

Indonesia Diplomatic Efforts in the Conflict in Darfur Sudan



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ABSTRACT: This research aims to explain Indonesia's diplomatic efforts in the conflict in Darfur Sudan where various conflicts have emerged that attract the attention of countries in the world including the United Nations which gave birth to a peace mission. Apart from the conflict between rebel groups and the Sudanese government, there are also conflicts between armed groups among different ethnic groups, creating an unstable and unsafe environment. The benefits of this research are to add insight into the study of international relations, especially Indonesia's diplomacy efforts in Darfur. Furthermore, this research is also expected to complement the development of research that has been done before. This research is qualitative in nature using secondary data methods. This research was also conducted to find out the role of Indonesian diplomacy in various conflicts that occurred in DARFUR.

KEYWORDS: Diplomacy, Conflict, United Nations

INTRODUCTION

Darfur is a region in the western part of Sudan, a country in Northeast Africa. The name "Darfur" comes from the Arabic word for "Land of Feathers". The region is known for experiencing large-scale conflicts involving insurgencies, local militias, and a harsh response from the Sudanese government. The conflict has had a serious humanitarian impact. Darfur came to the world's attention in 2003 when the ethnic conflict reached its peak, causing the deaths of 300,000 people.

Conflict resolution efforts were made by the UN to stop the violence in Darfur. In 2011, a peace agreement was reached between the Sudanese government and a rebel group called SLMA. However, the Darfur region still experienced conflict between ethnic Africans and Arabs after the agreement. The complexity of resolving the conflict shows the obstacles to resolution.

The main factor in the outbreak of civil war in Darfur involves survival in a conflict-ridden region of Africa. In addition, the African Union responded to the conflict in Darfur because Darfur is a member of the African Union. Other international organizations, such as the United Nations and the European Union, also encouraged the African Union to address the problems in Darfur. In 2004, Sudanese President Omar Al Bashir approved the presence of an African Union mission called the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS). This mission, although initially with a limited number of soldiers, was eventually increased to 7,000 soldiers in 2005.

AMIS was tasked with monitoring the ceasefire agreement and facilitating humanitarian aid. However, the mission was criticized for its limited focus on monitoring ceasefire violations rather than protecting citizens. The African Union then handed AMIS over to the UN, noting that the UN had greater experience and capacity. In 2005, the UN Security Council established the United Nation Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) with the mandate of supporting the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and coordinating humanitarian assistance in Darfur. The Sudanese government and rebel groups signed the Darfur Peace Agreement in 2006. The UN and the African Union joined the peacekeeping operation to resolve the conflict in Darfur, although obstacles such as limited access and attacks on UNMIS forces remain a challenge.

RESEARCH METHOD

Based on the background that has been described in this study, researchers used qualitative research. According to John Cresswell, qualitative research is defined as a way to explore and understand the meaning given by an individual or group of people who come from social or individual problems and in this research process involves appropriate procedures and questions. In qualitative research, data analysis is carried out inductively, namely building themes from specific themes to general themes and then researchers make interpretations of the data that has been obtained.

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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Conflict and Indonesia's Diplomacy Efforts

The ongoing conflict in UNAMID (United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur) creates significant challenges in maintaining peace and security in the Darfur region. UNAMID is faced with complex dynamics involving various parties, including armed groups, the Sudanese government, and local communities. Indonesia, as a country involved in this peace mission, has been actively involved in diplomatic efforts to defuse conflicts and find sustainable solutions.

Indonesia's diplomatic efforts in the context of the UNAMID conflict include a number of approaches. First, through active participation in international diplomatic forums, such as the UN and the African Union, Indonesia seeks to mobilize international support to support peace efforts in Darfur. This multilateral diplomacy plays a key role in creating global understanding and supporting concrete measures to address the sources of conflict.

Second, Indonesia also engages in bilateral diplomacy with the Sudanese government and the armed groups involved in the conflict. This direct dialog aims to understand the perspectives and interests of each party and devise concrete steps to reduce tensions and build trust.

