

April 12, 2005

Mr. Michael Travaglini
Board Administrator
Massachusetts Pension Reserves Investment Management Board
84 State Street, Suite 250
Boston, MA 02109

Dear Mr. Travaglini:

I am writing to urge you to review your investment portfolio and to divest from companies doing business in Sudan. The government of Sudan and its armed militia, the Janjaweed, continue their campaign against the people of Darfur. At least 300,000 people have already died and millions have been driven from their homes. Humanitarian relief agencies estimate that two million people are displaced within Sudan or have fled to neighboring Chad.

Almost 8 months ago, Congress and President Bush officially recognized the realities of what is happening in Sudan and called the atrocities occurring in Darfur by its correct name, **genocide**. And it is getting worse.

Each month, 10,000 people are dying and, as the rainy season approaches, that number could increase to 100,000 per month. The United States and other nations have imposed sanctions on Sudan but, thus far, these sanctions have done nothing to restrain Khartoum and its proxies. Sudan can ignore our condemnation in part because many entities are still investing in companies with ties to Sudan. I urge you to do your part in depriving this regime of the funds they use to terrorize and slaughter the people of Darfur. United States public pension funds have \$91 billion in equity invested in companies doing business in Sudan. Some of the major stocks are: Siemens AG, Alcatel SA, ABB Ltd, Tatneft, and PetroChina. Recently, Harvard University made a historic decision and announced that it was selling its shares of PetroChina because of that company's ties to the Sudanese government. If your investment review reveals companies with similar ties, I urge you to divest immediately.

Congress has appropriated funds to provide humanitarian relief and to support the African Union forces on the ground, but the slaughter in Sudan continues unabated. I hope you will join the fight to stop the genocide by eliminating any investments you have in these companies as quickly as possible.

Thank you again for your attention to this matter. If my staff or I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress