Head of Security **[REDACT SECTION 40]** to submit ahead of the Darfur visit. Can you confirm this has been done?

Many thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email from FCO Khartoum 20 December 2016

See attached. On SAFE waivers, Julian replied to say he is still to submit his. Nothing from **[REDACT SECTION 40]** yet. I'll email them both to say you are POC from now on.

I sent **[REDACT SECTION 40]** details ages ago to **[REDACT SECTION 40]** so they should already be in the TRA – see attached.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Sent: 20 December 2016 12:12

To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Subject: PUS visit actions

[REDACT SECTION 40]

There were two actions from the planning meeting. Let me know if you've pursued. If not, then I'll take care of it:

- **[REDACT SECTION 40]** and Julian Reilly: completed SAFE? If not, SAFE waiver forms
- **[REDACT SECTION 40]**: as above. Plus need his blood group for TRA.

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 19 December 2016

[REDACT SECTION 40], Julian,

I understand that you both received a SAFE waiver form from our Head of Security [REDACT SECTION 40] to submit ahead of the Darfur visit. Can you confirm this has been done?

Many thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 19 December 2016

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Thanks for your replies. I'm happy with that approach. Yes, we have extended the invitation to [REDACT SECTION 40] and will confirm the location of MRRC once that is confirmed.

I go on leave tomorrow night too, so agree we should meet on 8th January to go over the presentation.

See you both then – and Happy Christmas!

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 19 December 2016 15:38

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: Presentation to VIPs

Dear [REDACT SECTION 40] and [REDACT SECTION 40],

As per prior discussions, we had agreed initially to split this presentation as follows:

part 1- UNHCR

Part 2(a) - UNHCR

Part 2(b) - IOM

Part 3 - IOM

Part 4 - UNHCR & IOM

If this is ok with [REDACT SECTION 40], we can go ahead with this distribution, and can meet perhaps on Sunday the 8th to go over the presentation together?

I will be away also starting the 23rd to the 7th of January.

[REDACT SECTION 40],

I will check my emails regularly while on leave, so if you have any questions we can discuss over email.

[REDACT SECTION 40],

I am here till Thursday, so if you would like to meet and discuss before I leave, we can also do that.

Best,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: Monday, December 19, 2016 1:21 PM

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Presentation to VIPs

Dear **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

I will coordinate the drafting of the presentation on behalf of IOM Sudan with **[REDACT SECTION 40]** and IOM colleagues.

We will do our best to include all of the topics you have suggested but this will be challenging given the limited time slot.

We will confirm the availability of the presentation area in the MRRC (this is the room upstairs you saw where we conduct our orientation sessions for refugees going to Canada). It should be fine.

Will you invite **[REDACT SECTION 40]**?

I will be on leave after today but will work on this in late December/early January.

Best

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: Monday, December 19, 2016 10:52 AM

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: FW: Presentation to VIPs

[REDACT SECTION 40],

As discussed this morning, our proposed approach for the presentation is below. Please can you confirm who will be the contact point and presenter for IoM in **[REDACT SECTION 40]** absence, to coordinate with **[REDACT SECTION 40]** in pulling this together?

The meeting will be at 1530 on 10th January. Could it be hosted in the MRRC?

To confirm, there will be our two VIP guests, as well as Heads of IoM and UNHCR and **[REDACT SECTION 40]**. I suggest you aim for 15-20 minutes presentation to allow plenty of time for response/ discussion. So perhaps aim for one slide on each of the discussion points below (or 2 for the migrant journey) to keep it high level.

Grateful if we can then agree a time to get together on 8th to talk it through.

Many thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Sent: 12 December 2016 17:41

To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Cc: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Subject: Presentation to VIPs

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Thanks for agreeing to do the migration presentation to our VIP visitors on Tuesday 10th January.

We've done some thinking about what we're looking for, and see below a proposed structure. I hope this isn't too prescriptive and you can work with this? Don't feel obliged to stick with that exact structure/ ordering but this is an example of how we envision it. If you have any comments/ other suggestions then we're happy to consider them.

1. ANALYSIS: What are the main migration routes from and through Sudan? (show visually on a map). What are current trends? What are likely future scenarios? (eg economy, demographics, climatic patterns and potential effect on conflict and ultimately migration).
2. THE MIGRANT JOURNEY:
 - a. ERITREAN: Take the audience (with map) through the journey of an Eritrean migrant, from arriving in the East to departing from Libya, with possible events along the way – eg, some register at the border, some don't; some go straight to Khartoum, some stay in the East; some will transit straight away northwards, some will stay to save money; some will transit to Europe via Libya, some via Darfur/ Chad; some may be trafficked/ kidnapped (so what happens?); some may be intercepted by the Sudanese in the north and returned. Etc etc
 - b. SUDANESE: Talk about some of the drivers for onward movement – conflict, economic hardship, climate change – giving examples where possible.
3. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE: What are government's migration priorities? How do they see issues of transit/ travel northwards? Where are they open to engagement, and what areas are more difficult?
4. INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE:
 - What has been achieved in Sudan? (reference UK projects - eg IoM judiciary/research/DTM, UNHCR South Sudanese programme)
 - What could be achieved, if resources were significantly scaled up?
 - What are the main issues/ risks: eg, weak government/ NGO capacity, risks of dealing with state apparatus and how to mitigate them

I'm sure you have plenty of route maps to work, with but I attach a couple that **[REDACT SECTION 40]** used for a presentation in case helpful,

Best wishes,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 15 December 2016

Sure. Updated version attached.

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Sent: 15 December 2016 10:20
To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Subject: RE: Security briefing for VIP delegation

Thanks. Could we push the security briefing to 1930? That gives an hour for them to freshen up and do the box. Sorry, I know it's nitpicking but our PUS specifically asked for 30 minutes box time per day so I just want to be sure we meet that request.

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 15 December 2016 10:18
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: Security briefing for VIP delegation

Here you go – yes, should still be enough time. We also don't yet have a start time for the GoS dinner – we can suggest that at 8pm in order to build in some more time.

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 15 December 2016 10:11
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: Security briefing for VIP delegation

Thanks [REDACT SECTION 40]. Could you send me the revised programme? Does that include enough time for 30 minutes box time?

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 15 December 2016 08:52

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: Security briefing for VIP delegation

[REDACT SECTION 40] Yes, [REDACT SECTION 40] has agreed that [REDACT SECTION 40] will give a security briefing on arrival (he will be away).

I've added it onto the programme for 7pm on Sunday 8th.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 15 December 2016 08:09
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: Security briefing for VIP delegation

[REDACT SECTION 40]

I'll investigate this option with the WFP.

Kindest

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 14 December 2016 19:47
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: Security briefing for VIP delegation

Hi all,

Just wanted to touch base on the security briefing arrangements for the delegation in January. Will they be briefed on Sunday 8th after their arrival? [REDACT SECTION 40], could that be added into the programme if so?

[REDACT SECTION 40] – had planned to deliver a briefing in Nyala on Darfur-specific security, but now that [REDACT SECTION 40] will be attending the visit they are looking for other options. I suggested that they consider a Khartoum-based security officer from [REDACT SECTION 40] could deliver the briefing alongside yours before they leave for Nyala. Please confirm whether there are any problems with this. They haven't yet confirmed whether they will go for this option but it seemed the most sensible.

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 13 December 2016

[REDACT SECTION 40],

Many thanks for everyone's contributions so far, and apologies again for the tight deadlines we've had to work to.

I've agreed with both Private Offices that the final deadline for submitting our briefing pack is close of play, Wednesday 4 January 2017. This will allow us two days before they fly out to resolve any last minute issues/questions.

In order to reach this deadline, and to allow enough time to obtain senior clearance at the London end in between Christmas leave, I'd be grateful if both Khartoum and Juba could **send through finalised event briefs, with combined input from both FCO and DFID colleagues at post, to me by close on Thursday 22 December**. I've attached the draft pack as it stands, which Private Office have initially seen (I'm currently working on incorporating their stylistic/formatting changes), for ease of editing.

There will of course be time to update the briefs if necessary before the 4th of Jan, but I would ideally like to have points to make/objectives for each meeting that post are happy with by Thursday 22nd. Again, apologies for the tight deadline, but I hope this will be possible – do let me know if this isn't feasible.

Many thanks in advance.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 13 December 2016

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Responses below, and one for [REDACT SECTION 40] to comment (in red)

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 13 December 2016 12:18

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: VIP visit

Importance: High

Hi both,

Just wanted to update you on where we are up to with planning for the VIP visit in January, with some questions in bold below:

- I've emailed the transport team about transport to/from the airport for the Nyala leg. **Will you be requesting dedicated cars for the remaining time? Yes, we'll submit a transport plan for the rest of the time**
- I have emailed WFP about the UNHAS tickets and will confirm whether they are able to book them on our behalf for the advance party;
- We are assuming that you will be arranging all other activities except for those Darfur-related (e.g. we will handle everything from when they are collected to go to Darfur to when they're dropped back at the residence) including the MIC meeting, invitees for the economics dinner etc – **Is that correct? Yes, that's right. All we need to know is who from DFID wishes to join the various meetings/ dinners in the programme, so we can plan transport accordingly. Can you look through and let us know?**
- **Will you invite the Wali / HAC Commissioner and UNAMID for the relevant parts of the programme? [REDACT SECTION 40]** and I weren't sure of the protocol around this. If you are leading on this, **please can you confirm that the Wali is aware that he is expected to provide lunch?; [REDACT SECTION 40] to comment**
- I am chasing up protocol to confirm whether they are pushing the Sudanese Embassy in London re visas and whether there has been any progress on our travel permits. **Can we ask**

[REDACT SECTION 40] for assistance given that he will now be attending? **[REDACT SECTION 27]** But I'll speak to HMA on his return on Thursday and hopefully give it a try.

- Has **[REDACT SECTION 40]** applied for his visas and/or travel permit?
- Has Julian Reilly applied for his travel permit? He's applied for his visa and we're waiting for it so we can submit permit request. We should try and do this at the same time as VIP requests if possible.
- We have confirmed to WFP that **[REDACT SECTION 40]** will be attending – will you be confirming details with his office? Yes, can do that
- Please can you confirm that **[REDACT SECTION 40]** has been factored in to accompany all meetings on the Tuesday? Aha – answers my question above! Consider it done but please let me know about other DFID attendees – eg presumably **[REDACT SECTION 40]** at the migration meeting
- Will you arrange a security briefing with **[REDACT SECTION 40]** on Sunday night? They will need one in advance of them going to Nyala as per the TRA. Yes, can do that
- Have you confirmed with **[REDACT SECTION 40]** that one of the PS' (**[REDACT SECTION 40]**) will need to stay with him as there's no space at the residence? Will do so
- **[REDACT SECTION 40]** has flagged that it will probably be overwhelming if the entire delegation attends the DCPSF briefing. Are you content for me to recommend that the VIPs, HMA **[REDACT SECTION 40]** plus possibly one more attend? Fine with me

Please let me know if you want any more information about the visit.