In addition, Indonesia can facilitate dialogue between the parties involved, acting as a neutral mediator that tries to bridge the gap between different interests. This approach reflects Indonesia's commitment to serve as a regional and global peace leader.

In addition to diplomacy, Indonesia can also mobilize support for conflict resolution through humanitarian assistance and reconstruction. Providing humanitarian assistance to conflict-affected communities can help build trust and support long-term peace processes. Through these diplomatic efforts, Indonesia seeks to play a constructive role in responding to the conflict in UNAMID and help create conditions that support peace and stability in Darfur.

Indonesia's role in supporting diplomacy efforts in UNAMID (United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur) covers several aspects involving active participation in international forums, bilateral dialog, and humanitarian efforts. The following are some examples of diplomacy efforts that Indonesia has made related to the conflict in UNAMID:

Participation in International Forums plays a pivotal role in Indonesia's diplomatic endeavors, with a notable focus on active engagement in prominent international platforms such as the United Nations (UN) and the African Union (AU). These forums serve as critical arenas where global leaders converge to deliberate upon pressing peace and security matters, with a specific emphasis on addressing the intricate challenges prevalent in regions like Darfur. In line with its commitment to fostering global harmony, Indonesia leverages these platforms to articulate its stance on the situation in Darfur, actively engaging in discussions, proposing diplomatic solutions, and advocating for international collaboration in resolving the conflicts within UNAMID.

Through its sustained and proactive involvement in international forums, Indonesia endeavors to achieve broader objectives beyond immediate conflict resolution. The nation aspires to shape a consensus among the international community, generating a unified and concerted effort to support peace initiatives in UNAMID. By promoting dialogue and cooperation on the international stage, Indonesia seeks to build a comprehensive framework for sustainable peace, acknowledging that collective action is paramount in addressing multifaceted challenges like those faced in Darfur.

Moreover, Indonesia's participation in these forums serves as a testament to its role as a responsible global actor, actively contributing to the development of diplomatic strategies and frameworks that transcend regional boundaries. By fostering international collaboration, Indonesia underscores its dedication to upholding principles of justice, equality, and peace, aspiring not only to address immediate crises but also to establish a foundation for enduring stability and prosperity in conflict-ridden regions worldwide.

Strengthening the Role as a Peace Leader goes hand in hand with Indonesia's unwavering dedication to upholding global peace and security. Positioned as a regional leader and a dynamic participant in UN Peacekeeping Missions, Indonesia persistently reinforces its reputation as a central and influential actor in the collective pursuit of international peace. This multifaceted commitment extends beyond rhetoric, encompassing tangible actions such as the deployment of highly trained personnel, allocation of crucial resources, and a steadfast dedication to supporting and enhancing the effectiveness of peace operations, especially in conflict-ridden regions like Darfur.

In affirming its role as a peace leader, Indonesia not only contributes to the numerical strength of peacekeeping forces but also brings to the table a wealth of experience and expertise. The nation actively engages in capacity-building initiatives, sharing its knowledge in conflict resolution, peacebuilding, and humanitarian assistance. Through these collaborative efforts, Indonesia aspires not only to address the immediate challenges faced by peacekeeping missions but also to empower local communities, fostering resilience and sustainable peace in the long run.

Furthermore, Indonesia's commitment to peace is not confined solely to its contributions within the operational realm. The nation consistently advocates for diplomatic solutions, encouraging dialogue and cooperation among international partners. By championing the values of diplomacy and conflict resolution, Indonesia endeavors to set an example for other nations, emphasizing the importance of collaborative efforts in building a more stable and secure world.

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In essence, Indonesia's proactive role as a peace leader is characterized by a holistic approach that transcends conventional military contributions. Through a combination of tangible support, diplomatic engagement, and capacity building, Indonesia stands as a beacon of peace and stability, exemplifying its dedication to fostering a harmonious global community.

