

**Embassy of the  
Republic of the Sudan**

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



سفارة  
مهورية السودان  
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**Statement by the Undersecretary of Sudan's Foreign Ministry**

Upon his return to Khartoum after leading a delegation to the second round of the Strategic Dialogue between the Republic of the Sudan and the UK. H.E. Abd Elghani Elnaim, Undersecretary of the Sudanese Foreign Ministry, made a press statement. He said that the Strategic Dialogue round in London (10-11 October) was very successful. The deliberations were both substantive and frank. Agreement was reached to follow up pending issues in the third round in Khartoum. Asked by a journalist from AlYoum AlTaly newspaper about the allegations that the army has used chemical weapons in Jebel Marra, H.E. replied that the matter was indeed raised during his visit. "We have explained that the allegations were baseless". Mr Herve Lasdous (UN Undersecretary for Peacekeeping) has said that there is "no evidence of Chemical weapons" in Darfur. The Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) of which the Sudan is a member, has not supported these allegations. UNAMID in its October statement said "in spite of the almost 20,000 UNAMID personnel on the ground in Darfur, none of them have seen any Darfuri with the impact of the use of chemical weapons as described by Amnesty International's report.

Not one displaced person meeting such description has shown up at any UNAMID Team Site clinics where they would have naturally gone for help.

Amnesty International claimed to have made calls into Jebel Marra but did not for once call any of the almost 20,000 UN personnel in Darfur, including in places like Sortony and Nertiti within a stone throw from the places where chemical weapons were reported to have been used.

Not one among the leadership of the Armed Movements in Darfur discussed use of chemical weapons with me or my Deputy during several meetings spanning January, April, May, July, August and September this year".

The Undersecretary told the media that, President Bashir has toured all five Darfur states in April, together with journalists from all over the world, which shows that we have nothing to hide.

When the Doha Document Process was concluded last September, celebrations in Darfur were witnessed by the President who hosted Heads of Government of Chad, Central African Republic and the generous Emir of Qatar whose country played a central role in Darfur's peace.

Journalists and diplomats, including the US envoy have visited Darfur.

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H.E. Abd Elghani ElNaim reminded Sudanese journalists of what happened in 1999 - 2000 when SPLA rebels, supported by Norwegian Evangelical group accused the Sudanese army of using chemical weapons. Most media outlets repeated the allegations. Baroness Cox raised the matter at the British House of Lords. She provided samples of soil as proof. The UK government replied to her on 5th June 2000.

The Ministry of Defence) wrote that the samples were analysed and others were also analysed in the U.S. The result: "we must conclude that there is no evidence to substantiate the allegations that chemical weapons were used in these incidents in the Sudan". The biased newspapers that propagated the allegations never apologised to their readers or published a correction. H.E. added that the new allegations are a sequel to the odd ones. The purpose of these desperate allegations is to sabotage the Sudan's improving relations with the UK, the EU and the international community.