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 13 December 2016

I thought **[REDACT SECTION 40]** had just forwarded the same message back to me but her response is at the bottom of this chain - looks like the visas are ready

-----Original Message-----

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Sent: 08 December 2016 15:02

To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Subject: Re: FW: Visas Permanent Undersecretaries visit

Importance: High

On 2016-12-08 10:49, **[REDACT SECTION 40]** wrote:

> Dear **[REDACT SECTION 40]**,

>

> Would you be able to help with regards to my email below about visas
> for the Permanent Undersecretaries visit in January?
>
> Best wishes
>
> **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
>
>
> FROM: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
> SENT: 05 December 2016 09:11
> TO: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
> CC: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
> SUBJECT: Visas Permanent Undersecretaries visit
> IMPORTANCE: High
>
> Dear **[REDACT SECTION 40]**,
>
> Would you be able to let us know when we can expect visas for the
> visit of the Permanent Undersecretaries of the Foreign and
> Commonwealth Office and the Department for International Development
> in January? Any assistance you can provide in speeding up this process
> would be greatly appreciated.
>
> The visas are for
>
> - Sir Simon McDonald
>
> - Mark Lowcock
>
> - **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
>
> - **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
>
> Kind regards
>
> **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
>
hi **[REDACT SECTION 40]** ,
the visa has been approved , and I have instructed our visa section to contact your
office to proceed.
regards
[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 8 December 2016

[REDACT SECTION 27]

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Michael, **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Updated VIP programme attached, following feedback from **[REDACT SECTION 40]** yesterday. Changes are being taken into account in the briefings we are producing. We will send a NV to MFA requesting the proposed meetings on Monday.

The casualty of the increased number of GoS meetings is the Embassy/ DFID walkaround. Given there is already an all staff meeting this seemed the most obvious thing to cut but if you disagree please shout (and propose an alternative!).

When we find out the new departure time this may free up a new dinner slot. In that event I suggest we move either opposition or civil society to a dinner on Tuesday (or a combination of both) as currently those slots are quite squeezed.

[REDACT SECTION 40], I made one small addition on the Darfur brief to say we will ask the Deputy Governor to greet at the airport on arrival (for protocol reasons)

Once you confirm you're content I'll send to SU,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 7 December 2016

Hi **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Do you know if PUS's have put in visa applications yet? To apply for their Darfur travel permits we need a copy of the scanned visa, and given Christmas absences, we should get this process in train as soon as possible.

Thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 7 December 2016

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Can you confirm exemptions have been granted by ESD for Julian Reilly and **[REDACT SECTION 40]**, for the Darfur visit? The last I saw was a reply from **[REDACT SECTION 40]** to Michael copied to you saying it would be fine, but I don't know if anything else has to happen in process terms?

Thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Sent: 07 December 2016 17:23
To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Subject: VIP visit

Hello,

A couple of follow up questions for the VIP visit – I'm just finalising the TRA. Please can you confirm:

1. Grade for Julian Reilly, **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
2. Experience in previous environments for Julian Reilly and **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
3. Blood group and whether she has/will have completed SAFE/SAFE+ for **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
4. Whether Julian Reilly has applied for / been granted a SAFE exemption by Neil Wigan as his has expired

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 6 December 2016

All

Ahead of Michael's meeting tomorrow with **[REDACT SECTION 40]** (at 11am), below is a draft NV with our meeting requests for the visit. Grateful for quick feedback so I can get the NV produced in time for this meeting (**[REDACT SECTION 27]**). I also attach a shortened version of the

programme to give to MFA so they can see our proposed timings – is this ok, or should I remove some of the detail of our internal meetings? [REDACT SECTION 40] [REDACT SECTION 27], please can you complete the names where there are gaps?

Many thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 2 December 2016

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

Just to flag that I am about to leave to travel to Khartoum, and won't be back in the office until Friday afternoon at the very earliest (but most likely Monday). I've asked both posts to get back to me with their additions by close Friday 9 Dec in order to meet our agreed deadline for the first draft of the pack.

With regards a final deadline for the completed pack (sorry to have not got back to you sooner) is COP Wednesday 4 January doable? That should allow enough time for any questions from either yourself/[REDACT SECTION 40], Simon or Mark to be clarified both with us and post before they fly out.

Grateful for your thoughts. I'll be in touch as soon as I'm back from Khartoum, if not before.

Have a good weekend.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 30 November 2016 16:04

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: FCO/DFID trip - briefing

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

Thanks for getting in touch this morning to discuss briefing requirements. Please can [REDACT SECTION 40] and I see a first cut of the briefing on Monday 12 December at 1200 (if you send to PUS Action we can both pick this up). We'll then aim to get comments back to you as quickly as possible. Could you let me know what's realistic for a final briefing pack, considering leave over Christmas and New Year?

[REDACT SECTION 40] – grateful if you can organise an oral pre-brief with Neil Wigan + 2 (max). I think 16 December is latest we can do it.

Thanks very much,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 19 December 2016

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

I have just received a phone call from the Sudan embassy.

They need to know today all the people going on the Pus trip.

Grateful if you could email [REDACT SECTION 40]. With the correct answer, or if you prefer pas the information to me and I will email.

All the best

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 14 December 2016

[REDACT SECTION 40],

Please see below – any dietary requirements for you or your PUS?

Many thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 14 December 2016 10:44
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: Dietary requirements and logistics

Hi guys,

Anything I should be aware of? [REDACT SECTION 40], are you veggie? Please could you also confirm with [REDACT SECTION 40] for her and PUS? And with [REDACT SECTION 40] (residence will prepare breakfast boxes and snacks for everyone on VIP plane including him).

Will you be liaising with [REDACT SECTION 40] on logistics for [REDACT SECTION 40]? Please let me know what information is required if so.

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 8 December 2016

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40]

Can you drop off the notes for **[REDACT SECTION 40]** and Lowcock also. The courier will lodge all 4 at Sudan tomorrow morning.

Thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email from FCO 8 December 2016

[REDACT SECTION 40]

If these are updates helpful if you could let me know the number of the one you have, so that I can just make the changes and reprint.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Sent: 08 December 2016 14:10

To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Subject: FW: Visas Sudan

Hi **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Thanks for doing the notes for the PUS and **[REDACT SECTION 40]**.

Grateful if you can do the same for Mark Lowcock and **[REDACT SECTION 40]** as per the email below. I'll come and collect the letters when they're ready.

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Hi **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

The Sudan Embassy has requested new note of verbales. They must be lodged and dated within a 1 to 2 days of being issued.

Note number 233/16 dated 21 Nov for Sir Simon Macdonald

236/16 **[REDACT SECTION 40]** dated 21 Nov

South Sudan obtained. Need new notes for Sudan with tomorrows date on them.

240/16 **[REDACT SECTION 40]** dated 23 Nov

243/16 Mark Lowcock dated 23 Nov

In South Sudan and due to be lodged at Sudan by Monday

Thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Sent: 01 December 2016 17:25

To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Subject: FW: Visas Sudan

Importance: High

Dear **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Grateful if you could notify me as soon as the Sudan visas are issued for the people below, as I'll need to photo copy visas and send to Post so they can arrange travel permits for Darfur (can take a while, so the sooner we have the visas the better):

Simon McDonald

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Mark Lowcock

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 01 December 2016 13:08

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: Visas

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

Just wanted to check whether the visitors have applied for visas? We urgently need to apply for travel permits for Darfur – can you let me know who I should speak to if not you?

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email from FCO 5 December 2016

Afternoon,

I believe my colleague Caroline has just sent you an email with options.

Please advise.

Regards

[REDACT SECTION 40]

On Mon, 5 Dec at 3:50 PM , Pus.action <pus.action@fco.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear All

Simon McDonald/**[REDACT SECTION 40]**

will no longer be travelling to Asmara. What options are there to fly back from Khartoum to Heathrow on 10 Jan?

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 4 December 2016

[REDACT SECTION 40]

We have agreed with Sudan Unit to provide first draft event briefings for the PUS/PUS visit. We need to submit these to Sudan Unit by close on Thursday, so they can meet Private Office deadline. The briefs should include Steer/ Objectives/ Points to Make and be no more than two pages per meeting (I think one is better if possible).

Please can you lead on the briefs, consulting DFID, as indicated below? Note that DFID are leading on others and will consult you. Please submit to **[REDACT SECTION 40]** direct on completion. Private Office see this pack as a first cut, so if there are gaps (eg if we don't yet know who exactly they will be meeting/ biographical details) that's ok.

Many thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 4 December 2016

And just internally worth noting that while we recognise the primary focus will be on migration should the PUSs agree to a Kassala leg then DFID has both water and resilience programmes in Kassala worthwhile seeing during the visit.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: Michael Aron

Sent: 04 December 2016 12:01

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: Re: FCO/DFID PUS visit: Khartoum programme OFFICIAL

[REDACT SECTION 40]

I gather the Eritrea leg may be off. If the PUS's were interested we could arrange a trip to Kassala on the Thursday. Kassala is on the Sudan/Eritrea border and we could visit the reception camps for newly arrived Eritreans and meet with UNHCR and IOM.

Michael

Email 4 December 2016

Would this entail staying an extra day in Sudan? My sense from this end is that a shorter trip so that we could be back Wednesday and do a full day in the office Thursday would be preferable – Mark goes straight into a series of away days from the Friday onwards (through to the following week) otherwise so the dropping of Eritrea was a bit of a blessing in disguise.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 04 December 2016 09:06

To: Michael.Aron

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: Re: FCO/DFID PUS visit: Khartoum programme OFFICIAL

Michael,

That's an interesting idea (and you are correct that the Asmara leg is now cancelled). I will put it to Simon on Monday.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

I meant the Wednesday of course

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 04 December 2016 12:06

To: Michael Aron (Sensitive)

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: Re: FCO/DFID PUS visit: Khartoum programme OFFICIAL

[REDACT SECTION 40],

That's an interesting idea (and you are correct that the Asmara leg is now cancelled). I will put it to Simon on Monday.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent using Boxer

On 4 Dec 2016 9:01 a.m., "Michael Aron (Sensitive)" > wrote:

CLASSIFICATION:OFFICIAL

[REDACT SECTION 40]

I gather the Eritrea leg may be off. If the PUS's were interested we could arrange a trip to Kassala on the Thursday. Kassala is on the Sudan/Eritrea border and we could visit the reception camps for newly arrived Eritreans and meet with UNHCR and IOM.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 9 December 2016

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40]

If the passports come back next week with Sudan visas, please can you email copies of visas to [REDACT SECTION 40]. She needs info to sort out travel permits for Darfur.

Simon & [REDACT SECTION 40]

Mark Lowcock and [REDACT SECTION 40].

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 04 December 2016 07:16

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Visas

Many thanks [REDACT SECTION 40]. Also copying in our protocol team to see if there's anything they can do to speed up the visa process from our end.

