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Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Sudan

* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in the language of submission only.



Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its fortieth session from 24 January to 11 February 2022. The review of the Sudan was held at the 16th meeting, on 9 February 2022. The delegation of the Sudan was headed by Acting Undersecretary of the Ministry of Justice, Howaida Ali Awad al-Karim Ali. At its 17th meeting, held on 11 February 2022, the Working Group adopted the report on the Sudan.
2. On 12 January 2022, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of the Sudan: Gambia, Marshall Islands and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of the Sudan:
 - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);¹
 - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);²
 - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).³
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Germany, Liechtenstein, Panama, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States of America was transmitted to the Sudan through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The head of delegation stated that the Sudan had made significant progress in many areas of human rights. Since the second review cycle, it had acceded to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and ratified the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Convention against Discrimination in Education (1960) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) Tripartite Consultation (International Labour Standards) Convention, 1976 (No. 144) and Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87).
6. The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa were pending ratification.
7. The ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189), the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women were under examination.

¹ [A/HRC/WG.6/39/SDN/1](#).

² [A/HRC/WG.6/39/SDN/2](#).

³ [A/HRC/WG.6/39/SDN/3](#).

8. The delegation drew attention to the Constitutional Document for the transitional period, issued by the transitional Government in 2019, which included the Juba Agreement for Peace in the Sudan, and of which human rights conventions were an integral part.
9. On the legal framework, the Sudan had adopted a legislative reform programme, including the following actions:
 - (a) Repealing the laws on public order and public morals;
 - (b) Abolishing all corporal punishment;
 - (c) Abolishing the immunities provided for members of the security forces under the National Security Act;
 - (d) Criminalizing and punishing female genital mutilation;
 - (e) Decriminalizing apostasy and criminalizing attacks against another person's religion or belief;
 - (f) Increasing the penalty for acts of torture committed by public authorities;
 - (g) Allowing the referral of cases of child offenders to a community institution designated by the public prosecution or the courts;
 - (h) Applying non-custodial community service measures to women who were pregnant, lactating or had young children;
 - (i) Repealing article 12 of the Passports and Migration Act, which required the written consent of a guardian before a child could leave the country accompanied only by his or her mother;
 - (j) Increasing the penalty for trafficking in women, children and persons with disabilities.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

10. During the interactive dialogue, 97 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.
11. Jordan commended the Sudan for its efforts to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and for its legislative reforms, despite the challenges it faced.
12. Kuwait noted that despite ongoing challenges, the Sudan had taken steps in the field of human rights, including the ratification of international treaties.
13. Kyrgyzstan noted the accession to ILO conventions and the ratification of the Convention against Torture and the Convention against Discrimination in Education.
14. Latvia made recommendations.
15. Lebanon welcomed the dialogue by all parties as the only way to preserve the unity and sovereignty of the Sudan.
16. Libya commended the policies and plans adopted and steps taken to enhance human rights, particularly to end discrimination against women.
17. Liechtenstein reiterated its strong support for the importance of democratic transition in the Sudan.
18. Lithuania expressed concern about the takeover of power, reiterated its support for the democratic aspirations of the people of Sudan and urged a return to its tradition of peace and civilian rule.
19. Luxembourg made recommendations.
20. Malawi noted the steps taken to promote and protect human rights.
21. Malaysia welcomed the commitment of the Sudan to the universal periodic review and expressed hope that long-lasting peace and sustainable stability would be achieved.

22. Mali welcomed efforts to combat trafficking in persons, including efforts to strengthen the internal legal arsenal and bilateral agreements with neighbouring countries.
23. Malta made recommendations.
24. The Marshall Islands commended the abolition of the death penalty in cases of murder committed by children and the institutional reforms.
25. Mauritania welcomed the measures taken in the areas of institutional reform, poverty eradication, housing provision, universal basic education and women's empowerment.
26. Mexico recognized the growing collaboration with the International Criminal Court and the drafting of the Constitutional Document.
27. Montenegro expressed concern about the military authorities' use of excessive force against peaceful protesters, reiterating its support for a civilian-led transition to democracy.
28. Morocco commended the Sudan for its reform of the legal framework on human rights, for the opening of an OHCHR office and for the establishment of a national human rights institution.
29. Namibia noted progress, despite recent challenges, in protecting human rights, including legislative amendments to increase the penalty for offences involving the trafficking of women and children.
30. Nepal expressed appreciation for the ratification of the Convention against Torture and noted the adoption of the Constitutional Document and the formulation of legislation to combat poverty and achieve socioeconomic growth.
31. The Netherlands expressed concern about the military coup and the excessive military violence against peaceful demonstrators and medical staff.
32. During the intervention of the Netherlands, the Sudan raised a point of order on the inadequate terminology used and requested adherence to international and the United Nations system norms.
33. The President reminded delegates that the exercise should be held in a constructive way and not to enter into political matters, and requested speakers to adhere to the official United Nations terminology when referring to States. The President instructed the Secretariat to abide by official United Nations terminology when preparing the report.
34. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela joined the point of order that had been raised by the Sudan.
35. New Zealand expressed concern at credible reports of deaths, human rights abuses against protesters and ill-treatment of detainees at the hands of the Sudanese authorities.
36. The Niger commended the progress made on implementing the recommendations from previous review cycles and encouraged the Sudan to adopt bills on transitional justice and on human rights.
37. Norway condemned the coup, which had jeopardized improvements made by the transitional Government towards peace, democratic transformation, human rights and the protection of civilians.⁴
38. Oman welcomed the way in which the Sudan had dealt with the universal periodic review mechanism, and developments in the field of legislation.
39. Pakistan acknowledged the efforts of the Sudan to eradicate poverty and ensure access to basic services.
40. Paraguay expressed concern about the persistence of discriminatory practices and violence against vulnerable groups.
41. The Philippines welcomed the national strategies and plans for sustainable development and efforts to align legislative measures with international obligations.

⁴ On the point of order raised by the Sudan, see paras. 32–33.

