The Committee will come to order. Pursuant to

notice, I call up the bill, H.R. 3127, The Darfur Peace and Accountability

Act, for purposes of markup and move its favorable recommendation

to the House. Without objection, the bill will be considered

as read, and the amendment in the nature of a substitute,

which all of the Members have before them, will be considered as

read and adopted.

Ladies and gentleman, despite eight rounds of peace talks, the deployment more

than to 6,000 African Union troops and monitors, the passage of six United Nations

Security Council Resolutions, and declarations of genocide by the United States

Congress and the Administration of President Bush, the crisis in the Darfur region

of western Sudan continues.

No one knows precisely how many Darfurians have perished as a result of the

genocide, but estimates range from 180,000 to 400,000, and as many as 10,000 people

continue to die each month. Over two million Dafurians have been forced from

their homes, entire villages have been looted and destroyed, and countless men,

women and children have been victims of abduction, torture, and rape.

It is against this backdrop that the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, H.R.

3127, was introduced last June. As introduced, the ‘‘DPAA’’ attempts to expand

upon the existing Comprehensive Peace in Sudan Act of 2004 (the CPSA), by authorizing

specific measures to promote peace and accountability in Darfur.

First, H.R. 3127 confers upon the President, notwithstanding any other provision

of law, the authority to provide assistance to reinforce the deployment and operations

of an expanded African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS), with the mandate,

size, strength and capacity to protect civilians and humanitarian operations and stabilize

Darfur. Further, the bill calls on the international community, including the

UN, the European Union (EU), and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO),

to immediately mobilize political, military and financial resources to support the expansion

of the African Mission in Sudan, and directs the U.S. Permanent Representative

to NATO to advocate for NATO reinforcement of such an expanded African

Union mission in keeping with current Administration policy.

Next, the bill amends the Comprehensive Peace in Sudan Act to impose targeted

sanctions against individual perpetrators of genocide, war crimes, or crimes against

humanity in Darfur, rather than sanctioning the new Government of National Unity

in general.

H.R. 3127 also prohibits the provision of non-humanitarian U.S. assistance to nations

violating the military and arms embargo imposed pursuant to UN Security

Council resolutions 1556 and 1591, calls for the suspension of Sudan’s membership

in the United Nations, and encourages President Bush to deny entry at U.S. ports

to certain Sudanese cargo ships or oil tankers if the Government of Sudan fails to

take specified measures in Darfur.

Though the core principles of the bill, as introduced, remain unchanged, the substitute

amendment before you reflects the outcome of intense bipartisan, bicameral

negotiations over the past eight months. The substitute amendment includes the following

notable changes:

It adds a new Section 5(c) to encourage the imposition of targeted sanctions

against Janjaweed commanders and coordinators;

It modifies Section 6(c) with regard to the denial of entry at U.S. ports to Sudanese

cargo ships and oil tankers to create an exception for vessels involved

in an internationally-recognized demobilization program or the shipment of

non-lethal assistance necessary for implementation of the Comprehensive

Peace Agreement;

It adds a new Section 7(4) to call for the extension of the military embargo

established pursuant to UN Security Council Resolutions 1556 (July 30, 2004)

and 1591 (March 29, 2005) to include the Government of Sudan;

It adds a new Section 8, regarding the Continuation of Restrictions, such that

restrictions imposed against Sudan pursuant to Executive Order 13067 and/

or the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Act of

2006, shall remain in effect and shall not be lifted until the President certifies

to Congress that the Government of Sudan is acting in good faith to: (1)

peacefully resolve the crisis in Darfur; (2) disarm, demobilize and demilitarize

the Janjaweed; (3) adhere to UN Security Council Resolutions; (4) negotiate

a peaceful resolution to the crisis in eastern Sudan; (5) cooperate with efforts

to disarm and deny safe haven to the Lord’s Resistance Army; and (6) fully

implement the terms of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement;

It adds a new Section 9, to amend the International Malaria Control Act (50

USC 170 note), thereby clarifying the definition of ‘‘areas outside the control

of the Government of Sudan’’ and specifying notification requirements for assistance

provided by the United States Government to Sudan pursuant to

that Act ; and

Adds a new Section 11, regarding the preemption of State laws that prohibit

investment of State pension funds in Sudan.

Again, this substitute amendment is the result of eight months of negotiation and

represents a truly bipartisan compromise. I strongly encourage your support of this

amendment and the underlying bill so that we can, at long last, get this important

piece of legislation to the House Floor and resolve any remaining differences with

the Senate.

The Chair will recognize Mr. Payne to strike

the last words.

Thank you, Mr. Payne. The Chair will recognize

two more Members for short remarks, and then we move to

the hearing on Iran. Mr. Chris Smith of New Jersey.

Without objection, so ordered.

The Chair recognizes Mr. Lantos.

Thank you, Mr. Lantos.

The Chair notes the presence of a reporting quorum, and the

question occurs on the motion to report the bill, H.R. 3127, favorably,

as amended. All of those in favor will say aye.

Opposed, nay. The ayes have it. The motion is

agreed to without objection. The staff is directed to make any technical

and conforming changes.