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 01 December 2016 18:44
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: Visas

[REDACT SECTION 40]

I have spoken to travel centre who can't tell me when visas for Sudan will be ready. For Sudan/S Sudan, applications are lodged (they don't hold on to passports), and Travel Centre send passports back when they get a call telling them that the visas are ready to issue.

Simon McDonald's/[REDACT SECTION 40] passports will go to the Eritreans while we wait for calls from Sudan/S Sudan.

Mark Lowcock/[REDACT SECTION 40] are both using two passports. One for Sudan/S Sudan and the other for Eritrea.

I'll send photocopies of data pages in a separate email and the visas when issued.

Copying in desk officers to ask if they can speak to their contacts to speed up the process.

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 01 December 2016 13:57

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: FW: Visas

[REDACT SECTION 40], could you go back to [REDACT SECTION 40] please.

Thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 01 December 2016 13:55

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: FW: Visas

Resending as per [REDACT SECTION 40] out of office.

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 01 December 2016 15:44

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Visas

[REDACT SECTION 40]

I have spoken to travel centre who can't tell me when visas for Sudan will be ready. For Sudan/S Sudan, applications are lodged (they don't hold on to passports),

and Travel Centre send passports back when they get a call telling them that the visas are ready to issue.

Simon McDonald's/[REDACT SECTION 40]passports will go to the Eritreans while we wait for calls from Sudan/S Sudan.

Mark Lowcock/[REDACT SECTION 40] are both using two passports. One for Sudan/S Sudan and the other for Eritrea.

I'll send photocopies of data pages in a separate email and the visas when issued.

Copying in desk officers to ask if they can speak to their contacts to speed up the process.

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 01 December 2016 13:57
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: FW: Visas

[REDACT SECTION 40], [could you go back to \[REDACT SECTION 40\] please.](#)

Thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 01 December 2016 13:55
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: FW: Visas

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40]

I hope this email finds you well.

I'm the lead from DFID Sudan for the visit in January and am organising the Darfur leg of the trip. I just wanted to touch base to see where you're up to with visa applications? We need to apply for travel permits for Darfur – the Embassy will do everything it can to facilitate the applications, but we need to put in applications ASAP as they can sometimes be slow to come through. We can't apply for the travel permits until we have the visas.

Once they have been issued, please could you send over scanned copies of the bio data page and the visa to me and I will work with our protocol team to get the travel permits.

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 01 December 2016 16:35
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: Visas

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40]

I just tried to give you a call back – I think the best person to contact about this is Simon's
[REDACT SECTION 40] , **[REDACT SECTION 40]** and she'll point you in the direction of
those who have been sorting the visas (I'm not sighted – may be one of the EAs in Simon's office?).

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Sent: 01 December 2016 13:08

To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Subject: Visas

Hi **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Just wanted to check whether the visitors have applied for visas? We urgently need to apply for
travel permits for Darfur – can you let me know who I should speak to if not you?

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 1 December 2016

Hi **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

I hear there was an email about the briefing approach for the PUS visit – can you forward it to me?

We were wondering if you wanted post to lead on drafting the individual meeting briefings – what
do you think, and if so, is close next Thursday a sufficient deadline?

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 1 December 2016

Hello,

Are you able to confirm whether there are any dietary requirements for the visitors? WFP are asking so that they can plan for the day in Darfur.

[REDACT SECTION 40] – please could you confirm for Julian?

[REDACT SECTION 40] – if **[REDACT SECTION 40]** is coming please could you confirm for him?

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 1 December 2016

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Many thanks – will do. From the DFID side everyone who is coming on the trip has completed SAFE.

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Sent: 01 December 2016 11:45
To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Cc: Michael.Aron; **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Subject: PUS visit: SAFE

[REDACT SECTION 40]

For the areas we're planning on for this visit SAFE is a requirement, **[REDACT SECTION 40]** isn't keen to sign SAFE waivers and has refused one this morning for a temporary member of the PUS team over the festive period (and who was planning to come on this visit). Grateful if you could ensure the recommendation for SAFE training is communicated, are we aware who's receive it from those who are planning to come? If waivers are required then we should suggest that **[REDACT SECTION 40]** is approached for his view.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 1 December 2016

[REDACT SECTION 40]

I have spoken to travel centre who can't tell me when visas for Sudan will be ready. For Sudan/S Sudan, applications are lodged (they don't hold on to passports), and Travel Centre send passports back when they get a call telling them that the visas are ready to issue.

Simon McDonald's/[REDACT SECTION 40]s passports will go to the Eritreans while we wait for calls from Sudan/S Sudan.

Mark Lowcock/[REDACT SECTION 40] are both using two passports. One for Sudan/S Sudan and the other for Eritrea.

I'll send photocopies of data pages in a separate email and the visas when issued.

Copying in desk officers to ask if they can speak to their contacts to speed up the process.

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 01 December 2016 13:57

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: FW: Visas

[REDACT SECTION 40], could you go back to **[REDACT SECTION 40]** please.

Thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 01 December 2016 13:55

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: FW: Visas

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

I hope this email finds you well.

I'm the lead from DFID Sudan for the visit in January and am organising the Darfur leg of the trip. I just wanted to touch base to see where you're up to with visa applications? We need to apply for travel permits for Darfur – the Embassy will do everything it can to facilitate the applications, but we need to put in applications ASAP as they can sometimes be slow to come through. We can't apply for the travel permits until we have the visas.

Once they have been issued, please could you send over scanned copies of the bio data page and the visa to me and I will work with our protocol team to get the travel permits.

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 01 December 2016 16:35

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Visas

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

I just tried to give you a call back – I think the best person to contact about this is Simon's [REDACT SECTION 40], [REDACT SECTION 40] and she'll point you in the direction of those who have been sorting the visas (I'm not sighted – may be one of the EAs in Simon's office?).

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 01 December 2016 13:08

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: Visas

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

Just wanted to check whether the visitors have applied for visas? We urgently need to apply for travel permits for Darfur – can you let me know who I should speak to if not you?

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 1 December 2016

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Thank you.

I do/do support your doing a SAFE+ course without doing a SAFE course in advance. In principle, happy to grant a waiver for you to go on the trip on the basis of just doing SAFE+, on the basis that you will throughout the visit be with others who have received the training package.

Neil

Neil Wigan OBE | Director, Africa

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 01 December 2016 11:00

To: Neil Wigan (Sensitive)

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: Permission for SAFE+: Travel with PUS OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

Dear Neil,

Next week I will be taking over as Assistant Private Secretary (Security) to the PUS. In January I am going to be accompanying him on a trip to Khartoum, Juba and Asmara. There are no SAFE courses running from now until after we return from this trip, but there is a SAFE+ course next week. I'm seeking your permission to exceptionally attend the SAFE+ course before having done the SAFE training. Juba is prepared to support a SAFE waiver application, but Khartoum would like be to do some form of SAFE training as they have scheduled a visit to Darfur. I'd be grateful for a response as soon as possible so I can book onto the course. Many thanks and let me know if you would like to discuss further.

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 1 December 2016

Dear all,

Thanks- to confirm, I have booked onto the 1-day SAFE+ course next week. The Africa Director has also confirmed he is in principle happy to grant a SAFE waiver for the trip on the basis of my doing just SAFE+ and will throughout the visit be accompanied by those who are SAFE-trained (please see attached). I will therefore still submit a SAFE waiver to him in advance of the trip. Please let me know if there are any other concerns.

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 01 December 2016 10:59
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: DFID/ FCO trip to Juba and Khartoum OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

[REDACT SECTION 40] – if you can get on a SAFE+ course that would more than cover it, the 'plus' bit is regarding working with CPT which we no longer do here so you could duck out of that section.

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 01 December 2016 13:50
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: DFID/ FCO trip to Juba and Khartoum OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40]/all,

Thanks for your email. There are no SAFE courses running from now until we leave, but would it be sufficient if I attended a SAFE+ course before going? I'd be grateful for views on what other options might be available.

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 1 December 2016

Hi **[REDACT SECTION 40]**,

Slight hiccup in the planning- Juba signed off on the SAFE waiver but Khartoum aren't happy (Khartoum doesn't require SAFE but Darfur does). I can go back to them and ask what the options are (e.g. can PUS go to Darfur without me if that is the only leg of the journey that is problematic?) but is there anything else you think I should say/ask? The other option is trying to book onto a last-minute course during one of the two weeks that we're handing over.

Sorry about this!

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Sent: 01 December 2016 05:58

To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Cc: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Subject: RE: DFID/ FCO trip to Juba and Khartoum OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

[REDACT SECTION 40],

We are experiencing an increase in threat reporting particularly in the Darfur state capitals including armed robberies, abduction of international UN staff, daytime kinetic exchanges between tribes and police/ military. And frequent spontaneous demonstrations targeting UN and government buildings. I've considered your application and note your business case for requesting your SAFE waiver which includes new to your role, handover and Christmas leave plans and on this occasion cannot support your application to waive the mandatory SAFE training to travel with your Line Manager to Darfur.

I'm copying in the Senior Overseas Security Adviser and ESD Overseas Director for their views as this impacts on the operation of PUS office planned trip. Sorry to not be more helpful but I take the personal security of our team seriously.

Kindest

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 30 November 2016 18:11

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: FW: DFID/ FCO trip to Juba and Khartoum

[REDACT SECTION 40] – as OSM grateful if you could consider the SAFE waiver for **[REDACT SECTION 40]** as set out in the attached.

[REDACT SECTION 40] – we can do this for Sudan, but you'll need to approach Juba and Asmara separately for their view regarding those legs if applicable to you.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 30 November 2016 18:07
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: FW: DFID/ FCO trip to Juba and Khartoum

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

I will be accompanying the PUS on his upcoming trip to Khartoum and am applying for a SAFE waiver given we will be visiting Juba and Darfur. Would you be able to provide any details on accommodation/travel in Sudan and any other details that might be relevant? I've attached the application form so you can see what is required. Many thanks for your help.

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 1 December 2016

Answer from [REDACT SECTION 40] for TRA

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 01 December 2016 16:23
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: Re: Your visit OFFICIAL

CLASSIFICATION:OFFICIAL

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Happy to do whatever is helpful. If you want me to do interviews I can, if not, that's ok too.

My visa application went in last week. I have done safe plus course and travelled in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. My blood type is [REDACT SECTION 40]

I will need to get a recommendation re hotels also pls.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Your visit

[REDACT SECTION 40]

On Monday 9th Jan, while you are in Sudan, the PUS's will be visiting Darfur for one day. I suggest you join this visit, as a member of the wider accompanying group (given the focus on the PUS's we'd rather not profile you as spokesperson but going to Darfur is a great opportunity and you can draw on it in future interviews).

If you agree, we will need to apply for a travel permit for you once we have a scanned copy of your visa. Has your application gone in yet?

For TRA purposes, I also need to know a) your blood group, b) experience in similar environments, and c) whether you are SAFE/ HET trained. Grateful for this asap.

Many thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 23 November 2016 17:50

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Your visit

Thanks [REDACT SECTION 40]. Yes, she can call [REDACT SECTION 40] on [REDACT SECTION 40] or [REDACT SECTION 40] on [REDACT SECTION 40].