42. Portugal reiterated its strong commitment to transition in the Sudan and an immediate return to a democratic path. It welcomed the decriminalization of apostasy and the restricted scope of the use of corporal and capital punishment.
43. Qatar welcomed legislative reforms and the establishment of human rights mechanisms, urging the parties in the Sudan to work to achieve security, stability and development.
44. The Republic of Korea stated that it remained concerned about the repression of protesters and the reported sexual violence during demonstrations. It encouraged a democratic transition.
45. Romania noted that progress in the area of human rights had become more complex since the military takeover of power on 25 October 2021 and the events in its aftermath. It stated that it remained concerned at the political, security and economic situation.
46. The delegation of the Sudan provided information about the legal reform process, which included the review and enactment of the following legislation:
- (a) Personal Status Act;
 - (b) Press and Publications Act;
 - (c) Bill on the National Human Rights Commission;
 - (d) Bill to combat domestic violence;
 - (e) Bill to combat racial discrimination;
 - (f) Persons with Disabilities Act.
47. In order to ensure institutional reform, the Sudan had separated the post of Public Prosecutor from the executive branch.
48. The Sudan had paid due attention to the fight against poverty, by providing housing, improving living conditions and introducing a scheme to provide direct social support in the form of cash for families. The Supreme Council for Social Security and Poverty Reduction had been formed in 2018, as part of efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.
49. The Sudan had worked to ensure universal access to health services, without discrimination, by adopting a strategic plan (2021–2024) with a view to achieving a comprehensive health insurance coverage system. It had worked with the United Nations Children’s Fund and the World Health Organization to provide vaccination against coronavirus disease (COVID-19) to citizens.
50. The education strategy (2007–2031) had been adopted with the aim of reducing disparities in quality and increasing the level of education among girls, particularly nomads and displaced persons. The number of schools had increased by 2,800, enabling access to education for an additional 1 million children. The number of students who completed their primary education and went on to secondary school had also increased, from 251,000 to 336,000, during the same period. The overall preschool enrolment rate had stood at 43 per cent in 2017. Schools had been established in refugee camps. The Sudan had made further efforts to provide vocational education for children who had completed primary school.
51. Article 28 of the Civil Service Act provided for equal pay for work of equal value. Under the Constitutional Document, at least 40 per cent of the members of the Legislative Council were to be women.
52. The most significant initiatives that had been taken to improve gender equality were the national policy for the empowerment of women (2007, updated in 2017), the national strategy to combat violence against women (2015–2030), the national plan for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) (endorsed in 2020), and a document containing unified standard working procedures to address and respond to cases of gender-based violence. With a view to ensuring the provision of integrated health services for women and girls who were victims of sexual violence, the Public Prosecutor had issued circular No. 6 of 2016, under which women who had suffered violence or serious abuse were to be given priority access to immediate treatment, and had the right to pursue legal action

on the basis of a medical report, leading to the punishment of perpetrators and compensation for victims.

53. The Sudan had adopted a national strategy for combating child marriage, which was part of its national strategy for children (2018–2030), and had updated a national action plan to end child marriage for the period 2021–2031. The Civil Registry Act (2011) guaranteed the right to free birth registration and included penalties for failure to register a birth.

54. The Sudan had established an online network that connected maternity hospitals to the general administration of the civil registry, through which births could be recorded with a national identity number. To date, 343 out of the 685 hospitals had been connected.

55. The Constitutional Document guaranteed respect for the rights, freedoms and human dignity of persons with disabilities, opportunities for education and employment and their participation in society. The Sudan had developed a strategy for the economic empowerment of and decent work for persons with disabilities for the period 2017–2020. It had also drafted a guide on schooling for persons who were deaf, compiled a sign-language dictionary and produced a guide on Sudanese standards and specifications in Braille. A quota had been introduced for no less than 2 per cent of employment posts to be allocated to persons with disabilities.

56. The Constitutional Document guaranteed the rights to freedom of expression, freedom of peaceful assembly, freedom to form associations and organize and freedom of religion or belief. An advisory committee had been set up to review and reform legislation on the press, publications and the media. The Public Prosecutor had issued directives on the regulation of peaceful demonstrations, under which law enforcement personnel and police were instructed to prevent the excessive use of force against peaceful protesters.

57. As part of its ongoing efforts to address problems related to asylum and displacement, the Sudan, working with South Sudan, had adopted a sectoral strategy for displaced persons, refugees, returnees and local communities.

58. On combating trafficking in persons, the Sudan had concluded bilateral agreements with most neighbouring countries and formed joint forces under unified command to control shared borders. The Sudan had amended the Anti-Trafficking Act (2014) in 2021 by extending the definition of the offence, eliminating the concept of “consent” of victims and increasing penalties. A specialized public prosecution office for cases of trafficking in persons had been set up and a national plan for the period 2021–2023 had been drawn up with the aim of preventing human trafficking.

59. Regarding cooperation with international mechanisms, in 2019, the Sudan had signed an agreement with OHCHR to establish an office in the country. A memorandum of understanding and cooperation had been signed between the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court and the Ministry of Justice regarding persons subject to arrest warrants issued by the Court. The United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in the Sudan had been established.

60. The Public Prosecutor had issued decrees for the formation of the following commissions to investigate reports of killings:

- (a) A commission to investigate violations committed since 25 October 2021;
- (b) A commission to investigate killings in September 2013;
- (c) A commission to investigate extrajudicial killings, human rights violations and acts that constituted crimes under the 1991 Criminal Code committed between 30 June and 11 April 2019;
- (d) A commission in 2019 to investigate the disappearance of persons following the break-up of a sit-in in front of the general headquarters of the armed forces;
- (e) A commission in 2021 to investigate cases of persons killed during the revolution of December 2018.

61. A special prosecutor for crimes committed in Darfur had been appointed to investigate all allegations of sexual violence in conflict zones.

62. The mandate of the Special Court for Darfur, established before the transitional period, had been renewed under the Juba Peace Agreement.

63. The Public Prosecutor followed up on investigations into cases in Darfur in general, and into cases of sexual violence in particular, in cooperation with the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court and the Ministry of Justice.

64. The commission of inquiry conducting the investigations into alleged human rights violations in El Geneina and Krinding camps for displaced persons had referred 33 cases to court. Another commission had been formed to investigate the incidents at Kalma camp.

65. In March 2016, the Sudan had signed an action plan with the United Nations to protect children from abuses in areas of armed conflict. The use of children in armed conflict had been made a criminal offence under national laws. A referral system was being implemented and medical care and support provided to child victims.

66. The Sudan had carried out legal and institutional reforms in accordance with article 8 of the Constitutional Document to ensure the independence of the judiciary and the rule of law. The perpetrators of violations of international humanitarian law and human rights in Darfur, who were wanted by the International Criminal Court, had been arrested and were being investigated.

67. The death penalty had been abolished for discretionary (*ta'zir*) offences. All forms of corporal and cruel punishment had been abolished, in accordance with the Constitutional Document. Under article 53, the death penalty could be applied as a punishment for extremely serious offences only (*hudud* and *qisas*), with sufficient safeguards and specific provisions in place and after all methods of appeal had been exhausted and fair trial procedures met, in accordance with article 6 (2) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The death penalty could not be imposed for offences committed by persons under the age of 18 years or persons aged 70 or above, except in the case of *hudud* and *qisas*.

68. The Sudan acknowledged that it faced many challenges, including:

- (a) A severe economic crisis, which had affected the general situation in the country;
- (b) Political instability;
- (c) Armed tribal conflicts in several states;
- (d) The continued negative impact of unilateral coercive sanctions;
- (e) A lack of funding for the sixth populations census, scheduled for April 2022;
- (f) A lack of funding to train officials working in State agencies, especially law enforcement agencies;
- (g) The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting negative impact;
- (h) Difficulties in financing peace agreements and the special security arrangements necessary for the Sudan to meet its international obligations;
- (i) Lack of funding from the international community to implement strategies and programmes for the promotion and protection of human rights;
- (j) Large numbers of refugees and illegal immigrants, which had created a burden on the country.

