

UN alarmed at polio threat in Sudan border region

October 12 2013

The U.N. Security Council is expressing alarm at the imminent threat of the spread of polio through Sudan's violence-wracked South Kordofan and Blue Nile states and the continuing outbreak of polio in the Horn of Africa.

The U.N. humanitarian office has reported that the threat affects more than 165,000 children in the two Sudanese states "due to a lack of immunization in the border area in more than two years," the Security Council said in a statement Friday.

The SPLM-North, a rebel group backed by South Sudan, has been fighting government forces in South Kordofan and Blue Nile.

The Security Council called on Sudan's government and the SPLM-North "to urgently overcome differences" over technical plans so that a two-week [polio](#) vaccination campaign can begin on schedule on Nov. 5.

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