



Security Council

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Letter dated 10 November 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to forward the press release issued by the investigation team of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID), which visited Tabit village on 9 November 2014 to verify the allegations of mass rape in the village. The press release reads as follows:

El Fasher, 10 November 2014. Further to our earlier press releases, on 9 November 2014, a UNAMID verification team was granted access to Tabit village in northern Darfur, following media reports of an alleged mass rape incident perpetrated against 200 women and girls in the area. The team included representatives from police, military and civilian components.

The team spent several hours touring the village and interviewing a variety of Tabit's residents, including community leaders, ordinary men and women, teachers and students, to ascertain the veracity of the media reports. Village community leaders reiterated to UNAMID that they coexisted peacefully with the local military authorities in the area. The team also interviewed the local Commander of the Sudanese Armed Forces.

None of those interviewed confirmed that any incident of rape took place in Tabit on the day of that media report. The team neither found any evidence nor received any information regarding the media allegations during the period in question.

UNAMID intends to conduct further follow-up actions on the matter, including possible further investigations and patrols, in coordination with relevant host authorities and in accordance with the status-of-forces agreement between the Government of the Sudan and UNAMID.

The press release proves beyond any doubt that the allegations were fabricated and categorically unfounded. Not only that, but the inhabitants of the village were infuriated and considered the allegations to be a flagrant attempt to tarnish their image, and they decided to launch a complaint against all those who disseminated these insulting allegations, which are contrary to their morals and to the dignity of the Sudanese citizens at large.

I would be grateful if you would circulate the present letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Rahamtalla Mohamed Osman **Elnor**
Permanent Representative