69. In its national report, the transitional Government had provided details of the efforts it had made to fulfil its pledges to improve the human rights situation in the Sudan, put an end to war and build a just, comprehensive and sustainable peace. The Sudan had achieved progress towards establishing peace by adopting the peace agreements.

70. The delegation of the Sudan expressed its gratitude and appreciation to all partners who had contributed and provided technical assistance of any kind, which had had a positive impact on the fulfilment of its human rights commitments. It urged the international community to continue providing technical assistance, so as to further promote and protect human rights in the Sudan.

71. The Russian Federation positively noted the steps taken to strengthen the legal instruments for the protection of human rights.
72. Saudi Arabia expressed appreciation for the steps taken for economic reform and urged the international community to support the Sudan in the transitional period.
73. Senegal welcomed the legislative and institutional reforms undertaken to strengthen fundamental freedoms.
74. Serbia welcomed the adoption and implementation of the strategic plan on the national health insurance fund (2021–2024) to improve the health situation.
75. Sierra Leone welcomed the abolition of corporal punishment and of the death penalty for children and the update of the national plan to end child marriage.
76. Slovenia urged all parties to continue the political dialogue, refrain from the use of force against demonstrators and fulfil their obligations under the Constitutional Document.
77. Somalia expressed appreciation for the commitment of the Sudan to promoting and protecting human rights.
78. South Africa welcomed the ratification by the Sudan of the Convention against Torture and its accession to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.
79. South Sudan commended the Sudan for its accession to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.
80. Spain expressed regret at the lack of political understanding on how to consolidate a democratic transition and human rights protection in the Sudan.
81. Sri Lanka welcomed the new Bill of Rights, the enactment of several progressive laws and the ratification by the Sudan of the Convention against Torture and of the ILO Tripartite Consultation (International Labour Standards) Convention, 1976 (No. 144), Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) and Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29).
82. The State of Palestine noted the ratification of core human rights treaties and the establishment of an OHCHR office, and commended the Sudan for having set up human rights strategies and national plans.
83. Sweden called for an immediate return to a civilian-led democratic transition, and expressed concern about sexual and gender-based violence, female genital mutilation and child marriage.
84. Switzerland expressed concern about the recent events, which put at risk the progress made regarding democratic and inclusive governance and national reconciliation.
85. Thailand welcomed the policies and programmes adopted by the Sudan to empower women, and noted measures taken to prevent and mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.
86. Timor-Leste welcomed the ratification of human rights treaties and noted the inclusion in the Constitutional Document of punishment for female genital mutilation and the removal of the death penalty for children.
87. Togo noted the abolition by the Sudan of the crime of apostasy and the abolition of flogging and of the death penalty for sodomy.
88. Tunisia welcomed the establishment of an OHCHR office in the Sudan, its ratification of the Convention against Torture and its accession to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.
89. Ukraine expressed regret that human rights progress had been jeopardized by the military takeover, and concern about acts of violence against peaceful protesters and sexual assaults by security forces against women and girls.

90. The United Arab Emirates commended the Sudan for its efforts to promote human rights and welcomed the implementation of pledges, particularly in the field of women's rights.
91. The United Kingdom condemned the coup and violence against protestors, urging the Sudan to respect human rights and deliver accountability for violations and abuses.⁵
92. The United Republic of Tanzania welcomed the ratification of international instruments and the enactment of socioeconomic reforms.
93. The United States called for international support for the democratic aspirations of the Sudanese people following the military takeover.
94. Uruguay expressed concern at the interruption of the democratic transition process, which was eroding the progress achieved.
95. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela expressed hope that the Sudanese people would rediscover the path of national reconciliation, without foreign interference.
96. Viet Nam noted the efforts to implement the accepted recommendations from the second review cycle.
97. Yemen applauded the adoption of legislation and strategies, including the strategy to eradicate poverty, the national programme to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and the establishment of a national human rights institution.
98. Zambia expressed appreciation that the Sudan was in the process of ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.
99. Afghanistan expressed appreciation for the ratification by Sudan of international instruments, but remained concerned about its failure to implement international obligations on the rights of refugees and asylum seekers.
100. Angola suggested that the Sudanese authorities preserve the encouraging progress in human rights recorded since 2019.
101. Argentina welcomed the accession of the Sudan to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.
102. Armenia encouraged the Sudan to consider acceding to core international and regional human rights instruments.
103. Australia stated that recent events indicated a change in the human rights trajectory of the Sudan and that the democratic transition remained under threat.
104. Austria expressed concern about the failure to implement former commitments and about the current severe political crisis in the Sudan.
105. Azerbaijan commended the Sudan for its adoption of legislative acts and strategies, ratification of international human rights instruments and efforts to eradicate poverty.
106. Bahrain commended the Sudan for the positive measures taken to fulfil its commitments to improve human rights, end the war and attain sustainable peace.
107. Bangladesh recognized the efforts of the Sudan to improve its human rights situation and the importance of the international community's support.
108. Belgium expressed concern about the suspension of key articles of the Constitutional Document following the events on 25 October 2021 and about the continued use of lethal violence during protests.
109. Brazil encouraged the Sudan to strengthen initiatives to promote equality, fight discrimination and expand political participation. It noted amendments to the Criminal Code and urged additional legislative reforms.

⁵ Ibid.

110. Burkina Faso commended the Sudan for the progress made in implementing previous recommendations, including on the elimination of female genital mutilation.
111. Burundi commended the Sudan for having prepared a bill to combat violence against women, including provisions prohibiting early marriage, and for its efforts to fight poverty.
112. Canada condemned the military takeover and called for a rapid resumption of the democratic, civilian-led transition process, in accordance with the Constitutional Document.
113. Chad welcomed the efforts by the Sudan, in partnership with civil society organizations, to give effect to previous recommendations.
114. Chile welcomed the ratification of international human rights instruments.
115. China called on all parties in the Sudan to solve differences through dialogue and expressed opposition to foreign interference.
116. Côte d'Ivoire congratulated the Sudan on the progress made, particularly the amendments to the 1991 Criminal Code.
117. Czechia condemned the military coup and the violence and unlawful detention that had followed, and encouraged a path towards peace and democracy.⁶
118. Denmark condemned the use of violence against peaceful demonstrators and the detention of activists and journalists. It offered to provide capacity-building and technical support.
119. Djibouti commended the Sudan for its cooperation with United Nations bodies, including the opening of an OHCHR office.
120. Estonia stressed the importance of monitoring respect for human rights and hoped for the appointment of a country-specific special rapporteur. It noted with concern the use of violence against protesters.
121. Ethiopia thanked the delegation for the comprehensive national report and the oral update.
122. Fiji congratulated the Sudan on its recent ratification of and accession to two human rights treaties.
123. Finland strongly condemned violence against peaceful protesters and medical and humanitarian personnel and urged the country to return to a democratic transition.
124. France expressed serious concern regarding the human rights violations since the military takeover and called for the immediate restoration of transitional institutions.
125. Georgia acknowledged legislative and institutional initiatives and the establishment of independent national investigation commissions. It expressed concern that the death penalty remained in place.
126. Germany condemned the military takeover and reiterated its full support for the people in their struggle for freedom, peace and justice to establish a permanent democratic system.
127. Iceland made recommendations.
128. India expressed appreciation for the creation of frameworks and mechanisms to combat violence against women.
129. Indonesia expressed hope that the evolving political situation would be resolved peacefully through an inclusive, democratic national dialogue.
130. Iraq welcomed the ongoing political dialogues to ensure a peaceful and democratic transfer of power and to promote human rights.
131. Ireland noted the halt of the historic democratic transition, which was reversing progress on the promotion and protection of human rights. It expressed concern about the use of deadly force, sexual and gender-based violence, and impunity.