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 23 November 2016 14:38

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Your visit

Thanks [REDACT SECTION 40], Will ask [REDACT SECTION 40] (our GRO) to be in touch with your Protocol team before submitting the visa application tomorrow – is there a name of someone with an ECHO number whom [REDACT SECTION 40] could call tomorrow pls?

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 23 November 2016 15:12

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: Your visit

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Good to chat. Please ask your Protocol team to get in touch with the Khartoum protocol team CC'd, to get arrangements in train for your visa. Normally, once you've submitted a NV at your end, we would then take a copy of that to MFA and follow up to make sure the visa is granted.

To confirm, we're looking at a visit from 6/7 January to 14/15. We will get thinking about how we use the time, including how closely to link your visit to that of the PUS's. **[REDACT SECTION 40]** will get back to you with some thinking on this (probably mid-December after British Week!)

Best,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 30 November 2016

Great, thank you **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Sent: 30 November 2016 15:15

To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Subject: RE: FCO representation on January visit

[REDACT SECTION 40]

,

Slightly difficult as **[REDACT SECTION 40]** hasn't started yet so **[REDACT SECTION 40]** (current **[REDACT SECTION 40]**) was answering on behalf of her, but she was of the impression that **[REDACT SECTION 40]** will do whatever **[REDACT SECTION 40]** does; so if it's necessary to travel earlier she can (and fly with **[REDACT SECTION 40]**).

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Sent: 30 November 2016 10:40

To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: FCO representation on January visit

Thanks. I think [REDACT SECTION 40] is checking – [REDACT SECTION 40], has [REDACT SECTION 40] confirmed? We're going to finalise the guest list tomorrow so would be really helpful to know before then.

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 30 November 2016 13:25

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: FCO representation on January visit

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Did anyone get back to you in my absence?

For FCO attendees, we have

- PUS
- [REDACT SECTION 40]
- HMA
- Julian Reilly
- REDACT SECTION 40]
- [REDACT SECTION 40] (only if space – not essential)

Do you still need someone to check with PUS office about whether the [REDACT SECTION 40] can go earlier?

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 28 November 2016 11:37

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: FCO representation on January visit

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

Just following up on this. WFP need names by tomorrow if possible, are you able to confirm?

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 25 November 2016 13:40

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: FCO representation on January visit

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40]

,

Just wanted to check who we should expect as external visitors for the Darfur leg of the January visit, as Julian Reilly mentioned yesterday that he will also be coming. We only have 12 seats on the UNHAS plane so limited availability. Will it be the Perm Sec, his PS/[REDACT SECTION 40], and Julian? Could you or somebody else check with the PS whether they would be happy to travel on a slightly earlier flight to Darfur or whether they need to travel with the Perm Sec? The [REDACT SECTION 40] has said that she is able to travel separately if needed due to the limited space on the plane.

I'll be meeting [REDACT SECTION 40] to discuss on Monday so would be really helpful if it's possible to confirm by then.

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 29 November 2016

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Excellent news. We are very happy with this schedule, which gives us two full days in Sudan (and so time to go to Darfur). We will get you an indicative programme by Friday.

I am sorry we will not be seeing you.

All the best

Michael

Email 29 November 2016

Many thanks for this [REDACT SECTION 40].

As you say, I have sent through some programme ideas: I assume we can work on those as an outline. What I would really like your steer on at this stage is:

- Given the later arrival time (generously they won't be in their hotel room much before 04:30 even if all goes smoothly) how much of a programme do they want to have on the Wednesday morning?
- Do they want to have (elements of) separate programmes to make the best use of the now more restricted time?

You may also like to note that I will be in Asmara only for the rest of this week then away for 3 weeks; so it would be great to get your input soon so I can start to put an outline together before I

leave. Please also note that I will be in London myself next week, and coming into the office on 7 and 8th. Perhaps we should have a quick catch up in person to discuss some of the points further.

Yours,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 28 November 2016 21:03

To: Michael Aron (Sensitive); [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]Neil Wigan (Sensitive);

Subject: DFID/ FCO trip to Juba and Khartoum

All,

Apologies for the silence. I have been in contact with a lot of you individually and then last week I was away on a course, but I'm pleased that we can confirm the January trip to be:

Both Simon (accompanied by [REDACT SECTION 40]) and Mark (accompanied by [REDACT SECTION 40]) will now visit Juba, Khartoum and Asmara.

They will take the following flights:

[SECTION 38]

I'll be handing over to [REDACT SECTION 40] w/c 5 December, but would be grateful for a programme for Simon and Mark's box for this Friday.

Ian – I know you sent some suggestions through which I'll come back to you separately on.

Many thanks to everyone for making this work (despite the logistical nightmare it presented!). I'm sure it will be a great trip, and I'm very sad I won't get to accompany the PUS!

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email from DFID Khartoum 29 November 2016

Dear all,

Please see attached proposed programme for the visit. I have filled in details for the Nyala leg – **[REDACT SECTION 40]**, are you able to fill in the Khartoum information? Please note that when I met the **[REDACT SECTION 40]** last week she asked that we build in at least 30 minutes of box time each evening.

Having discussed with **[REDACT SECTION 40]**, would it be possible to have a 30 minute meeting tomorrow or Thursday to discuss and finalise a few points? In particular:

- Once the programme has been finalised, to confirm that we are all happy with it and the timings;
- Confirm final list of who should be on the plane with the visitors (noting that WFP have now confirmed it is only a 12-seater) and who should be sent in advance (to note: there will be an earlier UNHAS flight on the morning of the 9th that the advance party can go on, and/or people can travel down on the 8th as WFP have advised that this is unlikely to be a UN holiday);
- Should we have a separate dinner for the discussion with the World Bank / IMF, or can they be invited to the partners breakfast on the morning of day 2?
- Who should we invite from UNAMID?

[REDACT SECTION 40] and I propose that the following should attend the discussion, but happy to amend if we need more or less people there: HMA, **[REDACT SECTION 40]**. If agreed I will ask **[REDACT SECTION 40]** to liaise with **[REDACT SECTION 40]** to agree a time.

Please let me know if you need any more information in the meantime.

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 29 November 2016 11:02
To: Michael.Aron; [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: DFID/ FCO trip to Juba and Khartoum

Thanks HMA,

[REDACT SECTION 40] and I already on it in line with the below (with a few extra details) and should be able to send something across by end day that **[REDACT SECTION 40]** can discuss / add to etc.

FI we also have a call with **[REDACT SECTION 40]** to discuss briefing pack(s) at 1600 Sudan time today – assume this is normally left by FCO at post to colleagues in London but if **[REDACT SECTION 40]** or **[REDACT SECTION 40]** would like to join they are very welcome.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: Michael Aron (Sensitive)
Sent: 29 November 2016 10:54
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: DFID/ FCO trip to Juba and Khartoum

Stop Press

I see we also get him in time for dinner on Sunday evening. Perhaps a briefing dinner with staff?

Michael

From: Michael Aron (Sensitive)

Sent: 29 November 2016 10:53

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: FW: DFID/ FCO trip to Juba and Khartoum

[REDACT SECTION 40]

This is good news – we get two full days and a trip to Darfur.

Can you draw up a draft indicative programme please.

I think the Darfur leg is pretty clear – Meet the Governor, visit Otash and the cash transfer scheme, lunch at the Unamid camp with the (by then new) JSR, meet DCPCF partners. Anything else?

We then have a dinner on the Monday evening and a full day in Khartoum the following day.

We have talked about

Dinner with UN/World Bank/IMF colleagues (but the Sudanese may want to do something).

Breakfast (this could be with internationals if the Sudanese do a dinner – or could be Troika plus)

All staff meeting

Meet Ghandour (perhaps just before a lunch at the top of the [REDACT SECTION 24] with MFA)

? [REDACT SECTION 40]

I think we should ask for a meeting with [REDACT SECTION 40] to talk about Darfur

The migration session with IOM, UNHCR, [REDACT SECTION 40] perhaps at the refugee centre

Meeting with Sudan Call – perhaps in Omdurman

Anything else?

Michael

Email from FCO PUS office 28 November 2016

I didn't – [REDACT SECTION 40] might have but I wasn't copied if so.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 28 November 2016 11:58
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: FW: DFID/ FCO trip to Juba and Khartoum

Morning,

Can I just check, did anyone go back to Posts/ Desks and confirm our flights and programme?

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 28 November 2016

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40]

Can you check this for [REDACT SECTION 40]?

Thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 27 November 2016 16:01
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: FW: FCO representation on January visit

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Please see below, an email from [REDACT SECTION 40] regarding the PUS' visit in January. Would you be able to check this out with Private Office and let us know?

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 25 November 2016 10:40
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: FCO representation on January visit

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

Just wanted to check who we should expect as external visitors for the Darfur leg of the January visit, as Julian Reilly mentioned yesterday that he will also be coming. We only have 12 seats on the UNHAS plane so limited availability. Will it be the Perm Sec, his [REDACT SECTION 40], and Julian? Could you or somebody else check with the PS whether they would be happy to travel on a slightly earlier

flight to Darfur or whether they need to travel with the Perm Sec? The **[REDACT SECTION 40]** has said that she is able to travel separately if needed due to the limited space on the plane.

I'll be meeting **[REDACT SECTION 40]** to discuss on Monday so would be really helpful if it's possible to confirm by then.

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 24 November 2016

Hi **[REDACT SECTION 40]** ,

Lovely to see you earlier. Just a quick question – Julian mentioned that he will be coming out in January. Presumably that's to join the visit? If so, do you know whether he will be joining for the Darfur part of the programme? just checking as we have a limited number of seats on the UNHAS plane – obviously can accommodate him but we will need to rejig other guests if so.

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Sent: 24 November 2016 16:23

To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Cc: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Subject: RE: DFID/FCO PUS visit

Hi **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Thanks for getting in touch on this. Yes, that's right – **[REDACT SECTION 40]** wants us to be well prepared should we get any further visits next year so is using this as an opportunity to sense check with Mark Lowcock a more detailed DFID pack, as well as feeding into the (we imagine much shorter) joint brief. Am attaching what I commissioned for info – to note worth checking in with DFID S Sudan on what they prefer in terms of format, as **[REDACT SECTION 40]** may want to approach in a different way. I think we do not have a DFID office in Asmara but there may be a London p.o.c – perhaps ask **[REDACT SECTION 40]** (do you have his email)?

There is a packed audit schedule next week but happy to talk on Tuesday if that works for you? We can discuss both briefs. Suggest **[REDACT SECTION 40]** joins.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Sent: 24 November 2016 18:22
To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Cc: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Subject: DFID/FCO PUS visit

Hi **[REDACT SECTION 40]** ,

I just wanted to let you know that I will be leading for the Unit on pulling together the briefing for January's visit. Having discussed with **[REDACT SECTION 40]** , I understand that it was provisionally agreed for us here in London to lead on the briefing pack (combining FCO and DFID material), but for DFID Sudan to also provide a separate, more in-depth brief on DFID programmes specifically for Mark Lowcock. Is this right? If so, I would ideally like to follow the same pattern for the Juba (I still need to confirm this approach is ok with DFID Juba!) and Asmara legs of the trip, to be as consistent as possible.

