

Bio of Francis Deng:

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced on 29 May 2007 the appointment of Mr. Francis Deng of Sudan as the new Special Adviser for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities, succeeding Mr. Juan Mendez of Argentina. Mr. Deng took up his position on 1 August 2007.

Mr. Deng was a Director of the Sudan Peace Support Project based at the United States Institute of Peace. He was also a Wilhelm Fellow at the Center for International Studies of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and a Research Professor of International Politics, Law and Society at Johns Hopkins University Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies. Before joining MIT, Mr. Deng was a Distinguished Visiting Scholar at the John Kluge Center of the Library of Congress.

Mr. Deng served as Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on Internally Displaced Persons from 1992 to 2004, and from 2002 to 2003 was also a Senior Fellow at the U.S. Institute of Peace. Mr. Deng served as Human Rights Officer in the UN secretariat from 1967 to 1972 and as the Ambassador of Sudan to Canada, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden and the United States. He also served as Sudans Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. After leaving his countrys service, he was appointed the first Rockefeller Brothers Fund Distinguished Fellow. He was at the Woodrow Wilson International Center first as a Guest Scholar and then as a Senior Research Associate, after which he joined The Brookings Institution as a Senior Fellow, where he founded and directed the Africa Project for 12 years. He was then appointed Distinguished Professor at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York before joining Johns Hopkins University.

Among his numerous awards in his country and abroad, Mr. Deng is co-recipient with Roberta Cohen of the 2005 Grawemeyer Award for 'Ideas Improving World Order' and the 2007 Merage Foundation American Dream Leadership Award. In 2000, Mr. Deng also received the Rome Prize for Peace and Humanitarian Action.

Mr. Deng holds an LL.B from Khartoum University and an LL.M and a J.S.D. from Yale University and has authored and edited over 30 books in the fields of law, conflict resolution, internal displacement, human rights, anthropology, folklore, history and politics and has also written two novels on the theme of the crisis of national identity in the Sudan.

In a continuing effort to strengthen the UNs role in this area, the Secretary-General has asked Mr. Deng to devote full time to this position. In response to an upsurge in violence in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, Mr. Deng visited Eastern DRC, Uganda and Rwanda in late-November 2008 and issued a [statement](#) on his findings of massive violations of human rights and international humanitarian law on the basis of ethnicity and national origin. The OSAPG submitted a report to the Secretary-General, but despite the grave findings its recommendations were not made public.

In early March 2009, the High Commissioner for Human Rights [reported](#) to the Human Rights Council on the activities of the Special Adviser for the Prevention of Genocide.