⁶ Ibid.

132. Italy welcomed the recent ratification of and accession to two human rights treaties.
133. Japan expressed concern about violence against protesters, the detention of activists and the armed forces' undermining of the transition to civilian rule, including the decision to expand their authority.
134. Algeria welcomed the engagement by the Sudan with OHCHR for technical assistance and capacity-building. It welcomed the ratification of the Convention against Torture and the ILO Tripartite Consultation (International Labour Standards) Convention, 1976 (No. 144).
135. Egypt commended the Sudan for its ratification of international human rights instruments, legislative amendments, decriminalization of apostasy, criminalization of female genital mutilation and efforts to eradicate poverty. It urged the activation of dialogue between the parties to restore security and stability.
136. The Sudan concluded by expressing thanks and appreciation to the President of the Human Rights Council and the secretariat of the Working Group for their efforts to ensure the success of the review. It expressed appreciation to all delegations that had made recommendations during the meeting and reaffirmed its commitment to honour its obligations under human rights conventions.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

137. **The following recommendations will be examined by Sudan, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the fiftieth session of the Human Rights Council:**

- 137.1 **Ratify the international human rights conventions that it has not yet ratified (Ukraine);**
- 137.2 **Ratify the remaining key international human rights instruments, including the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Czechia);**
- 137.3 **Ratify the international human rights conventions that it has not yet ratified, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention against Torture and its Optional Protocol (Zambia);**
- 137.4 **Ratify core human rights conventions such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention against Torture and its Optional Protocol (Liechtenstein);**
- 137.5 **Expedite the process of ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Bangladesh);**
- 137.6 **Expedite the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and effectively implement a national gender equality action plan (Thailand);**
- 137.7 **Consider ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Chile);**
- 137.8 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Lithuania);**
- 137.9 **Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Second Optional Protocol to the**

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Sierra Leone);

137.10 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Paraguay);

137.11 Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Paraguay);

137.12 Continue to accede to additional international human rights conventions, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and to continue to cooperate with United Nations human rights mechanisms (State of Palestine);

137.13 Consider ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (India);

137.14 Consider ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Nepal);

137.15 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Lithuania);

137.16 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Latvia);

137.17 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Togo);

137.18 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Marshall Islands);

137.19 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Malaysia);

137.20 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Angola);

137.21 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Armenia);

137.22 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Denmark);

137.23 Complete the efforts to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Iraq);

137.24 Intensify efforts towards ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Fiji);

137.25 Ratify without reservations the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol) (Spain);

137.26 Ratify all articles of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women without reservations (Canada);

137.27 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women without reservations to articles 2 and 16 (Iceland);

137.28 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women without any reservations contrary to the objective and purpose of the Convention (Sweden);

- 137.29 **Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of women (Ireland);**
- 137.30 **Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and enhance efforts to combat discrimination and violence against women (Italy);**
- 137.31 **Reaffirm its commitment to the full protection of the human rights of women and girls, including by accelerating efforts towards the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Uruguay);**
- 137.32 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Namibia);**
- 137.33 **Ensure the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security, and ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (New Zealand);**
- 137.34 **Step up efforts towards acceding to and effectively implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, ensuring that women's and girls' rights are at the core of the democratic transition process (Romania);**
- 137.35 **Accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Armenia);**
- 137.36 **Sign and ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Morocco);**
- 137.37 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Niger);**
- 137.38 **Proceed with the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Togo);**
- 137.39 **Ratify and fully align its national legislation with all the obligations under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, as previously recommended (Latvia);**
- 137.40 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and cooperate with the Court, including on the warrants for the arrest of the former President, Omer Hassan Ahmed al-Bashir, and other officials (Liechtenstein);**
- 137.41 **Ratify the Rome Statute and incorporate all relevant provisions into domestic law, including the obligation to cooperate promptly and fully with the International Criminal Court, and the definitions of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes covered by the Statute (Malta);**
- 137.42 **Step up the parliamentary process under way aimed at the ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Uruguay);**
- 137.43 **Consider ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and provide unconditional cooperation and access to areas of concern for International Criminal Court investigators (Belgium);**
- 137.44 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Denmark) (Lebanon);**
- 137.45 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Namibia) (Slovenia) (Armenia);**
- 137.46 **Consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Nepal);**

137.47 **Ratify the Optional Protocol and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and ensure these measures are enshrined in Sudanese law (Canada);**

137.48 **Establish a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its eventual abolition and consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Latvia); Abolish the death penalty, ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and introduce an immediate moratorium on executions (Iceland); Adopt a de jure moratorium on capital executions and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Italy);**

137.49 **Ratify the Convention against Torture (Côte d'Ivoire);**

137.50 **Ratify the Convention against Torture (Armenia);**

137.51 **Continue the cooperation with the International Criminal Court, ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and ensure effective prosecution of and accountability for serious crimes under international law (Sweden);**

137.52 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Togo);**

137.53 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Togo);**

137.54 **Strengthen awareness campaigns on the death penalty and public debates on the subject, with a view to its abolition as soon as possible, and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, as soon as possible (Uruguay);**

137.55 **Take measures to prevent all forms of torture, including by ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, and to prevent enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and extrajudicial executions, and ensure accountability for all violations and abuses (Italy);**

137.56 **Consider taking the necessary steps to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Argentina);**

137.57 **Continue constructive cooperation with international human rights mechanisms (Bangladesh);**

137.58 **Cooperate fully with the mechanisms of the United Nations system, especially with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Sudan, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the special procedures (Argentina);**

137.59 **Cooperate fully with United Nations human rights mechanisms, in particular the expert on human rights in the Sudan and the Office of the High Commissioner (Luxembourg);**

137.60 **Continue to cooperate with OHCHR and other United Nations bodies (Somalia);**

137.61 **Cooperate fully with human rights mechanisms, including by issuing a standing invitation to the special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Norway);**

137.62 **Interact and enhance cooperation with the human rights mechanisms of the United Nations, as an expression of the openness and strong will of the**

Sudan regarding the promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the country (Morocco);

137.63 **Consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council, as previously recommended (Latvia);**

137.64 **Consider issuing an open and standing invitation to all human rights mechanisms (Paraguay);**

137.65 **Strengthen cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms, including the newly designated Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan (Republic of Korea);**

137.66 **Continue to cooperate with the United Nations for the benefit of the brotherly Sudanese people (Jordan);**

137.67 **Strengthen the work of the national human rights mechanism, follow up on its recommendations and set plans to follow up on their implementation (Jordan);**

