

## **Statement of the Bangladesh on Sudan at the Human Rights Council**

Mr. President,

I thank the Special Rapporteur Sima Samar for her presentation on the human rights situation in Sudan.

The situation of Darfur has been in international focus since 2004. We regret that peace remains yet elusive, and that civilians are bearing the brunt of the conflict.

There have been allegations of serious violation of human rights in Darfur. To us, every unnecessary loss of life is tragic, be it in Darfur or elsewhere. All parties should respect international humanitarian laws and human rights laws.

Mr. President,

It is clear from the report of the Special Rapporteur that there is no quick fix or easy solution to the conflict in Darfur. The change would come gradually, and with the participation of all. The Government of Sudan has already taken a number of positive initiatives that the Special Rapporteur has acknowledged. Much more needs to be done. The African Union has an important role in containing the situation, and could perhaps be more engaged. The Abuja Peace Agreement should also be given a chance.

Mr. President,

We commend the Government of Sudan for the affirmative actions it has taken. We need to engage with it for further improvement of the situation. The Government requires space to improve its governance, rule of law and human rights standards. Markers should be set for the Government to fulfil, and within specified time frames. Pointing fingers for alleged lapses, on any side, would not advance the interest of those affected. Only through a constructive approach can we hope to achieve peace in Sudan, and help make human rights and respect for human dignity a reality for her people.