I'm aware it's now your weekend so shall we touch base early next week?

Thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 23 November 2016

Thanks **[REDACT SECTION 40]**! Do you think you'll be able to get the extra flight details before our team meeting at 3 today?

Kind Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Sent: 23 November 2016 13:27

To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Cc: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**

Subject: Visa Facilitation

Dear All

Grateful if you could issue the same notes/invitations for DfID Permanent Secretary, Mark Lowcock and **[REDACT SECTION 40]**, Assistant Private Secretary. They will be travelling to Sudan/South Sudan/Eritrea with the PUS. I've attached **[REDACT SECTION 40]**'s passport data page. I'm just waiting for Mark's details.

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 23 November 2016

Fine**[REDACT SECTION 40]**, I have Marks NV ready

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 23 November 2016 15:44

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Visa Facilitation

Thanks John. I've sent you Mark's details. I'll come and collect both letters tomorrow morning if that's ok. I'll call before I come up.

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 23 November 2016 15:10

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Visa Facilitation

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

I have prepared the NV for [REDACT SECTION 40], ready to collect.

When I have the passport detail for Mark Lowcock I will be able to do the same.

All the best

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 23 November 2016 13:27

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: Visa Facilitation

Dear All

Grateful if you could issue the same notes/invitations for DfID Permanent Secretary, Mark Lowcock and **[REDACT SECTION 40]**, Assistant Private Secretary. They will be travelling to Sudan/South Sudan/Eritrea with the PUS. I've attached **[REDACT SECTION 40]** passport data page. I'm just waiting for Mark's details.

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 21 November 2016

[REDACT SECTION 40],

I now have the Note Verbales for Khartoum and Juba,.

Would you like me to sent them over to you ? Or would you like to collect?

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Sent: 18 November 2016 17:13
To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Subject: RE: PUS' Visit OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

Reason for travel is the same as **[REDACT SECTION 40]**.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 18 November 2016 17:08
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: PUS' Visit OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

You have not given a reason for travel for Sir Simon McDonald . I could possible write one without it, but better to have one.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 18 November 2016 16:55
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: FW: PUS' Visit OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40]

Details you requested are below.

I haven't heard back from DfID yet, but Mark Lowcock CB, DfID Permanent Secretary and [REDACT SECTION 40], Assistant Private Secretary will be travelling. Would be good if we can at least get a note for the PUS and [REDACT SECTION 40], so I can give their passports to travel centre on Monday. Grateful if you can liaise with Post for the invitation letter.

Regards

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 18 November 2016 12:36

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: FW: PUS' Visit OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

Dear [REDACT SECTION 40],

Please can I have the following information for all the visitors requiring a Note Verbale :

Full Name: Sir Simon McDonald

Passport number: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Dates of Travel: Arrive Juba 7 Jan/Depart Juba 8 Jan/Arrive Khartoum 8 Jan/Depart Khartoum 10 Jan

Duration of Visit: 4 days

Reason for Travel

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Dates of Travel: Arrive Juba 7 Jan/Depart Juba 8 Jan/Arrive Khartoum 8 Jan/Depart Khartoum 10 Jan

Duration of Visit: 4 days

Reason for Travel Meetings with Senior officials and Staff

Once I obtain this information I can produce the Note Verbales.

All the best

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 21 November 2016

In [REDACT SECTION 40] absence.

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 21 November 2016 08:55
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: Michael Aron (Sensitive); [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: Khartoum-Asmara OFFICIAL

[REDACT SECTION 40]

We are not able to get an exact cost at this stage as it depends upon the number of people travelling and plane available on the day. We have reached out to commercial companies and WFP and it looks as if we would need to pay somewhere between US \$ 10,000 and US \$15,000 to charter a flight from Khartoum to Asmara.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: Michael Aron (Sensitive)
Sent: 18 November 2016 19:21
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: Re: Khartoum-Asmara OFFICIAL

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Sorry. Weekend today. We should have an answer by first thing on Monday your time.

Michael

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2016 03:08 PM
To: Michael Aron (Sensitive); [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Khartoum-Asmara OFFICIAL

Thanks Michael. Any news? Simon's view is that if the charter is £5k or less, then it's worth doing.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: Michael Aron (Sensitive)
Sent: 17 November 2016 18:59
To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Subject: Re: Khartoum-Asmara OFFICIAL

CLASSIFICATION:OFFICIAL

We are indeed looking into this. Will let you know asap.

Michael

From: **[REDACT SECTION 40]**
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2016 06:08 PM
To: **[REDACT SECTION 40]** Michael Aron (Sensitive)
Subject: Khartoum-Asmara

Ian, Michael,

I understand you have been looking at charter costs to get the PUS and Mark Lowcock from Khartoum to Asmara. Are you able to give me an indication of costs? Mark Lowcock is still deciding if he will do the Asmara leg (following the info on the **[REDACT SECTION 38]** flights) and has asked for further details before making a decision. (Simon plans to visit Asmara regardless even if a charter isn't financially viable; he'll take the **[REDACT SECTION 38]** flight).

Many thanks,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Email 15 November 2016

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

Thanks a lot. I'll get the yellow fever certificate ASAP and liaise with you about visas. I'll be covering for [REDACT SECTION 40] Mon-Wed next week so I'm sure I'll see you then!

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 15 November 2016 15:01
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: Sudan/Eritrea OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40]

I've attached an email about duty travel/medical clearance. You'll need to speak to [REDACT SECTION 40] about codes. A yellow fever certificate has to be submitted with your visa application for Juba.

I'm waiting for confirmation of dates for the trip, but I've attached the latest email that I have (depart 6 Jan return 12 Jan).

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 15 November 2016 14:15
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: RE: Sudan/Eritrea OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40],

Thanks for being so organised! My passport meets all those requirements and I can drop off some passport photos this/next week when I'm in the PUS' office.

I don't have a yellow fever certificate, but I can get one before I start with you- would you be able to give me a Medical Clearance Code so I can book a vaccine appointment?

What are the planned dates for the trip? Many thanks.

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 15 November 2016 13:48
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: Sudan/Eritrea OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40]

Hope all is well.

I understand you will be the accompanying PS on this trip. I was looking at the visa forms earlier, and just wanted to check that:

you have a yellow fever certificate

passport valid for at least 6 months after exit date (until at least July 2017)

at least 4 clear passport pages

no Israeli stamp in your passport

passport photos x 7

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Relevant extract from email from FCO 15 November 2016

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40] ,

Thanks- will do. I'm having trouble sending a photo of my passport data page but here is all the info from it:

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Hope this works- if not let me know and I can drop by with it or get a scan over the weekend.
Thanks!

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 16 November 2016 14:16

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: FW: Visa Application Forms - Sudan, South Sudan, Eritrea, Qatar

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40]

Grateful if you could complete the attached visa forms. You can give them to me on Monday.

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

A SUDAN VISA IS REQUIRED FOR ALL LENGTHS OF STAY

VISA REQUIREMENTS

- **3 COPIES OF THE VISA APPLICATION FORM**
- **3 PASSPORT PHOTOS** (clear white background, taken within six month)
- **PASSPORT** (valid for 6 months beyond exit date; 1 clear page; no Israeli stamps)
- **XE196A VISA REQUEST FORM** (For Full Postings - you must advise who is being replaced and your job/title rank at post).

Please note the following when completing the visa application form –

- Fill in one form and photocopy it twice (so you've got 3 copies)
- State the FCO address instead of home, same with phone numbers, fax and email address.
- **[REDACT SECTION 27]**
- Type of Document is "National Passport".

- Cross through persons accompanying section.
- Purpose of visit is “Work”.
- Sponsor is “Other” (Government in this case means Sudanese Government).
- Put the name and address of Ambassador Michael Aron, British Embassy, Road Off Sharia Al Baladiya, PO Box 801, Khartoum, Sudan and the general phone number of the Embassy, +(249) (183) 777105.
- Do not sign as it will be stamped with official FCO stamp on all 3 forms.
- Supporting documents is “Other” (the supporting document is a Note Verbale/Diplomatic Note – provided by the Travel Centre).

CURRENT APPROXIMATE PROCESSING TIME; 2-3 Weeks

The visa is valid for 2 months from the date it is issued. The applicant must enter within 2 months of date issued and can stay for 2 months

Email 10 November 2016

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40]

Our Deputy Head is aiming to send over the objectives of the visit and flight details to [REDACT SECTION 40] by the end of the week. We may need a little more time on finalising the programme.

Thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Sent: 09 November 2016 15:39
To: [REDACT SECTION 40]
Subject: PUS' Visit OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

Dear [REDACT SECTION 40]

I'll be leading on logistics for the PUS' visit to Sudan. Do you have any info on flights and a programme?

Regards,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Relevant extract from email 14 October 2016

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 07 October 2016 12:34

To: [REDACT SECTION 40];

Cc: Michael Aron (Sensitive); [REDACT SECTION 40] Julian Reilly (Sensitive)

Subject: RE: Possible PUS visit to Sudan/ South Sudan OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

Thanks [REDACT SECTION 40] , of course happy to review, but just to warn you that the PUS has travel plans until summer 2017 – so if you lose the January slot, I can't guarantee when the next possible travel dates might be.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 07 October 2016 10:32

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: Michael Aron (Sensitive); [REDACT SECTION 40] Julian Reilly (Sensitive)

Subject: RE: Possible PUS visit to Sudan/ South Sudan OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

[REDACT SECTION 40] ,

Many thanks for letting us know. As I said when we met we welcome this idea of a joint visit to both Sudans. But I just want to remind you of our concern for the visit to Khartoum to be in sync with our engagement strategy. Once the Sudanese delegation has been through next week perhaps we can

review this? In the meantime – the PUS could perhaps mention to the delegation on Monday that he is thinking of visiting Khartoum at some point, without specifying dates at this stage.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 07 October 2016 10:24

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: Michael Aron (Sensitive); [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Possible PUS visit to Sudan/ South Sudan OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

All,

We have set aside 7 – 11 January for this trip (the PUS is willing to travel on the Saturday or Sunday to get a full 3 days of programme) to Juba, Khartoum and Asmara. We haven't heard back from Mark Lowcock's office, but the PUS wanted to fix the date, so [REDACT SECTION 40] will let them know our plans.

I'd be grateful for a) advice on whether the trip should include Asmara (the PUS's preference), and b) a rough travel schedule so we can fix the dates, by the end of next week please.

Many thanks

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 05 October 2016 17:56

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: Michael Aron (Sensitive); [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Possible PUS visit to Sudan/ South Sudan

Great news

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 04 October 2016 15:22

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40] (Sensitive); Michael Aron (Sensitive); [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: RE: Possible PUS visit to Sudan/ South Sudan

Hi [REDACT SECTION 40] ,

I'm around this afternoon (after 3pm) if you want to pop in.