137.68 **Strengthen the mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up regarding recommendations on human rights, considering the possibility of receiving cooperation for this purpose (Paraguay);**

137.69 **Continue implementing the recommendations arising from the universal periodic review and the international human rights obligations of the Sudan with a view to strengthening the relevant legal and institutional frameworks (Romania);**

137.70 **Provide international support to improve the Sudanese economy (Kuwait);**

137.71 **Restore immediately a civilian-led transition to democracy with United Nations facilitation, lift the state of emergency, and ensure the protection of peaceful protesters (United States of America);**

137.72 **Continue efforts towards peace and national reconciliation to improve the human rights situation in the country (Somalia);**

137.73 **Find a political solution, form a civilian-led Government and complete the transitional process successfully (Austria);**

137.74 **Make efforts to promote peace and security in order to facilitate the enjoyment of human rights by its people (Viet Nam);**

137.75 **Redouble efforts to engage in negotiations with civil bodies with a view to transitioning to civilian authority (South Sudan);**

137.76 **Advocate the reconstruction of the dialogue to find a peaceful solution to the crisis, in order to walk towards democracy and peace (Paraguay);**

137.77 **Unify national efforts to contribute to laying the foundations for reconciliation and stability in the Sudan (Algeria);**

137.78 **Implement the Juba Peace Agreement fully (South Sudan);**

137.79 **Implement the Juba Peace Agreement, carry out security-sector reform, and conduct free and fair elections (United States of America);**

137.80 **Sustain efforts towards promoting dialogue on achieving sustainable peace (Pakistan);**

137.81 **Continue efforts to build lasting peace in the Darfur region (Oman);**

137.82 **Adopt the necessary reforms to ensure the promotion and protection of human rights and the establishment of democratic rule of law (Spain);**

137.83 **Restore civilian rule and take measures on the basis of the 2019 Constitutional Document allowing the country to return to its commitments**

towards democratic transition and the path of progress on institutional and legal reforms (Romania);

137.84 Take steps to align domestic laws with international human rights instruments that the country has ratified (Malawi);

137.85 Continue working to harmonize national legislation with the Sudan's international and regional commitments (Oman);

137.86 Continue to take targeted steps to improve national legislation in terms of respect for human rights and freedoms (Russian Federation);

137.87 Enact further law reforms to ensure the country's conformity with international human rights standards (Ukraine);

137.88 Repeal article 148 of its Criminal Code (Uruguay);

137.89 Strengthen relevant legislative policies and take further administrative measures to combat hate speech, racism, xenophobia and related intolerance (Armenia);

137.90 Intensify efforts to develop and strengthen the necessary legislative frameworks that address cross-sectoral environmental challenges, including climate change and disaster risk reduction frameworks (Fiji);

137.91 Continue institutional and legislative reform efforts in line with its international obligations on human rights (Iraq);

137.92 Continue undertaking comprehensive reforms in the field of human rights (Kyrgyzstan);

137.93 Take all measures necessary to ensure human rights protection (Ukraine);

137.94 Continue its efforts to ensure the implementation of all its national plans (State of Palestine);

137.95 Speed up the process of drafting the country's human rights strategy (Azerbaijan);

137.96 Pursue efforts to formulate a national strategy for human rights (Egypt);

137.97 Create an independent national human rights commission and designate sufficient resources for it to operate and to obtain accreditation under the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) (Zambia);

137.98 Establish an independent national human rights commission as per the Paris Principles (Sierra Leone);

137.99 Adopt the law establishing a national human rights commission in compliance with the Paris Principles (Mali);

137.100 Pursue efforts to complete the process of setting up the national human rights commission (Senegal);

137.101 Issue the law related to the establishment of the national human rights commission (Lebanon);

137.102 Continue steps to establish a national human rights commission (Pakistan);

137.103 Step up efforts for to strengthen the national human rights mechanism and operationalize it in line with the Paris Principles (Nepal);

137.104 Adopt legislation to guarantee protection against all forms of discrimination (Mexico);

- 137.105 **Prohibit discrimination, ill-treatment and criminal offences committed by members of the law enforcement agencies against civilians (Malaysia);**
- 137.106 **Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination and equalities law, banning discrimination on such grounds as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, age or disability (Afghanistan);**
- 137.107 **Pursue efforts to move towards the decriminalization of consensual same-sex relations between adults (Spain);**
- 137.108 **Make the necessary efforts to promote the elimination of discriminatory provisions that affect lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and put an end to the criminalization of sexual acts between consenting adults of the same sex (Chile);**
- 137.109 **Decriminalize consensual adult same-sex relations (Italy);**
- 137.110 **Decriminalize sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex (Iceland);**
- 137.111 **Consider imposing a moratorium on the death sentence with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Georgia);**
- 137.112 **Progress towards the abolition of the death penalty by adopting a moratorium on the use of capital punishment (Spain); Establish a formal moratorium on the use of the death penalty (Australia); Impose a moratorium on the death penalty, as a first step towards its abolition (Portugal);**
- 137.113 **Establish a de jure moratorium on the death penalty and commute all death sentences to alternative sentences (Switzerland);**
- 137.114 **Take effective steps towards abolishing the death penalty (Liechtenstein);**
- 137.115 **Abolish the death penalty for all crimes without exception (Marshall Islands); Abolish the death penalty (Estonia);**
- 137.116 **Abolish the death penalty for all crimes (Côte d'Ivoire);**
- 137.117 **Ensure the safety of humanitarian workers and humanitarian facilities (Paraguay);**
- 137.118 **Refrain from any violence or use of force targeting peaceful protesters and immediately release those unlawfully detained (Germany);**
- 137.119 **Immediately halt unnecessary and disproportionate use of force against peaceful protestors and conduct investigations into the violence against protesters, including gender-based violence, alleged to have been committed by the Sudanese Armed Forces (Japan);**
- 137.120 **Cease the use of arbitrary detention and release all civilians detained as a result of the military takeover on 25 October 2021, and related protests (Australia);**
- 137.121 **Effectively protect the right to peaceful assembly by immediately ceasing the excessive use of force by security actors against peaceful protesters, journalists, medical staff and facilities, by preventing arbitrary detention and torture, and by repealing emergency order No. 4 (Netherlands);**
- 137.122 **Increase measures to avoid the excessive and/or lethal use of force by security, law enforcement and/or military agents in the context of peaceful demonstrations by the civilian population (Argentina);**
- 137.123 **Abolish all forms of torture, in particular flogging as a form of punishment (Switzerland);**

