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**Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner
for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the
High Commissioner and the Secretary-General**

Written statement submitted by Committee for Justice, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status*

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[10 August 2025]

* Issued as received, in the language of submission only.



Ongoing Atrocities in The Sudan and the Urgent Need to Renew the Mandate of the Fact-Finding Mission

Introduction

The Committee for Justice draws the Council's attention to the rapidly deteriorating human rights and humanitarian situation in the Sudan since the outbreak of armed conflict on 15 April 2023. Civilians in Darfur, Kordofan, Khartoum, and other conflict-affected areas face unrelenting violence and repression committed by warring parties. Our documentation between January and June 2025 reveals patterns of arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance, torture, sexual violence, forced labor, ethnically targeted killings, and systematic attacks on human rights defenders. These abuses have taken place in the context of total impunity, the collapse of judicial institutions, and deliberate obstruction of humanitarian assistance. The UN Fact-Finding Mission on the Sudan has been a vital mechanism for documenting these violations, preserving evidence, and informing pathways to justice and long-term accountability. Its mandate must be renewed to ensure that monitoring and accountability efforts are not abandoned.

1. Widespread Arbitrary Detention and Enforced Disappearance

From January to June 2025, Committee for Justice documented at least 31 cases of arbitrary detention and 23 cases of enforced disappearance against HRDs in the Sudan. Victims include lawyers, doctors, journalists, teachers, and humanitarian workers who were targeted due to their activism, professional work, ethnic identity, or perceived political affiliations. Detainees are held in RSF-controlled facilities that operate entirely outside legal frameworks, where they are denied access to lawyers, medical care, or family contact. In some cases, they are transferred between multiple unofficial places of detention to obscure their whereabouts. We have documented instances of victims being tied to trees for days, shackled with heavy iron chains, and subjected to repeated beatings.

In Port Sudan, a human rights lawyer Montasir Abdallah was detained in September 2024 after requesting access to investigation records for political detainees. He has since endured physical and psychological torture and faces politically motivated charges that could result in life imprisonment. Similar patterns were seen in the enforced disappearance of doctors such as Malik Al-Amin Abdullah and journalists like Abd El-Galil Mohamed Abd El-Galil, whose families have received no information about their fate or location since their disappearance.

2. Extrajudicial Killings and Ethnically Targeted Violence

The conflict has been marked by widespread extrajudicial killings, particularly in Darfur, where the RSF and affiliated militias have targeted members of the Masalit, Fur, Zaghawa, and other marginalized groups. Between January and June 2025, we documented at least 41 killings of HRDs, including teachers' rights advocates, doctors, and journalists. Testimonies revealed the deliberate execution of detainees in front of others to instill fear. In one case, a nine-year-old boy was shot dead during an RSF interrogation session, while survivors were forced to watch and threatened with the same fate. Mass killings have also followed RSF raids on villages, such as in Al-Sireha in October 2024, where more than 120 civilians were killed in two days of attacks. These acts violate the Sudan's obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, and in some cases may constitute crimes against humanity or genocide.

3. Attacks on Human Rights Defenders and Civil Society

HRDs, journalists, and lawyers are facing an unprecedented crackdown. Those defending politically sensitive cases have been detained, tortured, or handed long prison sentences following unfair trials. Journalists who document violations have been disappeared or killed.

In January 2025, three engineers and activists from Khartoum TV were killed in RSF custody. Civil society organizations have been subjected to raids, asset freezes, and intimidation. Staff members have been harassed or assaulted, and humanitarian organizations have been looted, with vital supplies stolen or destroyed. The reinstatement of repressive “National Security Laws” in 2023 has provided legal cover for the suppression of civil society, while the so-called “Information Law” has been used to criminalize online expression about the conflict. Reprisals against those engaging with human rights mechanisms are also on the rise. Travel bans, arbitrary arrests, and threats have been used to punish defenders for cooperating with regional and international bodies.

4. Humanitarian Impact and Forced Displacement

The conflict has displaced nearly 13 million people have been forced to flee their homes in search of safety. 8.6 million people have been internally displaced by the conflict in the Sudan, and forced over 3.2 million to flee to neighbouring countries such as Chad, Egypt, South Sudan, Uganda and Ethiopia. In many cases, civilians are trapped in areas where humanitarian aid is deliberately blocked. The destruction of hospitals, schools, water infrastructure, and markets has left millions without access to essential services. In Darfur, we documented famine conditions in displacement camps due to deliberate obstruction of food supplies. For instance, in Zamzam camp, the largest in the region, humanitarian agencies have documented acute food shortages and high rates of malnutrition.

Sexual violence, starvation, and denial of medical care have been also weaponized against communities perceived to support the opposing party. These acts not only violate humanitarian law but also deepen the cycle of displacement, vulnerability, and exploitation.

5. The Role of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission for the Sudan

The Fact-Finding Mission on the Sudan has been indispensable in documenting human rights violations, identifying perpetrators, and preserving evidence for accountability. Its investigations have provided the international community with a credible and impartial account of atrocities, informed advocacy efforts, and strengthened the basis for future prosecutions before domestic and international courts. In the absence of functioning domestic institutions, the FFM serves as one of the only mechanisms capable of conducting independent, survivor-centered investigations and documentations. Ending its mandate at this stage without renewal would halt ongoing documentations efforts and would risk the loss of critical evidence and send a dangerous signal of disengagement to both victims and perpetrators. The renewal of the FFM’s mandate is essential to maintain international scrutiny, prevent further atrocities, and ensure that the Sudan’s crisis remains on the global agenda.

6. Conclusion and Recommendations

The situation in the Sudan remains one of the gravest human rights crises in the world. Without sustained international monitoring and accountability efforts, the cycle of violence and impunity will continue. The Human Rights Council must act decisively.

The Committee for Justice urges the Council to:

1. Renew the mandate of the Fact-Finding Mission on the Sudan for at least one additional year to continue independent monitoring, documentation, evidence gathering from stakeholders, and public reporting.
2. Provide the FFM with adequate resources and technical capacity to engage with survivors, Sudanese civil society, and diaspora communities.
3. Ensure that the FFM’s findings are transmitted to relevant accountability mechanisms, including the UN Security Council and the ICC.

4. Call on all parties to cease violations of international human rights and humanitarian law, allow unhindered humanitarian access, and cooperate fully with the FFM.
5. Support the establishment of long-term international and hybrid transitional justice processes to secure truth, justice, and reparations for victims.

Renewing the FFM's mandate is not only a procedural necessity but a moral imperative. The people of the Sudan deserve justice, and member states of the Council have the responsibility to help ensure it.