Yes, the PUS and DFID Perm Sec are keen on a joint trip to Khartoum, Juba and (if possible) Asmara. They were looking at going in January.

I've copied in [REDACT SECTION 40] as she is in contact with DFID and is trying to get some dates firmed up.

Hope that helps,

[REDACT SECTION 40]

From: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Sent: 03 October 2016 08:45

To: [REDACT SECTION 40]

Cc: [REDACT SECTION 40] (Sensitive); Michael Aron (Sensitive); [REDACT SECTION 40]

Subject: Possible PUS visit to Sudan/ South Sudan

[REDACT SECTION 40] ,

I have recently taken over as Head of the DFID/ FCO Sudans Unit and have been meaning to come to introduce myself to you – I wonder if you might have time this week, in advance of the call on the PUS by the senior Sudanese delegation on Monday? (We are currently working on the briefing for this meeting and it would be helpful to talk this through with you too.)

We have heard that during the PUS' meeting with the DFID PUS on 1 September the idea of a joint visit to Sudan and/or South Sudan came up. Obviously we would welcome this suggestion, but want to ensure we have plenty of time to plan it properly. Can you confirm that this was indeed discussed, and give us an indication of the potential timings?

Many thanks.

[REDACT SECTION 40]

Relevant extract from briefing pack

KHARTOUM

Day 1 now defunct – dinner to be re-arranged.

DAY 1:	Sunday 8 January
TIME	ACTIVITY
18:05	Arrive Khartoum Airport
18:05-18:30	TRAVEL TIME Transport to accommodation
18:30-19:30	Box time and freshen up
TBC	Dinner hosted by PUS to MFA El Naim, with PUS MIC (Ministry for International Cooperation), HAC Commissioner and [REDACT SECTION 40]

DAY 2:	Monday 9 January
TIME	ACTIVITY
07:10-07:30	Travel time to Khartoum International Airport
07:30-08:15	Check in at VIP lounge, Khartoum International Airport
08:15-10:00	UNHAS flight from Khartoum to Nyala, South Darfur, to be greeted by Deputy Governor at the Airport
10:00-10:15	Briefing on the cash pilot and security by WFP
10:15-11:15	Presentation from Darfur Community Peace and Stability Fund (DCPSF)
11:15-11:30	TRAVEL TIME Travel to UNAMID SuperCamp

11:30-12:30	UNAMID briefing
12:30-12:45	TRAVEL TIME Transport to Otash IDP Camp
12:45-14:45	<p>LAUNCH OF THE CASH PROJECT AT OTASH IDP CAMP</p> <p>12:45-13:15: Meeting with the local leaders for Otash HAC Commissioner</p> <p>13:15-13:30: Meeting with Otash IDPs (women)</p> <p>13:30-13:45: Meeting with Otash IDPs (youth)</p> <p>13:45-14:15: Walkthrough of elements of cash pilot</p> <p>14:15-14:45: Launch of the cash pilot with traders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening remarks • Press Conference • Photo opportunity
14:45-15:00	TRAVEL TIME Transport to the office of the Wali and HAC Commissioner for South Darfur
15:00-16:00	Lunch with the Wali and HAC
16:00-16:15	TRAVEL TIME Transport from Wali's office to Nyala Airport
17:00-18:30	UNHAS flight from Nyala to Khartoum
18:30-19:00	TRAVEL TIME Transport from airport to accommodation
19:00-20:00	Box time and freshen up

20:00	Economic/ Political Dinner with IMF, World Bank, AfDB and key Ambassadors
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DAY 3:	Tuesday 10 January
TIME	ACTIVITY
07:45-08:45	Breakfast with HMA/ Head of DFID and other policy staff
08:45-09:15	All Staff Meeting
09:15-09:45	Embassy walk-around
10:00-11:00	Meeting with Foreign Minister Ghandour
11:00-12:00	Meeting with 1st Vice-President Bakri Hasan Salih
12:00-13:00	Meeting with Minister for International Cooperation
13:00-14:00	Meeting with Minister for Interior
14:00-15:30	Lunch hosted by MFA
15:45-17:00	Visit to IoM Migration Resource Centre and presentation/ discussion on migration with IoM/ UNHCR and [REDACT SECTION 40]
17:30-18:30	Meeting with Sudan Call opposition in Omdurman
19:00-19:30	Box time
20:00	Dinner with civil society, journalists, evening scholars and social commentators

DAY 4:	Wednesday 11 January
TIME	ACTIVITY

01:30	TRAVEL TIME Transport to Khartoum International Airport
03:00	Depart Khartoum International Airport

[REDACT SECTION 27]

Khartoum and Darfur, Sudan

- **Live Facebook and Twitter updates during the day**
- **British Embassy press release summarising the visit, with quotes from both PUS's, sent to local journalists and foreign correspondents.**

Post-visit

- **HMA blog – possibility for this to be a guest blog by one or both PUS's**

Suggested Twitter handles to use (Khartoum and Juba)

For both countries

@ChrisTrott

@SudanUnit

Khartoum only

@HMAMichaelAron

@UKinSudan

Juba only

@UKinSouthSudan

Suggested hashtag

#PUSinSudans ??

Background: Sudan

1. [REDACT SECTION 27]

2. In January 2014, President Bashir launched a ‘National Dialogue’ that would be open to all political parties, civil society and rebel groups, which aimed to address the fundamental issues facing the country (conflict, poverty, political reform and national identity). It was launched in October 2015 and ended on 10 October 2016. The Government of Sudan published recommendations, and said that the process would remain open for members of the opposition to join.

Internal conflicts

3. Large parts of Sudan remain unstable. Temporary ceasefires in Darfur and the Two Areas of Blue Nile and South Kordofan were announced in September 2015 by both the Government of Sudan (GoS) and the opposition. However, fighting resumed in January 2016 when the GoS began a major bombing campaign in the Jebel Marra region of Darfur, which displaced 130,000 people from their homes. A cessation of hostilities (CoH) in the Two Areas was announced by the Government of Sudan on 17 June, and President Bashir then declared that this would be extended until the end of 2016. During his New Year’s address, Bashir confirmed that the ceasefire would be extended again until the end of January 2017.
4. The African Union High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP), under former South African President Thabo Mbeki, has attempted to mediate the conflicts. Following pressure from the international community, including the UK, several key opposition groups signed the AUHIP’s roadmap towards peace in early August, following on from the signature of the Government of Sudan in March. This represented the most significant breakthrough in Sudan’s peace process for two years, although subsequent talks on agreeing a CoH and ensuring unfettered humanitarian access to the conflict areas disappointingly broke down the following week.
5. On 29 September Amnesty International released a report alleging the use of chemical weapons in Darfur. **[REDACT SECTION 27]** However, the allegations remain very difficult to substantiate/refute given access restrictions on the UN/AU Peacekeeping Mission (UNAMID) and others. Sudan is also a state party to the OPCW, so unless another state party presents additional evidence and presses for a challenge inspection the OPCW cannot investigate further. Furthermore, a high threshold of evidence is required to invoke a challenge inspection; as such it has never been used.
6. The UK leads on UNAMID at the UN Security Council, and the mandate was most recently renewed for 12 months in June. The mission continues to face access restrictions and bureaucratic impediments from all parties to the conflict, and the Government of Sudan are adamant that UNAMID is not needed and should be withdrawn. We continue to make clear that before any significant moves towards the mission’s exit can be made, conditions on the ground must significantly improve.

7. UN Security Council Resolution 1593, adopted in March 2005, referred the situation in Darfur to the International Criminal Court (ICC) and required all states to cooperate fully with the investigation. President Bashir was subsequently charged by the ICC with genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity in Darfur, and arrest warrants were issued for him in 2009 and 2010. Two other members of the Sudanese government were also indicted. The UK, in coordination with the EU, has a policy of avoiding all “non-essential contact” with ICC-indicted persons subject to an arrest warrant. Bashir has continued to travel and cross borders with impunity. Recently, a number of State parties to the ICC have failed to cooperate fully with the Court and arrest him; most notably South Africa in June 2015, following which the ICC will convene a hearing in April 2017 on the issue of non-compliance.

Development and humanitarian

8. Sudan is a fragile state in a fragile region. Over 50% of Sudanese suffer from chronic poverty, and nearly 6 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, the majority of who have been displaced by protracted conflict. By 2020, DFID Sudan’s vision is that Sudan’s most vulnerable and excluded people are increasingly able to meet their basic needs, sustain their livelihoods, build their resilience to crises, and engage in laying the foundations for a more democratic, inclusive and peaceful future.
9. Progress remains challenging, with a difficult operating environment, government restrictions on movement and access, and capacity constraints amongst implementing partners. We are working with the international development community to shift focus to longer-term humanitarian approaches, then into early recovery, resilience, and development. This is in keeping with our commitments from the World Humanitarian Summit, and our own efforts to better engage in Sudan’s protracted crisis. In Darfur, we are developing a portfolio approach that will look to manage our entire engagement in Darfur as a whole, with the ability to move resources from humanitarian to early recovery and development as the local context changes.
10. DFID plans to invest at least £50m per year in Sudan over the next four years. The majority of our programming is humanitarian and resilience-focused, alongside development programmes including water, governance, and countering climate change and female genital cutting. Our innovative Adapt! programme will influence the government and the international community to put climate change adaptation at the centre of our work. We are strengthening our relationship with the Ministry of Finance in an effort to support better macro-economic management through a World Bank managed Trust Fund; and working with local communities and youth groups to strengthen citizen voice and engagement.

Human rights

11. Sudan remains an FCO Human Rights Priority Country. Our human rights priorities in Sudan are conflict resolution and humanitarian access, pressing for greater civil and political freedoms, and tackling sexual and gender-based

violence. We successfully lobbied for the mandate of the Independent Expert on the human rights situation in Sudan to be renewed in September.

12. Recently, 76 opposition figures, including many senior party members (the majority from the Sudanese Congress Party) have been arrested following protests against the government's recent economic reforms. HMA Khartoum raised the issue with the Director of the European Division of the Sudanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 20 November, and the UK Special Representative for Sudan and South Sudan did likewise with the Sudanese Ambassador to London on 30 November. The Troika, EU and Canada released a joint statement on 7 December condemning the continued detentions.
13. Sudan ranks 174th out of 180 on the Reporters Without Borders World Press Freedom Index and newspapers are frequently confiscated. We have seen restrictions placed on civil society, including the prevention of human rights defenders travelling to Geneva during Sudan's Universal Periodic Review. We continue to follow the trial of employees of TRACKs, a local NGO carrying out human rights training. The individuals have been accused of a number of crimes, including waging war against the state, which carries the death penalty.
14. Freedom of religion or belief continues to be a matter of concern, with apostasy still considered a crime in Sudan. FGM is also a major issue in Sudan, with 87% of women aged 15-49 reporting having undergone some form of FGM. The national strategy to abandon FGM in a generation is a positive step.