- 137.124 **Comply with international humanitarian and human rights law obligations, putting an end to indiscriminate attacks against civilians, protecting vulnerable social groups in particular (Paraguay);**
- 137.125 **Revoke the state of emergency, abstain from arbitrary detention, and release all political prisoners (Norway);**
- 137.126 **Release from prison all persons whose conviction resulted from the exercise of their fundamental rights and freedoms (Luxembourg);**
- 137.127 **Ensure the protection of civilians, especially in conflict-affected areas such as Darfur and Southern Kordofan (Lithuania);**
- 137.128 **Resolve the existing conflict through dialogue between the components of Sudanese society in order to preserve its unity and integrity (Yemen);**
- 137.129 **Implement fully Human Rights Council resolution S-32/1, adopted at its thirty-second special session, including with regard to an independent mechanism to support the Sudanese people's aspiration for democracy and the rule of law (Brazil);**
- 137.130 **Take all necessary steps to safeguard democratic principles based on good governance and respect for human rights (Indonesia);**
- 137.131 **Ensure thorough investigation of all grave violations of human rights (Ukraine);**
- 137.132 **Investigate all cases of enforced disappearance and ensure that those responsible are prosecuted and punished commensurately with the gravity of their crimes (Montenegro);**
- 137.133 **Investigate and prosecute violations of international human rights and humanitarian law committed by the armed forces (Zambia);**
- 137.134 **Address impunity for human rights violations, including through enhanced cooperation with the International Criminal Court, and adoption of effective transitional justice measures (Ireland);**
- 137.135 **Ensure accountability for grave violations of human rights by bringing the perpetrators to justice and providing remedies for victims (Montenegro);**
- 137.136 **Safeguard the rule of law by upholding the independence of judges (Marshall Islands);**
- 137.137 **Initiate prompt, effective, independent and impartial investigations into allegations of crimes under international law and bring suspects to justice (Lithuania);**
- 137.138 **Fight against impunity for perpetrators of human rights violations and create a transitional justice mechanism (France);**
- 137.139 **Cooperate fully with the International Criminal Court (Switzerland);**
- 137.140 **Establish human rights- and accountability-based reconciliation mechanisms to prevent and resolve intercommunal conflicts (Sierra Leone);**
- 137.141 **Continue to take measures aimed at improving the situation in the judicial and penitentiary systems (Russian Federation);**
- 137.142 **Take concrete steps to fulfil the promise of the 2019 Constitutional Document and respect the rights of demonstrators (Canada);**
- 137.143 **Modify legislation to ensure freedom of expression and press (Estonia);**
- 137.144 **Fully protect the exercise of civil and political rights, including freedom of expression, assembly and association (Luxembourg);**
- 137.145 **Uphold its international obligations to protect freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, take further action to re-establish a national human rights commission and adopt domestic legislation to ensure full**

compliance with its international obligations under the Convention against Torture (New Zealand);

137.146 Protect freedom of expression, freedom of peaceful assembly and freedom of association by respecting the freedom of the media and avoiding all disproportionate use of force or the use of arbitrary arrest and detention (Switzerland);

137.147 Investigate the physical and digital attacks against and harassment of journalists, media workers and human rights defenders, and ensure freedom of expression (Lithuania);

137.148 Respect the rights to freedom of expression and assembly, including by allowing peaceful protests, and by ensuring accountability for perpetrators of violence against protesters (Norway);

137.149 Continue to enhance the promotion of interfaith dialogue and religious tolerance (Indonesia);

137.150 Fully respect the freedom of peaceful assembly and association, and refrain from excessive use of force against peaceful protesters (Republic of Korea);

137.151 Guarantee a safe and enabling environment for journalists and media workers, and ensure the right of access to information (Republic of Korea);

137.152 Ensure fully the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and expression, including for protestors, as well as strict compliance by security forces with their obligations under international human rights law (Spain);

137.153 Ensure equal and full participation in political and public affairs, freedom of expression, press freedom and the safety of journalists (Japan);

137.154 Ensure a safe environment that is conducive to the legitimate work of human rights defenders and journalists (Spain);

137.155 Take measures to foster a safe, respectful and enabling environment for civil society and human rights defenders, especially women human rights defenders, free from persecution, intimidation and harassment (Latvia);

137.156 Immediately open civic space and defend freedom of expression and assembly for all Sudanese, including civil society actors, human rights defenders and journalists (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

137.157 Respect freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, ensure a prompt, independent and impartial investigation into all human rights violations, and hold those responsible to account (Finland);

137.158 Take steps to strengthen respect for the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly and to ensure accountability for all violations against peaceful protesters (Brazil);

137.159 Guarantee respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the rights to peaceful assembly, freedom of expression and freedom of the press, essential to the preparation of free and transparent elections in July 2023, and respect the rights of Sudanese people to peacefully express their opinions without fear of violence or reprisals (France);

137.160 Refrain from prosecuting demonstrators and organizers of meetings for exercising their right of peaceful assembly (Czechia);

137.161 Immediately initiate measures to ensure the protection of civilians, to respect people's freedom of expression and the right of peaceful assembly (Germany);

137.162 Immediately revoke the state of emergency and protect the rights to freedom of information, expression, opinion and peaceful assembly (Ireland);

- 137.163 **Create a safer and enabling environment to increase levels of freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, and ensure accountability (Italy);**
- 137.164 **Regarding all Sudanese parties, engage fully and in good faith with the United Nations-facilitated talks to reach a solution that leads to the restoration of a civilian-led Government, and free and fair elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 137.165 **Build legislative, judicial and electoral bodies, and announce dates for the Sovereignty Council chair handover and for elections (United States of America);**
- 137.166 **Ensure the organization of free and inclusive elections in order to allow a return to a civilian Government as soon as possible (Luxembourg);**
- 137.167 **Organize free and fair elections (Lithuania);**
- 137.168 **Work with all stakeholders to address the current political impasse and develop a path towards democracy and peace (Australia);**
- 137.169 **Stop the excessive and disproportionate use of force against civilian protesters and uphold the rights to freedom of expression and to peaceful assembly and association, including ensuring a free and safe environment for journalists to operate (Australia);**
- 137.170 **Recommit to the country's democratic transition, including by engaging in an inclusive dialogue involving a broad range of civilian stakeholders that can lead to free and fair elections (Denmark);**
- 137.171 **Exert international efforts to address the political issue (Kuwait);**
- 137.172 **Take all necessary measures to combat human trafficking and to support and protect victims (Libya);**
- 137.173 **Implement all objectives of the national plan to combat human trafficking (Liechtenstein);**
- 137.174 **Intensify capacity-building efforts for duty bearers in the field of combating trafficking in persons (Philippines);**
- 137.175 **Continue its efforts to promote and protect the rights of migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and displaced persons and to combat human trafficking (Viet Nam);**
- 137.176 **Strengthen cooperation with international and national mechanisms to combat trafficking in persons (Bahrain);**
- 137.177 **Intensify efforts to provide productive and decent employment to its people (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 137.178 **Maintain peace and stability, overcome existing difficulties and promote sustainable economic and social development (China);**
- 137.179 **Continue its efforts to implement the economic reform plans (Saudi Arabia);**
- 137.180 **Redouble efforts to improve economic conditions and raise the standard of living of the Sudanese people (Qatar);**
- 137.181 **Continue its efforts to eliminate poverty and improve living standards (Kyrgyzstan);**
- 137.182 **Continue efforts to combat poverty under the comprehensive social welfare programme (Tunisia);**
- 137.183 **Strengthen the strategy to combat multidimensional poverty (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

