Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Let me thank you again for your leadership and for your commitment

to working in a bipartisan way to make sure that our country

continues to recognize the horrific genocide taking place in Darfur.

I want to just say to our Ranking Member, Mr. Lantos, how remarkable

your leadership has been. You have led with your intellect,

your heart and with your experiences as a Holocaust survivor;

and I want to thank you for bringing that rich experience to this

on behalf of ending the genocide in the Darfurian people.

To Mr. Payne, I continue to say that it has been you who has

been the lone voice in the wilderness; and over the last 4 years I

have just seen how Congressman Payne oftentimes alone has just

moved forward day-by-day making sure this Committee and this

country recognize that this is a genocide that is taking the lives of

hundreds of thousands of people.

So we are here today, at this point, because of these great leaders

who have forced our country to stand up and be counted.

I visited the refugee camps in Darfur on two occasions with a bipartisan

delegation. Let me tell you, what we saw changed our

lives forever.

I think that one of the reasons why we believe that we have to

turn the heat up on the Sudanese Government is that we can’t see

another genocide taking place like Rwanda and we continue to say,

‘‘Not on our watch’’; and for that reason Mr. Lantos, myself, Mr.

Payne, many will continue to be arrested. Members of the Congressional

Black Caucus believe it is time to stand up and be counted.

I thank the witnesses for being here, for your daily work to end

the genocide. Let’s hope that the door that has been opened with

this peace agreement will open widely and will solidify and move

forward the kinds of requirements that we need to stop the killing

so people can go home and regain their lives.

Thank you very much.

Thank you very much. Let me say, it is good to see you

again, Ambassador Frazer, and also you, Mr. Pierson. Thank you

for being here and for your testimony, but most importantly, for

your work. You both are pivotal points in this tragedy, and it is a

defining moment for our country, for the people of Darfur, and you

certainly are critical and key in what you are doing to make sure

this ends and ends quickly.

I wanted to ask you a couple of questions. First to Ambassador

Frazer, prior to our last visit to Darfur, Secretary Rice was here,

and I asked her, as she was before this Committee, because we

hadn’t heard for a while, for a reaffirmation of our statement of

policy that genocide was taking place. And, of course, she restated

that very clearly.

And when we arrived in Sudan, of course that was in the press

and was the talk of the town, for the most part.

And I wanted to ask you with regard to pressure from the international

community, the public protest, the agitation, the civil disobedience,

the work that young people in the faith community are

doing throughout our country, what kind of pressure and leverage

does that have on the Khartoum Government? And what do you

think in terms of how this works?

I did an interview yesterday, and it was interesting. Someone

called and asked me, what does this have to do with my constituents

in Oakland? So I am wondering if you see this as part of the

overall strategy as necessary to end this genocide. Ambassador

Frazer, let me just ask you that.

And, Mr. Pierson, I just wanted to ask you about the food, the

40,000 metric tons of food. In terms of cost of shipping it there

versus, say, perhaps buying it on the continent, buying the food locally,

could that be a more effective and efficient and expeditious

way to get the food to the people who are really, quite frankly,

starving?

And finally, let me ask you, just in terms of the trauma and the

mental health needs, of course when we were there, we saw it over

and over and over again, the fact that people will need post-traumatic

treatment when they return home. I mean, this has been so

devastating for them; and I am wondering what kind of efforts by

NGOs are being put in place, or are in place, to deal with the trauma

associated with genocide. Thank you very much.

Ambassador Frazer.

Thank you. Let me just follow up with that very quickly

with regard to divestments, because of course now students, Congressman

Payne, myself, others are really pushing in terms of divestment

of pension funds from companies doing business in the

Sudan; and we are really going to try to put the squeeze on the

Sudanese Government in terms of their pocketbook until this ends.

May Mr. Pierson respond very quickly?