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**UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SUDAN**  
**HOLDS TALKS WITH AMBASSADOR KOFFI ESAW**

The Special Representative of the UN Secretary General to the Sudan, Mr. Jan Pronk, today discussed the situation in Darfur with Ambassador Koffi Esaw, the representative of the Republic of Togo to the African Union, which holds the current chairmanship of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union.

Among other things, they discussed humanitarian concerns, security issues, ceasefire violations and the outcome of the on-going Nigerian-led political dialogue in Abuja in relation to safeguarding the security of the internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Darfur, Western Sudan. The parties stressed the need for the AU to continue to play a leading role, in the process and supported by the United Nations and other partners.

The interactive meeting was also attended by H.E. Mr. Olusegun Akinsanya, representing the current Chairperson of the Assembly of the African Union and General Festus Oknonkwo, the Chairperson of the AU Ceasefire Commission in Darfur, as well as senior officials from the AU Commission and the United Nations System.

**Addis Ababa, September 22, 2004**