- 137.184 Increase the financial appropriations allocated to anti-poverty programmes, and develop operational programmes aimed at improving the economic and social conditions of the most vulnerable population (Mauritania);
- 137.185 Continue steps aimed at the effective implementation of the national strategy for the eradication of poverty, as well as national programme for sustainable development (Pakistan);
- 137.186 Strive to implement the national poverty reduction strategy even more effectively in order to eliminate the root causes of poverty (Serbia);
- 137.187 Adopt a comprehensive national poverty reduction strategy, using a human rights-based approach (Timor-Leste);
- 137.188 Strengthen programmes and policies related to social development and poverty reduction (Somalia);
- 137.189 Enhance ongoing efforts to combat poverty through national programmes on social welfare and the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (Sri Lanka);
- 137.190 Consider creating an integrated social protection system to protect persons in a vulnerable situation, including those engaged in the informal sector (Timor-Leste);
- 137.191 Strengthen the social protection system to safeguard the rights of vulnerable groups (China);
- 137.192 Increase efforts to find funding to train persons working in State agencies, particularly law enforcement agencies (United Republic of Tanzania);
- 137.193 Increase investment in the health sector, including human rights training for health personnel, and take measures to eliminate all forms of barriers, stigmatization and discrimination, creating a safe and enabling environment in health settings for all, including for persons affected by HIV and key populations (Portugal);
- 137.194 Continue efforts to promote the health sector and ensure universal access to health services (Tunisia);
- 137.195 Exert more efforts to ensure access to quality health services and strengthen the universal health coverage system (Qatar);
- 137.196 Strengthen measures to guarantee universal access to basic health services (Senegal);
- 137.197 Continue measures towards ensuring equal access to health-care services, including through the strategic plan for the period 2021–2024 (Sri Lanka);
- 137.198 Continue to apply all measures necessary to protect the life and health of its citizens, and consider fully realizing universal health coverage (Thailand);
- 137.199 Continue efforts to provide universal and non-discriminatory access to health services (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 137.200 Reduce direct and preventable maternal mortality by providing maternal and reproductive health services (Burkina Faso);
- 137.201 Do more work to implement the malaria control plan (Oman);
- 137.202 Take concrete measures to ensure access for all to a primary health package, the appropriate training of medical personnel and the provision of a sufficient number of personnel and health-care facilities (India);
- 137.203 Seek the support of the international community to ensure access to COVID-19 vaccines for all people (Bangladesh);

- 137.204 Continue to apply national strategies to achieve its objectives, especially in the areas of education, health and poverty alleviation (Jordan);
- 137.205 Support efforts to reform and develop the education sector to include all segments of society (Libya);
- 137.206 Continue efforts to improve access to quality education and to achieve the goal of education for all without discrimination (Qatar);
- 137.207 Continue efforts to advance the education sector, and ensure access to free basic education for all in accordance with the education strategy and the national education plan (Tunisia);
- 137.208 Continue the efforts deployed in the education sector, particularly with regard to securing free education for primary stages (Saudi Arabia);
- 137.209 Advance further universal access to education, with a special focus on vulnerable groups and by increasing the level of education among girls (Sri Lanka);
- 137.210 Continue efforts to ensure access to education for all, especially girls and forcibly displaced persons (Lebanon);
- 137.211 Continue measures aimed at reducing disparities in the quality of education and intensify the implementation of education support projects (Azerbaijan);
- 137.212 Continue efforts to ensure universal access to education and reduce gender disparity in school enrolment (Bangladesh);
- 137.213 Increase input in education and increase the enrolment rate of children (China);
- 137.214 Redouble efforts to strengthen the right to quality education for all, in particular by implementing measures to promote increased access for girls to school (Djibouti);
- 137.215 Continue promoting human rights, including by incorporating it into the national educational curricula (Ethiopia);
- 137.216 Raise community awareness on the dangers and consequences of early marriage and female genital mutilation (Ethiopia);
- 137.217 Make further efforts to improve respect for human rights through education and training programmes on human rights for the State apparatus, involving possible bilateral and international cooperation (Indonesia);
- 137.218 Increase education, training and capacity-building programmes in the field of human rights (Algeria);
- 137.219 Step up efforts to combat all forms of discrimination against women (Serbia);
- 137.220 Accelerate the formation of the commission for women and gender equality and the commission for legal reform (Estonia);
- 137.221 Accelerate the creation of the commission for women and gender equality and adopt a law on violence against women, including provisions that criminalize domestic violence (Mexico);
- 137.222 Ensure the promotion of women's rights (Ukraine);
- 137.223 Ensure full access to justice for women (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 137.224 Continue to promote the rights of women and girls, combat all forms of discrimination against them and implement the national action plan for the implementation of the Security Council resolution on women and peace and security (Luxembourg);

- 137.225 Continue its exceptional efforts to strengthen the participation and empowerment of women in political and public life and their enjoyment of more civil and political rights (Jordan);
- 137.226 Ensure a return to democratic transition and ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in the mediation processes, in line with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), leading to the formation of a legitimate civilian-led Government (Netherlands);
- 137.227 Respect the Sudanese national plan of action for women, peace and security, and implement the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Norway);
- 137.228 Proceed with steps aimed at the elimination of discrimination and of abuses against women and girls (Georgia);
- 137.229 Investigate all cases of human rights violations and abuse, foremost gender-based violence, and hold perpetrators to account (Slovenia);
- 137.230 Integrate women's issues into all sectors, and support women to carry out their functions and to develop their capacities and skills (United Arab Emirates);
- 137.231 Increasing public awareness about women's issues and rights and assist in establishing pro-women commissions, entities and community initiatives (United Arab Emirates);
- 137.232 Halt violence permanently and allow for mediation efforts (Austria);
- 137.233 Strengthen measures to enable women to enjoy more civil and political rights and ensure equal rights (Bahrain);
- 137.234 Ensure continued consultation with women's rights groups and include a gender perspective throughout the implementation of the Juba Peace Agreement, including in security- and military-sector reform (Belgium);
- 137.235 Consider amending the Nationality Act and regulations to uphold the independent right of Sudanese citizens to confer their nationality without discrimination based on gender or marital status (Chile);
- 137.236 Strengthen efforts to eliminate discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity, actual or perceived, in compliance with its human rights obligations (Fiji);
- 137.237 Promote the full participation of women, youth and civil society in the Sudanese transition, including respecting commitments to quotas for women in representative institutions (France);
- 137.238 Ensure that the yet-to-be-created permanent constitution is based on human rights and the rule of law and that the ongoing discussions on the content include the perspective of women and young people (Germany);
- 137.239 Repeal articles in the Sudanese Criminal Code and provisions of the Personal Status Act that violate basic personal freedoms and the rights of women and girls (Iceland);
- 137.240 Carry out impartial investigations into all allegations of ill-treatment, persecution and extrajudicial killings based on sexual orientation or gender identity (Iceland);
- 137.241 Make further efforts towards reducing poverty and improve the living conditions of rural women, including by reinforcing the provision of financial credit and loans (India);
- 137.242 Consider strengthening data collection and management related to gender equality and women's human rights (Philippines);

