



Partners for Justice

The Continuing Crisis in Darfur: The United Nations Response

Discussion Forum

February 16, 2005

Speaker Bio

Omer Ismail

Mr. Ismail was born in El Fashir, Western Sudan. After graduating from Khartoum University, he worked as research assistant to Dr. Mansour Khalid, the former Minister of Foreign Affairs in Sudan. His work with international relief and development organizations continued until 1988 when he became operations manager for the United Nations' Operation Life Line, Sudan, the largest relief operation in the world at the time.

In 1989, Mr. Ismail fled Sudan for the United States after the NIF (National Islamic Front) took power. From 1992-1994, he returned to the United Nations to serve in Somalia. Back in Washington, D.C., he helped found the Sudan Democratic Forum, a think tank of Sudanese intellectuals working for advancement of democracy in Sudan. He is the spokesperson for The Darfur Union, an advocacy group and the co-founder of Darfur Peace and Development. He lives in Silver Spring, Maryland.