Bilateral Dialogue has emerged as a pivotal diplomatic channel for Indonesia, as the nation has proactively initiated and fostered a nuanced and constructive bilateral dialogue with both the Sudanese government and the various parties intricately involved in the conflict. This sustained diplomatic engagement reflects Indonesia's commitment to comprehensively addressing the root causes of the conflict in Darfur. Within the framework of this bilateral dialogue, Indonesia conscientiously endeavors to delve into the nuanced perspectives of each party involved, employing a diplomatic finesse that allows for a nuanced understanding of their grievances, aspirations, and concerns.

By cultivating an open and transparent exchange of ideas, Indonesia strives to build bridges of understanding and empathy among the stakeholders in the conflict. The bilateral dialogue serves as a forum where Indonesia actively listens to the diverse narratives, histories, and aspirations of the Sudanese government and the conflicting parties. Through this process, Indonesia aims to identify common ground, foster mutual understanding, and create an environment conducive to the exploration of sustainable solutions.

In the spirit of fostering lasting peace, Indonesia collaboratively works towards designing and implementing concrete steps that go beyond immediate conflict resolution. The nation recognizes the importance of addressing the deeper socio-political, economic, and cultural factors that contribute to tensions. This commitment is reflected in Indonesia's proactive engagement with all parties involved, leveraging its diplomatic prowess to navigate through the complexities of the conflict and propose innovative solutions that align with the broader goal of establishing enduring peace in Darfur.

In summary, Indonesia's Bilateral Dialogue approach transcends mere diplomatic discourse, embodying a commitment to fostering a deeper understanding among conflicting parties and actively contributing to the creation of a roadmap for sustainable peace in Darfur.

Role as a Neutral Mediator underscores Indonesia's pivotal position as a diplomatic intermediary committed to bridging the gap and fostering understanding among the diverse parties embroiled in the conflict. Renowned for its impartiality and esteemed standing in international diplomacy, Indonesia possesses the unique potential to assume the role of a neutral facilitator, dedicated to navigating the intricate dynamics of the conflict in Darfur. Leveraging its diplomatic finesse, Indonesia aims to establish an environment conducive to constructive dialogue, where conflicting parties can articulate their grievances, concerns, and aspirations, paving the way for the exploration of common ground.

As a country with a proven track record in maintaining neutrality and mediating conflicts, Indonesia is poised to play a pivotal role in facilitating discussions that transcend adversarial postures. Through its respected and recognized status, Indonesia seeks to create a platform for inclusive dialogue, ensuring that the voices of all parties are heard and considered in the pursuit of a comprehensive and sustainable resolution to the conflict.

Furthermore, Indonesia's neutral mediation approach extends beyond merely facilitating discussions; it involves actively engaging with the conflicting parties to identify potential areas of agreement and explore innovative solutions. By fostering an atmosphere of trust and open communication, Indonesia endeavors to guide the parties toward mutually beneficial outcomes, thereby contributing to the establishment of a foundation for lasting peace in Darfur.

In essence, Indonesia's role as a Neutral Mediator is characterized by a commitment to cultivating an environment of trust, understanding, and cooperation among the conflicting parties. Through its diplomatic influence, Indonesia aspires not only to mediate the existing conflict but also to foster a culture of ongoing dialogue and collaboration, essential elements for the sustained peace and stability of the region.

Humanitarian Aid and Reconstruction constitute integral facets of Indonesia's multifaceted approach to addressing the repercussions of the conflict in Darfur. Beyond its diplomatic endeavors, Indonesia recognizes the pressing need for immediate and tangible assistance to alleviate the suffering of communities affected by the conflict. In this vein, Indonesia stands ready to extend its support through a comprehensive humanitarian aid program, encompassing not only the distribution of essential food supplies but also the provision of crucial medical treatment to those in need.

Understanding that the impact of conflict extends beyond the immediate physical and psychological toll on individuals, Indonesia's commitment extends to the reconstruction of damaged infrastructure. By actively engaging in the restoration of essential facilities, such as schools, hospitals, and transportation networks, Indonesia endeavors to contribute to the revitalization of communities that have endured the devastating effects of the conflict. This holistic approach acknowledges the interconnectedness of humanitarian aid and reconstruction in laying the groundwork for a sustainable peace process.

