

sexual violence committed by the Janjaweed and associated militias with the complicity and support of the National Congress Party-led faction of the Government of Sudan"; and

WHEREAS, On September 26, 2006, the United States Congress stated that "an estimated 300,000 to 400,000 people have been killed by the Government of Sudan and its Janjaweed allies since the Darfur crisis began in 2003, more than 2,000,000 people have been displaced from their homes, and more than 250,000 people from Darfur remain in refugee camps in Chad"; and

WHEREAS, The Darfur crisis represents the first time the United States Government has labeled ongoing atrocities a genocide; and

WHEREAS, The federal government has imposed sanctions against the Government of Sudan since 1997, that are monitored through the United States Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC); and

WHEREAS, According to a former chair of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), "the fact that a foreign company is doing material business with a country, government, or entity on OFAC's sanctions list is, in the SEC staff's view, substantially likely to be significant to a reasonable investor's decision about whether to invest in that company"; and

~~WHEREAS, Since 1993, the United States Secretary of State has determined that Sudan is a country the government of which has repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism, thereby restricting United States assistance, defense exports and sales, and financial and other transactions with the Government of Sudan; and~~

~~WHEREAS, A 2006 United States Congressional report states that "a company's association with sponsors of terrorism and human rights abuses, no matter how large or small, can have a materially adverse result on a public company's operations, financial condition, earnings, and stock prices, all of which can negatively affect the value of an investment"; and~~

WHEREAS, In response to the financial risk posed by investments in companies doing business with a terrorist-sponsoring state, the SEC established its Office of Global Security Risk to provide for enhanced disclosure of material information regarding such companies; and

~~WHEREAS, The current Sudan divestment movement encompasses nearly 100 university, city, state, and private pension plans; and~~