Migration and Sudan's regional role

15. Sudan is a major source, transit, and host country for migration. It is consistently amongst the top five sources of asylum claims to the UK, hosts 360,000 refugees and is an established trafficking and people smuggling route. A range of interventions across HMG are being taken to tackle migration in and from Sudan. The Khartoum Process, which the UK currently chairs, is a regional mechanism for European and Horn of Africa countries to tackle trafficking and smuggling in partnership. The Khartoum Process aims to coordinate joint efforts between countries to better manage migratory flows and act against the criminal networks of people smugglers and traffickers. It will also monitor the implementation of the Valletta Action Plan and feed into EU Trust Fund discussions.
16. A €1.8 billion EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa was announced at the Valletta Summit on Migration in November 2015 to help support a comprehensive solution to irregular migration, including addressing its root causes. The Trust Fund includes a €100 million Special Measure for Sudan. The 'Better Migration Management' (BMM) is regional project in the Horn of Africa, worth EUR 40 million, financed under the EU Trust Fund and designed to improve migration management in the Horn. No projects have started yet – the first two are likely to be on migration legislation and on protection.
17. In the immediate aftermath of the fighting in South Sudan in July 2016, Riek Machar was in a poor state of health and went to Khartoum on purely medical grounds. We made clear to the Government of Sudan that they should not allow

any actions (including statements) that are aimed at destabilising South Sudan, and they outlined to us that Machar would not be allowed to make any public statements whilst receiving treatment in Khartoum. We welcomed calls from the region for Machar to leave the country, and he did so on 11 October; heading for South Africa.

Key Facts

Capital:	Khartoum
Head of State:	President Omar al-Bashir, last re-elected in April 2015.
Population:	39.55m (IMF)
Land area:	1.9m sq km (15th largest after Indonesia)

Economic Data

GDP:	\$93.7bn. USD (IMF 2016 estimate)
Real GDP growth:	5% (2015)
GDP per capita:	\$2,367 USD (IMF 2015 estimate)
Annual inflation:	18.2% (August 2016)
Unemployment rate:	21.6% (IMF 2015)
Economic sectors:	28.1% Agriculture, 21.7% Industry, 50.2% Services
Exports to UK in 2015:	£8m; imports from UK £91m
Ease of Doing Business ranking:	168 out of 190 countries (World Bank)

UK Presence

The British Ambassador to Sudan is Michael Aron and his Embassy includes staff from the FCO, DFID and MOD.

Summary of UK Support

DFID Programme in Sudan 2016 - 2020

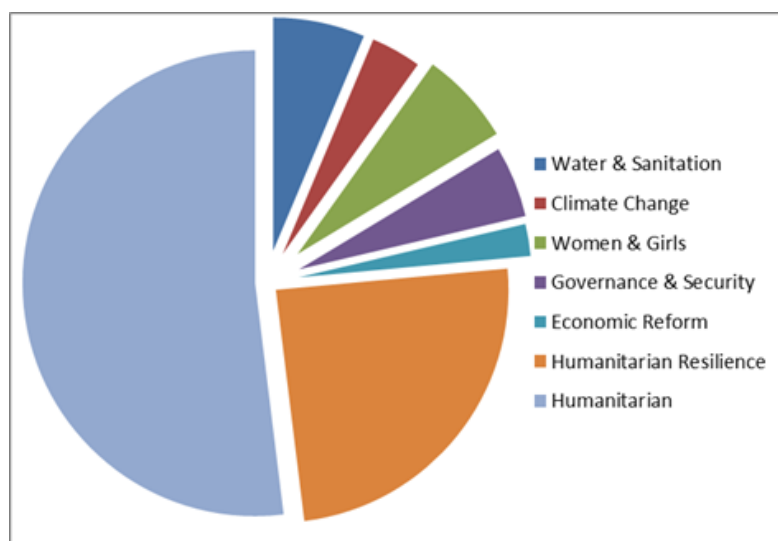
Sudan is a fragile state in a fragile region. Over 50% of Sudanese suffer from chronic poverty, and millions are in need of humanitarian assistance having been displaced by conflict. By 2020, DFID Sudan's vision is that Sudan's most vulnerable and excluded people are increasingly able to meet their basic needs, sustain their livelihoods, build their resilience to crises, and engage in laying the foundations for a more democratic, inclusive and peaceful future. In the longer-term, we aim to influence a lasting peace process that results in a more inclusive, representative and legitimate government. We want to help Sudan to use its resources to meet the basic needs of all its people. We will facilitate increased prosperity and opportunities for employment to enable Sudanese people as well as regional migrants to establish more productive lives.

DFID plans to invest at least £50m per year in Sudan over the next four years, across 11 programmes. The majority of our programming is humanitarian and resilience-focused, alongside development programmes including water, governance, and countering climate change and female genital cutting. The difficulties of working in Sudan should not be underestimated: government controls impact on partner access and activities, and financial sanctions further impact on our partners' ability to deliver. No financial aid is provided directly through the government of Sudan.

Results commitments 2016-2020

- Empower 100,000 people including civil society and youth to improve local accountability
- Provide life-saving support for 3.8 million people affected by conflict, climate and food insecurity
- Improve the governance and management of natural resources, especially water
- Work to address the root causes of displacement and irregular migration, reducing the need for people to leave their homes to escape violence and lack of opportunities

2016/17 Bilateral programme by sector



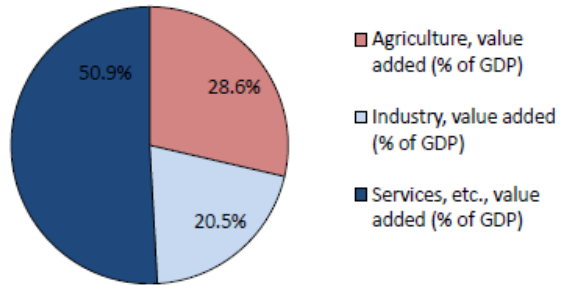
Map



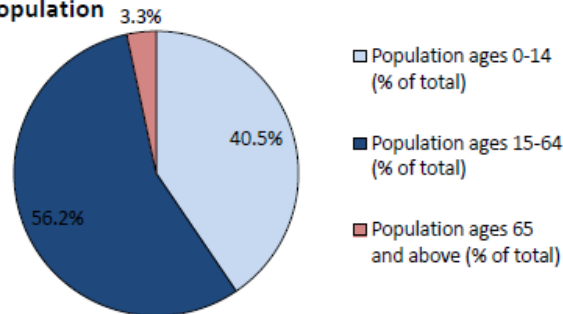
Economic Overview

Nominal GDP (\$US bn)	81.4
Real annual GDP Growth (%)	4.9
GDP per capita (\$US)	2,119.0
Annual inflation rate (%)	16.9
Unemployment rate (%)	21.6
Fiscal balance (% of GDP)	-1.9
Current account balance (% of GDP)	-7.8

Share of GDP



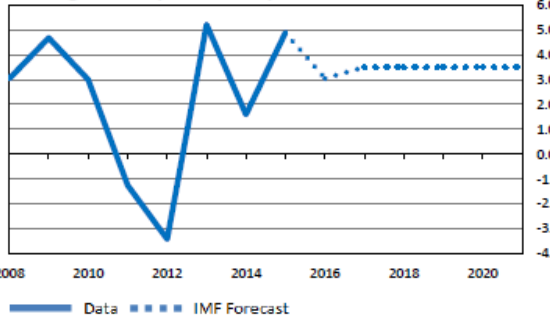
Population



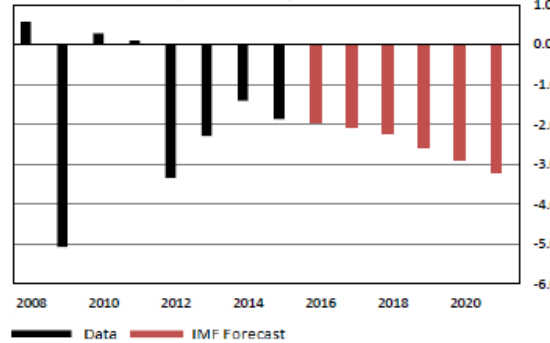
World Bank Ease of Doing Business ranking (best 1, worst 189)

Bolivia	157
Benin	158
Sudan	159
Niger	160
Iraq	161

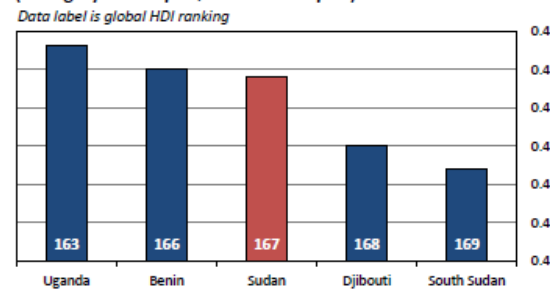
GDP growth (annual %)



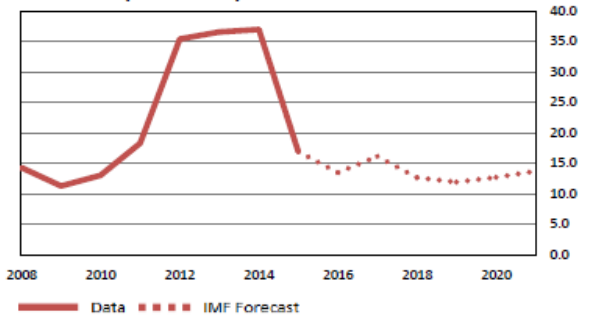
Fiscal balance (% of GDP)



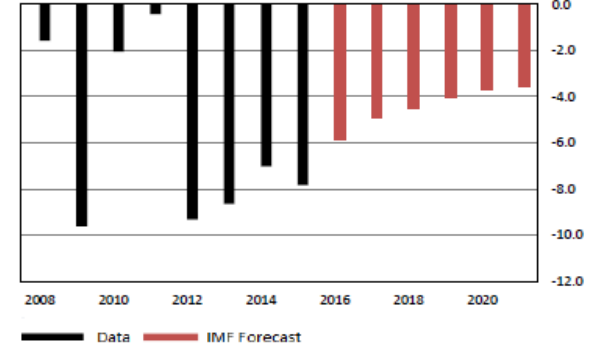
Human Development Index* (1= highly developed, 0= undeveloped)



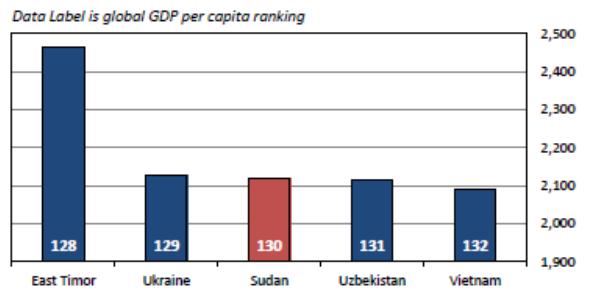
Inflation (annual %)



