Mr. Speaker, let me

commend our leaders in the Committee

on International Relations, Chairman

HYDE and Ranking Member LANTOS, for

their tireless work in bringing this historic

resolution declaring genocide in

Darfur, Sudan to the floor. Many people

have held back on using the word

‘‘genocide’’ out of fear that it is really

a declaration that they try to step

around, but I really am so proud that

this House of Representatives is standing

up and calling it like it is. As my

colleague from Colorado said, it is

genocide. Let me just say that this

would have been impossible without

the Tancredos and the Wolfs and the

Royces on the other side and fighters

on our side such as the gentlewoman

from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) and all

of the members of the Congressional

Black Caucus and our dean, the gentleman

from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS).

This is something that we did not do

10 years ago when genocide was happening

in Rwanda. We looked the other

way. But we are not going to look the

other way in 2004. We must also impress

upon the world community, the

AU, the EU, the Islamic Front, all of

the groups, that they must come together

and that they must declare and

work towards having civility return to

Sudan.

But I want to remind the Congress

that although we need to act now in

Darfur, that once the crisis is under

control, we cannot rest on our laurels

and fool ourselves that this type of

thing will not happen again. Let me

just remind the Speaker that this same

government gave sanctuary to Osama

bin Laden from 1991 to 1996, allowing

him to build his terror network worldwide.

In fact, I would argue that al

Qaeda was conceived and created in

Sudan in the 1990s. Other terrorist acts

are also linked to the current officials

still sitting in Sudan that have not

even been questioned.

It is important to recall that the government

of Sudan’s involvement in

international terrorism goes back a

decade. The Sudanese government was

directly involved in the World Trade

Center bombing in 1993. The mastermind

of the 1993 bombing, Sheikh

Abdel Rahman, who was sentenced to

life in 1995, received his visa from the

same Khartoum government. He was a

guest of senior Sudanese government

officials several weeks before that happened

at that time. Of the 15 men indicted

for this terror act, five were Sudanese

nationalists. These Sudanese

nationalists had strong ties with Sudanese

diplomats stationed right here in

New York at the Sudan Embassy at the

United Nations.

In 1995, members of an Egyptian terrorist

group tried to assassinate President

Hosni Mubarak of Egypt when he

was attending a meeting in Ethiopia at

the OAU summit. The 11-man assassination

team had been given safe

haven in Sudan to prepare for the mission

to kill the Egyptian president.

The weapons used in the assassination

attempt were reportedly flown into

Ethiopia on Sudan Airways. The passports

used by the assassins were also

prepared in Khartoum, according to a

United Nations report.

The point of listing all of this is to

show a pattern. This is a regime that

does not care about human lives and to

think that they will stop at Darfur, we

are fooling ourselves. We must begin to

get serious about our dealings with the

government of Sudan. No more coddling

them because they have oil or because

they have links to Islamic countries,

no more allowing the African

Union to give excuses, no more allowing

the EU saying, What are we doing

here?

We must act now. We must continue

the pressure. I urge my colleagues to

support H. Con. Res. 467, declaring

genocide in Darfur.