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LEADING ADVOCATES REPORT ON DARFUR'S EXPANDING HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

**David Rubenstein, Actress Mia Farrow and Ambassador Lawrence Rossin Discuss
Ongoing Atrocities Days Before Critical African Union Meeting on Security Forces,
Release New Footage of Refugee Camps in Chad**

Washington, DC -- November 21, 2006 -- An actress, an activist and an ambassador will convene to lend their experiences, perspectives and expertise to the media in a press briefing today to raise awareness of the rapidly-growing Darfur crisis. The briefing will begin at 1:00 p.m. in the Lisagor Room at the National Press Club at 529 Fourteenth Street, NW.

After 10 days in eastern Africa, **award-winning actress Mia Farrow** and **David Rubenstein, Executive Director of the Save Darfur Coalition**, flew into Washington yesterday with new footage of the refugee camps and other areas in eastern Chad. They will provide updates of the continuing atrocities surrounding the Darfur crisis that have recently spilled over Sudan's western border into Chad and also the Central African Republic (CAR).

"Some of the things that Mia Farrow and I witnessed in Chad are truly horrific and unimaginable. The footage that we bring back from Chad almost pales in comparison, but we think it is an effective way to help to raise awareness on the growing genocide taking place in Sudan," says Rubenstein.

Retired **U.S. Ambassador Lawrence Rossin**, the Save Darfur Coalition's At-Large Ambassador who has recently returned from a 16-day trip to meet with key leaders in the Middle East, Europe and Africa, will put into context the state of diplomatic efforts—just days before the Peace and Security Council of the African Union on Friday, November 24—to maintain and strengthen overburdened and undermanned African Union peacekeeping forces in the region with international assistance led by the United Nations.

"One solution for Chad is to get an international body in here in order to protect the people," said Farrow from Chad in a recent article written by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

The genocide sponsored by the Sudanese government and perpetrated by its *Janjaweed* militia allies has claimed at least 400,000 lives, displaced 2.5 million people and left nearly 4 million men, women and children completely dependent on international humanitarian aid, since it began in February 2003. The situation on the ground in Darfur continues to deteriorate, and this year the violence has begun to expand beyond Sudanese borders with recent reports of Chad declaring a state of emergency in three of its eastern regions and CAR reporting attacks. On August 31, 2006, the United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 1706, authorizing a robust peacekeeping force for Darfur; however, the Sudanese Government – despite mounting international pressure – continues to resist the deployment of the UN peacekeeping force.

"The growing proportions of the violence can no longer be ignored. Every voice that speaks out on the genocide can help protect the people of Chad and the Darfur region of Sudan from future attack. We have an obligation to help end this humanitarian crisis." says Rubenstein of the Washington-based coalition

that seeks to mobilize a unified response to the ongoing genocide threatening the lives of millions of people in the Darfur region.

The Save Darfur Coalition comprises 175 faith-based, human rights, and civil-society organizations working together to provide protection to the people of Darfur. For more information on the Coalition, please visit www.savedarfur.org.

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About Mia Farrow

Mia Farrow, award-winning actress and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, has visited three times the region affected by the genocide in Darfur. She has met with representatives of the Sudanese Government and encouraged them to take stronger action to ensure protection for the people of Darfur. Appointed as a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador in September 2000, Farrow has traveled extensively in Africa and has been an outspoken advocate for many humanitarian causes.

About the Save Darfur Coalition

The Save Darfur Coalition's mission is to raise public awareness about the ongoing genocide in Darfur and to mobilize a unified response to the atrocities that threaten the lives of two million people in the Darfur region. We are an alliance of more than 170 faith-based, advocacy and humanitarian organizations. The Coalition's member organizations represent 130 million people of all ages, races, religions and political affiliations united together to help the people of Darfur.

About David Rubenstein

David Rubenstein is Executive Director for the Save Darfur Coalition which he helped organize in July 2004. From 2001 through 2004, Rubenstein was principal of the Thoughtful Action Group, strengthening nonprofit groups by providing guidance in organizational development, staff and management issues, board development, and strategic planning. Earlier, he was Executive Director of the award-winning EnvironMentors Project, which he founded in 1991. He was honored for this work by Washingtonian Magazine as a 1999 Washingtonian of the Year. He holds a degree in economics from Washington University in St. Louis.

About Ambassador Lawrence Rossin

Ambassador (ret.) Lawrence Rossin, Senior International Coordinator at the Save Darfur Coalition, is responsible for designing and leading implementation of the Coalition's outreach to foreign governments and non-governmental organizations to advocate on behalf of the people of Darfur. Rossin joined the Coalition after serving as Assistant Secretary General and Principal Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General at the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti, and before that at the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo. He also served on the National Security Council staff and in several diplomatic positions with the U.S. Department of State.