Moreover, Indonesia's involvement in humanitarian efforts is guided by a long-term vision, recognizing that enduring peace requires more than short-term relief. By addressing the immediate needs of affected populations, Indonesia seeks to create a foundation for socio-economic stability, resilience, and self-sufficiency. This forward-thinking approach aligns with the broader goal of not only alleviating the immediate consequences of the conflict but also fostering conditions conducive to the sustained well-being and prosperity of the communities in Darfur.

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In summary, Indonesia's commitment to Humanitarian Aid and Reconstruction goes beyond immediate relief efforts, reflecting a comprehensive strategy to contribute to the long-term peace process in Darfur. Through its active involvement in rebuilding communities and supporting essential services, Indonesia aims to leave a lasting positive impact, fostering a sense of hope, resilience, and stability in the aftermath of conflict.

By engaging in various levels of diplomacy, Indonesia strategically positions itself as a proactive force in the endeavor to cultivate conditions conducive to sustainable peace and stability in the conflict-ridden UNAMID area. This multifaceted diplomatic engagement encompasses not only high-level discussions within international forums but also direct, hands-on involvement in bilateral dialogues, regional initiatives, and on-the-ground negotiations. Through this comprehensive approach, Indonesia aims to address the intricate layers of the conflict, recognizing the need for nuanced solutions that take into account the diverse perspectives and concerns of all involved parties.

Furthermore, Indonesia's commitment to fostering peace and stability in the UNAMID conflict area transcends traditional diplomatic endeavors. The nation actively pursues collaborative efforts, involving the sharing of best practices and lessons learned from its own experiences in conflict resolution. By imparting valuable insights and expertise, Indonesia contributes to the development of innovative strategies that can be tailored to the specific dynamics of the UNAMID conflict, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of peacebuilding initiatives.

This sustained diplomatic effort reflects Indonesia's steadfast commitment to assuming an active role in maintaining global peace and security. By acknowledging the interconnectedness of regional conflicts with the broader international landscape, Indonesia underscores the importance of collective action and collaboration in addressing complex challenges. Through its diplomatic endeavors, Indonesia not only seeks to mediate immediate conflicts but also strives to lay the groundwork for a resilient and harmonious global community, where nations collaborate for the greater good, embodying the principles of justice, equality, and lasting peace.

CONCLUSIONS

The conflict at UNAMID (United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur) reflects the complexity of political and security dynamics in the Darfur region. Involving various parties, including armed groups, the Sudanese government, and local communities, the conflict poses a serious challenge in maintaining peace and stability.

Indonesia, as an active participant in this peace mission, has made various diplomatic efforts. Participation in international forums, bilateral dialogues, the role as a neutral mediator, and humanitarian assistance are some of the forms of Indonesia's contribution to ease tensions and find sustainable solutions.

In conclusion, conflict management in UNAMID demands a comprehensive and holistic approach that involves a number of important elements, such as careful political diplomacy, intensive dialog efforts between the parties involved, and the provision of sustainable humanitarian assistance. The complexity of conflict dynamics requires an approach that not only focuses on political aspects, but also explores potential solutions through active cooperation in the development and implementation of humanitarian initiatives that have a direct impact on affected communities.

The efforts made by Indonesia reflect not only the spirit of diplomacy, but also a real commitment to maintaining peace globally. By being part of international efforts, Indonesia affirms its strategic role in supporting stability and justice at the world level. Through this commitment, Indonesia seeks to make a positive contribution that is not only limited to efforts to resolve conflicts in UNAMID, but also has the potential to become a foundation for broader conflict resolution in similarly affected areas. As such, Indonesia's efforts not only represent the spirit of global peace, but also serve as a constructive pillar in achieving sustainable solutions to challenging conflicts.

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