Current account balance (% of GDP)



GDP per capita (\$US)



Factsheet updated October 2016. Next update April 2017. **Sudan** All data refer to 2015 (* indicates non-2015, but most recent available)

Macroeconomy		Population		Trade & Investment	
Nominal GDP (\$US bn)	81.4	Population (millions)	38.4	Current account balance (% of GDP)	-7.8
Real annual GDP growth (%)	4.9	Population growth rate (% change)	3.0	Current account balance (\$US bn)	-6.4
GDP per capita (\$US)	2,119.0	Population density (people per km ²)	22.1	Total exports of goods and services (\$US bn)	4.9
Annual inflation rate (%)	16.9	Urban population (%)	33.8	Total imports of goods and services (\$US bn)	10.1
Unemployment rate (%)	21.6	Economic Development		Exports of goods to UK (£m)	8.0
GDP at Purchasing Power Parity (\$US bn)	168.9	Human Development Index (max 1, min 0)*	0.48	Imports of goods from UK (£m)	95.0
GDP at Purchasing Power Parity per capita (\$)	4,393.6	Life expectancy at birth (years)*	63	Exports of services to UK (£m)	4.0
GDP at PPP as a share of world (%)	0.1	Literacy rates (%)*	74.3	Imports of services from UK (£m)	45.0
Government Finance		Income inequality (equality 0, inequality 100)	-	Inward direct investment flow (\$US bn)*	1.3
General government net debt (% of GDP)	-	Internet users (% population)	25	Exports + imports as share of GDP (%)	18.5
General government gross debt (% of GDP)	72.9	Net aid received per capita (\$US)	22	Emissions & Environment	
Fiscal balance (% of GDP)	-1.9	Doing Business ranking (best 1, worst 189)	159	CO ₂ emissions per capita (tonnes)*	0.3
General government revenue (% of GDP)	11.0	Energy		Pump price for petrol (\$US per litre)	0.8
General government expenditure (% of GDP)	12.9	Oil production (thousand barrels per day)	105	Energy use per capita (kg of oil equivalent)*	374.8
Public health care expenditure (% of GDP)*	1.8	Share global oil reserves remaining (%)	0.1	Food imports (% share of goods imports)*	18.0
Public education expenditure (% of GDP)	-	Gas production (bn cubic metres per year)	-	Land area (square kilometres)	2,376,000
Military expenditure (% of GDP)*	-	Share global gas reserves remaining (%)	-	Forest area (% of land area)*	8.1
Foreign Exchange reserves (\$US bn)	0.2	Net energy imports (% of energy use)*	-8.4	Agricultural land (% of land area)*	45.8

Forecast and comparison with other countries/territories

Indicator	Value			Global Ranking (1-185)			Comparator countries/territories in 2015
	2015	2016 forecast	2021 forecast	2015	2016 forecast	2021 forecast	
Population (million)	38.4	39.6	45.5	35	35	33	Below Uganda, Above Poland UK rank is 21
Nominal GDP (\$US bn)	81.4	94.3	198.6	65	60	55	Below Slovakia, Above Sri Lanka UK rank is 5
GDP/capita (\$US)	2,119	2,381	4,366	130	126	116	Below Ukraine, Above Uzbekistan UK rank is 14
Real annual GDP growth (%)	4.9	3.1	3.5	37	83	92	Below Nicaragua, Above Bolivia UK rank is 117
General government gross debt (% of GDP)	72.9	63.2	44.0	All data externally sourced from the IMF World Economic Outlook, World Bank WDI Database, BP Statistical Review of World Energy, UNCTAD statistics, ONS Pink Book and UN International Human Development Indicators. Factsheets for 185 countries and a detailed sources page can be found on the Economics Unit SharePoint (FCO users only): http://ubs.sharepoint.fco.gov.uk/sites/global/economics/econwiki/Wiki%20Pages/factsheets.aspx			
Fiscal balance (% of GDP)	-1.9	-2.0	-3.2				
Annual inflation rate (%)	16.9	13.5	13.7				
Unemployment rate (%)	21.6	20.6	16.3				



Most recent and relevant DipTels

[REDACT SECTION 27]

Diptel KHARTOUM (Sensitive)

OFFICIAL SUDAN: ECONOMY: REFORMS FUEL RESENTMENT [DIPTTEL 1605235]

07/11/2016

Summary

The Government of Sudan (GoS) announces major economic reform package to cut the budget deficit and generate foreign exchange. Similar move in 2013 led to widespread unrest and numerous deaths of protestors. Security services on high alert. Opposition leaders arrested and newspapers seized. Potential for public demonstrations and strikes. We should urge the GoS to exercise restraint. Implications for Travel Advice and the African Union Peace Process.

DETAIL

1. On 2 November, the Central Bank of Sudan announced the introduction of an 'incentive' exchange rate to allow commercial banks to trade in dollars at \$1=SDG 15.85 (the black market rate is over \$1=SDG16 compared to the official rate of \$1=SDG 6.88) designed to slow the decline in Sudan's rapidly diminishing foreign exchange reserves. The next day the Minister of Finance announced a major economic reform package including the removal of subsidies on fuel (leading to a 50% increase in the price of petrol), an increase in electricity prices (also a 50% increase), a ban on the import of certain items (meat, fish and livestock), increased 'Zakat' (Zakat in Sudan is a poorly targeted social security mechanism (DFID have begun work with the World Bank to improve this), but may offer an element of assistance for those worst affected) and a 20% increase in Government salaries. These measures are certain to fuel inflation.
1. In a speech to the ruling National Congress Party (leaked on social media), President Bashir warned of hard days ahead, as well as the potential for unrest. He claimed that the measures would not affect the poorest people: the first 400KW of electricity usage will be exempted from the increased rate and the increase in Zakat and Government salaries will compensate for the price increases.
3. The backdrop is a deteriorating economy suffering from currency depreciation, rising food prices and a chronic shortage of foreign exchange. The IMF had proposed the flotation of the exchange rate and the removal of subsidies as part

of their Staff Monitored Programme in 2014 (which the Sudanese rejected at the time). The introduction of the 'incentive rate' falls short of flotation (and has led to considerable confusion about how it will work). Removing subsidies completely without adequate preparation or effective social protection is likely to adversely affect the poor **[REDACT SECTION 27]** says.

4. The GoS are nervous about the public reaction. All police units have been put on full alert. The security services have also begun rounding up a number of high profile political figures who have publicly criticised the new policies, as well as those calling for demonstrations and protests. Several have been in detention since the weekend. Three newspapers have also been confiscated by the GoS following critical coverage. Opposition parties, along with some inside the Government coalition, have been highly critical of the new policies, calling for their suspension. They cite a lack of transparency and no corresponding reduction in Government expenditure on the security forces.
5. In September 2013, following a similar removal of fuel subsidies, widespread protests were seen in a number of cities across Sudan. The protests were met with a fierce reaction from the security services, including the use of live ammunition which led to between 80 (GoS figure) and 200 (NGO figure) civilian deaths. As a result, people are reticent to take to the streets to vent their anger. There is talk of strikes as an alternative. Much will depend on the level to which opposition parties look to capitalise on the opportunity and encourage people to demonstrate. Some have already done so. The opposition parties overplay their ability to bring large numbers of people to the street, but there remains a real possibility of protests once the measures really start to bite.

COMMENT

6. **[REDACT SECTION 27]**

[REDACT SECTION 27]

Diptel KHARTOUM (Sensitive)

OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE SUDAN: COMING IN FROM THE COLD? [DIPTTEL 1604616]

27/09/2016

Summary

Tantalising opportunity for Sudan to follow Cuba and Iran in shedding sanctions before the end of the Obama term. US roadmap specifies four main conditions, including ending conflict in Darfur and the Two Areas. Visit by [REDACT SECTION 40] reveals deep mistrust of American promises but also desire for UK help.

US-Sudan relations

1. In June, the US and Sudan agreed on a roadmap detailing reforms in four main policy areas: deliver these, the Sudanese were told, and President Obama will suspend economic sanctions before he leaves office. The four conditions chime with our interests: cease internal conflict, allow full humanitarian access across Sudan, cooperate for peace in South Sudan [REDACT SECTION 24]
2. Despite the huge incentive (sanctions are crippling economic activity), the Government of Sudan (GoS) are stalling in two of the four areas. They have blocked African Union-led efforts for a cessation of hostilities in the Two Areas (South Kordofan and Blue Nile). The SPLM-N rebels insist on a small portion of aid being allowed to come over the border from Ethiopia, which GoS view as a smokescreen for importing weapons. In fact, the rebel demand is merely a face-saver and the Ethiopians have agreed that Sudanese customs may verify the packages inside Ethiopia before delivery. Yet despite heavy international pressure, including from the UK, GoS have not budged.
3. GoS have also [REDACT SECTION 27] by sheltering the South Sudanese opposition leader Riek Machar, [REDACT SECTION 27] on medical grounds. But he continues political activities and on 25 September issued a belligerent statement from Khartoum. In addition, in early August, Sudanese security locked up 15 activists in Darfur who'd had the temerity to speak to the US Special Envoy.

4. But there's plenty of life in the roadmap: last week the State Department publicly welcomed Sudanese CT cooperation and hosted a sanctions briefing for domestic and foreign banks to avoid over-compliance. The US Special Envoy met the key Sudanese players in the margins of UNGA for a fourth monthly stock-take.

UK phased engagement

5. Ministers agreed to enhance UK-Sudan relations through a 'phased engagement' policy earlier this year as the most effective way of persuading the Sudanese regime to shun pariahdom. That requires presenting the UK as an active, nimble player whose policies are calibrated to recognise changes in GoS behaviour.
6. Phased engagement is making early progress: on migration, GoS is cooperating with post and the **[REDACT SECTION 23]** on tackling people-smuggling; on conflict, GoS has openly started acknowledging the UK as a helpful player in the peace process after we coordinated substantial international pressure on the rebel groups to sign the AU Roadmap for Peace; and on development, GoS views positively DFID's efforts to channel donor opinion towards doing more early recovery and development. Visas and permits that used to take months are being processed almost instantly.
7. In his first visit to Khartoum on 19-21 September, the new **[REDACT SECTION 40]** urged the Government to demonstrate flexibility and strategic vision to achieve a cessation of hostilities, essential for the US deal. **[REDACT SECTION 40]** reminded them the American roadmap was a rare, time-limited offer: it would not be available under a new US administration for many years, if at all.
8. **[REDACT SECTION 27]** As a Troika ally (along with Norway), **[REDACT SECTION 27]** MFA State Minister Ismail and Presidential Advisor Al Mahdi both told **[REDACT SECTION 40]** the UK must lean on the US to lift sanctions, something I hear frequently from Sudanese across the board. **[REDACT SECTION 27]**
9. Equally, **[REDACT SECTION 27]**. Our phased engagement with Sudan is broader and covers conflict, human rights, illegal migration, extremism, development and regional issues, particularly South Sudan.

COMMENT

10. **[REDACT SECTION 27]**