- 137.243 Take all necessary measures, both in law and in practice, to combat violence against women and girls and domestic violence (Latvia);
- 137.244 Reform laws and State legislation that legalize any form of violence or discrimination against women and girls such as provisions regarding male guardianship and wife obedience proclaimed in the Personal Status Law (Liechtenstein);
- 137.245 Prioritize the protection of women from violence by reforming or repealing State legislation (Estonia);
- 137.246 Adopt measures for the protection and prevention of sexual and gender-based violence, in addition to mechanisms for accountability, in conflict-affected and displacement settings (Malta);
- 137.247 Continue measures to combat gender-based violence and harmful traditional practices (Nepal);
- 137.248 Eradicate violence and discrimination against women, including by repealing all discriminatory legislation and by ensuring women's participation in decision-making, including in the ongoing peace process (Portugal);
- 137.249 Continue to strengthen measures in combating violence against women and girls and provide legal protection for victims of sexual and gender-based violence (South Africa);
- 137.250 Approve and implement the proposed violence against women law, including provisions which clearly criminalize domestic violence with strict punishments (Australia);
- 137.251 Implement the national action plan on women, peace and security and the framework of cooperation with the United Nations on the prevention and response to sexual violence against women and girls during conflict (Sweden);
- 137.252 Take measures to ensure justice for the families and survivors of the 3 June 2019 crackdown on peaceful protestors and those killed and injured since 25 October 2021, including survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (Canada);
- 137.253 Further strengthen measures to address violence against women, including efforts to combat female genital mutilation through effective prosecution of people who encourage, facilitate or perform the surgery, as the prevalence of female genital mutilation remains extremely high (Czechia);
- 137.254 Pursue efforts to combat violence against women (Egypt);
- 137.255 Strengthen measures aimed at eradicating female genital mutilation through a more repressive legal arsenal against its perpetrators, and through the implementation of existing laws and policies that prohibit such practices in all their forms (Djibouti);
- 137.256 Continue legal reforms pursued by the transitional Government under Prime Minister Hamdok, including the criminalization of female genital mutilation, and ensure their full implementation (Finland);
- 137.257 Take further steps to fight against harmful practices against women, in particular female genital mutilation (Somalia);
- 137.258 Enforce the prohibition of female genital mutilation through an effective prosecution mechanism (Ukraine);
- 137.259 Uphold the prohibition of female genital mutilation by effectively prosecuting those who encourage, facilitate or practice it (Burkina Faso);
- 137.260 Step up efforts to eradicate female genital mutilation, including intensifying awareness campaigns on the health and psychological risks associated with this phenomenon (Mauritania);

- 137.261 Continue with measures to protect children's rights (Georgia);
- 137.262 Take all necessary steps to protect children from all forms of violence, neglect, injury, harm and exploitation (Malawi);
- 137.263 Enhance efforts to guarantee the rights of the children and protect them from violence, abuse and involvement in armed conflict (Italy);
- 137.264 Align national legislation with commitments to international human rights mechanisms, including by prohibiting corporal punishment, which is present in legislation and in the penal system (Austria);
- 137.265 Take action to protect children from all forms of violence and exploitation, including corporal punishment, forced labour, early marriage and military recruitment (Portugal);
- 137.266 Outlaw corporal punishment (Italy);
- 137.267 Adopt legislation expressly prohibiting corporal punishment of children in all settings and repeal all legal provisions that justify the use of corporal punishment as an educational method (Chad);
- 137.268 Modify legislation to set the legal minimum age for marriage at 18 years (Mexico);
- 137.269 Consider amending its legislation to set the minimum age for marriage at 18 years (Sierra Leone);
- 137.270 Ensure the protection of children from grave violations and the provision of adequate support for their reintegration and rehabilitation (Philippines);
- 137.271 Increase efforts towards ensuring accountability for grave violations against children by bringing perpetrators to justice and by providing remedies to victims (Belgium);
- 137.272 Maintain social policies that support the family in line with social values (Algeria);
- 137.273 Ensure that the rights of vulnerable groups, in particular women, children, persons with disabilities, older persons and ethnic minorities, are protected in law and in practice (Russian Federation);
- 137.274 Implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which it ratified at the same time as acceding to the Optional Protocol thereto in April 2009 (South Sudan);
- 137.275 Take the necessary measures to implement the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and restructure public institutions to take into account the situation of women with disabilities (Chad);
- 137.276 Adopt a national disability awareness strategy based on a human rights approach (Angola);
- 137.277 Continue the efforts made in relation to the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities, including their rehabilitation and inclusion and the provision of necessary health care (Libya);
- 137.278 Empower and promote the economic inclusion of all persons, irrespective of their disability status (Malaysia);
- 137.279 Review article 3 of the Persons with Disabilities Act of 2017 to explicitly prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability and to ensure that denial of reasonable accommodation is recognized as a form of disability-based discrimination; and include those provisions in the forthcoming draft constitution, so as to provide the highest legal protection against the disability-based discrimination and multiple and intersectional forms of discrimination faced by persons with disabilities (South Africa);

137.280 **Redouble efforts in capacity-building aimed at empowering persons with disabilities and ensuring equal access to decent work, without discrimination (Burundi);**

137.281 **Ensure the proper treatment of refugees and asylum seekers through the application of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the Asylum Regulations Act (Afghanistan);**

137.282 **Intensify efforts to prevent further displacement and advance in the search for solutions to the internal displacement of persons (Mexico);**

137.283 **Take legislative and administrative measures to combat statelessness (Angola).**

138. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Sudan was headed by Ms. Howaida Ali Awad Al-Karim Ali, Acting Undersecretary of the Ministry of Justice and composed of the following members:

- Mr. Juma'a Al-Wakeel Al-Aysar – Rapporteur of the National Human Rights Mechanism;
 - Mr. Ambassador Osman Abufatima Adam Mohammed – Chargé d'Affaires a.i. – Sudan Mission in Geneva;
 - Mr. Ambassador Abadi Noureddine – Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
 - Mr. Abu Bakr Omar Ahmed Al-Bashir – Representative of the Judicial Authority;
 - Mr. Sufian Abdel Wahab – Ministry of Interior;
 - Ms. Eman Muhammad Abdullah – Representative of the Public Prosecution Office;
 - Dr. Maryam Ali Ahmed – Ministry of Social Development;
 - Dr. Rehab Mustafa – The National Council for Persons with Disabilities;
 - Ms. Najat Al-Assad – The National Council for Child Welfare;
 - Mr. Alam El Din Hamed – Social Welfare;
 - Ms. Najat Imam El-Din – Ministry of Justice;
 - Ms. Hoda Jalal El Din – Ministry of Justice;
 - Dr. Raja'a Abdel-Qader Al-Zubair – Ministry of Justice;
 - Ms. Ishraqa Yousef Othman – Ministry of Justice;
 - Ms. Iqbal Khader Abdeen – Ministry of Justice;
 - Ms. Buthaina Mohamed Al-Tayeb – Ministry of Justice.
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