

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 180

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a United Nations Emergency Peace Service capable of intervening in the early stages of a humanitarian crisis could save millions of lives, billions of dollars, and is in the interests of the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 17, 2005

Mr. WYNN (for himself, Mr. LEACH, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a United Nations Emergency Peace Service capable of intervening in the early stages of a humanitarian crisis could save millions of lives, billions of dollars, and is in the interests of the United States.

Whereas genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity have occurred repeatedly in Rwanda, Cambodia, the former Yugoslavia, East Timor, Sierra Leone, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, and elsewhere;

Whereas the House of Representatives has found that genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity are occurring in the Darfur region of Sudan;

Whereas there is a growing consensus that when countries are unable or unwilling to prevent genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity, the international community has both a right and an obligation to intervene;

Whereas failed and failing states provide breeding grounds for terrorism, crime, trafficking, humanitarian catastrophes, and other threats to the United States;

Whereas preventing failed and failing states is in the interests of the United States;

Whereas numerous studies have shown that early intervention in humanitarian crises could save millions of lives and billions of dollars;

Whereas the international community spent approximately \$200,000,000,000 on conflict management during the 1990s;

Whereas of that amount approximately \$130,000,000,000 could have been saved through a more effective preventive approach to conflict management;

Whereas the United Nations does not have a rapid deployment capacity to intervene to avert humanitarian catastrophes;

Whereas there is a need for a United Nations Emergency Peace Service (UNEPS) that could be rapidly deployed during the early stages of a humanitarian crisis to save lives;

Whereas UNEPS would complement but not replace existing peace operations of the United Nations, regional organizations, and national governments; and

Whereas UNEPS could be created for a start-up cost of \$2,000,000,000 and annual costs of less than \$1,000,000,000: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that—

3 (1) the United States should use its voice and
4 vote at the United Nations to facilitate and support
5 the creation of a United Nations Emergency Peace
6 Service (UNEPS); and

7 (2) the UNEPS should—

8 (A) be a permanent entity to be based at
9 designated sites of the United Nations, include
10 mobile field headquarters, and be able to act
11 immediately to address an emerging humani-
12 tarian crisis;

13 (B) be comprised of individuals who are re-
14 cruited from among United Nations member
15 nations and who are carefully selected, expertly
16 trained, and coherently organized;

17 (C) be a dedicated service with a wide
18 range of professional skills within a single com-
19 mand structure, prepared to conduct multiple
20 functions in diverse United Nations operations;
21 and

- 1 (D) be able to provide an integrated serv-
- 2 ice encompassing 10,000 to 15,000 civilian, po-
- 3 lice, judicial, military, and relief professionals.

