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Note verbale dated 10 October 2019 from the Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Sudan to the United Nations presents its compliments to the President of the General Assembly and, with reference to the candidature of the Sudan to the Human Rights Council for the term 2020–2022, at the elections to be held on 17 October 2019 in New York, has the honour to transmit herewith the voluntary pledges and commitments of the Sudan in accordance with Assembly resolution 60/251 (see annex).

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Sudan to the United Nations would like to request that the present note verbale and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 114 (c).



Annex to the note verbale dated 10 October 2019 from the Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

Candidature of the Sudan to the Human Rights Council, 2020-2022

Voluntary pledges and commitments pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/251

Introduction

1. The Sudanese revolution of 19 December 2018 created a new reality in the political atmosphere regarding the establishment of a State of good governance, the rule of law and respect for human rights.

2. Sudan is an independent, democratic, decentralized State in which rights and duties are based on citizenship.

International level

3. Sudan is committed to fulfilling its obligations regarding the international and regional conventions and treaties that it has ratified and to ensuring its efforts to join the conventions that it has not yet signed.

4. Sudan is committed to collaborating and cooperating with all human rights mechanisms at both the regional and international levels, including the Human Rights Council and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, with a view to promoting human rights at both the regional and international levels.

5. Sudan will continue to support the universal periodic review mechanism as one of the most important mechanisms of the Human Rights Council to protect and promote human rights worldwide.

6. Sudan will continue to support the important role played by civil society and non-governmental organizations in developing human rights and in disseminating a human rights culture.

7. Sudan is committed to strengthening its cooperation with the members of the Human Rights Council and to encouraging them to fulfil their obligations in the field of human rights in accordance with international conventions.

8. Sudan expresses its readiness to exert the efforts necessary to ensure that all human rights issues included in the international conventions are accorded the same consideration within the Human Rights Council, in particular economic rights.

9. Sudan reaffirms its commitment to fulfilling its international obligations regarding the submission of periodic reports in relation to the international conventions and treaties that it has already signed and to implementing their recommendations.

10. Sudan ensures the importance of cultural and social rights and is committed to cooperating with all States members of the Human Rights Council and partners to respect and promote these rights.

11. Sudan reaffirms its commitment to working with the States members of the Human Rights Council and observers to put an end to the use of the unilateral coercive measures considered as being a major violation of human rights.

National level

12. Sudan is committed to achieving sustainable peace in the whole country, one of the main pillars of the Sudanese revolution, and the Government of Sudan will

continue its efforts to communicate and engage in dialogue with armed groups in order to achieve comprehensive, fair and sustainable peace on the basis of equality of citizenship and human rights.

13. Sudan will work constructively during the transitional period to create a suitable atmosphere in which to hold free and fair elections leading to a democratic, freely elected Government.

14. Sudan will continue its commitment during the transitional period to supporting the empowerment of women in all political, economic and social aspects.

15. Sudan will continue to cooperate with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights regarding the opening of a fully mandated country office in Sudan in accordance with the agreement that was signed on 25 September 2019. Furthermore, Sudan is committed to facilitating the mission of the office.

16. Sudan underscores the importance of the role played by the National Commission for Human Rights in respecting and protecting human rights in accordance with the Paris Principles.

17. Sudan is committed to promoting and developing human rights in Sudan by implementing the national plan for human rights for the years 2013–2023 and to developing the plan on the basis of requirements and needs.

18. Sudan is committed to implementing the Sustainable Development Goals by improving the quality of education and providing free health care and decent housing for all individuals, in addition to eliminating poverty, strengthening disaster risk reduction and promoting welfare and better opportunities for young people, persons with disabilities, women and children.

19. Sudan expresses its readiness to make the necessary legal reforms in accordance with international conventions that it has already ratified and to develop legal and judicial institutions in order to guarantee the full implementation of human rights.

20. Sudan is committed to the international instruments that it has already ratified, namely:

(a) International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

(b) Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

(c) International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;

(d) International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

(e) Convention on the Rights of Child;

(f) Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict;

(g) Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;

- (h) Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
- (i) African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights;
- (j) Arab Charter on Human Rights.

21. Sudan is keen to work on the implementation of the principles of transitional justice and accounting for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

22. The following are national mechanisms for promoting and protecting human rights:

- (a) Constitutional Court;
- (b) Ordinary courts;
- (c) Office of the Prosecutor General;
- (d) Board of Grievances;
- (e) National Commission for Human Rights;
- (f) Advisory Council on Human Rights;
- (g) National Council for Child Welfare;
- (h) National Council for Persons with Disabilities;
- (i) Unit for Combating Violence against Women and Children;
- (j) Women's Directorate, Ministry of Work and Social Welfare;
- (k) Family and child protection units;
- (1) Human rights departments of related ministries;
- (m) National Committee for Combating trafficking in Persons;
- (n) National Committee on Religious Freedom;
- (o) Civil society and non-governmental organizations related to human rights.