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### **Human Rights Council**

Sixtieth session
8 September–8 October 2025
Agenda item 2
Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

# Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council on 6 October 2025

## 60/3. Responding to the human rights and humanitarian crisis caused by the ongoing armed conflict in the Sudan

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Guided also by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, and other relevant human rights instruments,

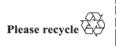
Reaffirming that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights, and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Reaffirming also its strong commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity and national unity of the Sudan, and its solidarity with the Sudanese people,

*Emphasizing* that States have the primary responsibility for ensuring respect for and for the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and recalling that the Sudan has the responsibility to act in accordance with international humanitarian law, as well as to protect its population from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity,

Recalling the obligations of all parties to the conflict under international humanitarian law and the obligations of the Sudan under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and other treaties to which it is a State Party, and recalling also the commitment of the Sudan, reflected in the Constitutional Declaration of 2019 and the Juba Peace Agreement of 2020, to elevate the value of human rights, and that all parties must continue to comply with their respective obligations, including as applicable during the ongoing armed conflict,

Recalling also the commitments made on 11 May 2023 by the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces under the Jeddah Declaration of Commitment to Protect the Civilians of Sudan, including with regard to allowing and facilitating principled





humanitarian relief, and the affirmation by the parties of their responsibility to respect international humanitarian law and international human rights law,

Reaffirming Human Rights Council resolutions S-32/1 of 5 November 2021 and S-36/1 of 11 May 2023, and the mandates given therein to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the designated Expert on human rights in the Sudan,

Reaffirming also Human Rights Council resolutions 54/2 of 11 October 2023 and 57/2 of 9 October 2024, and the mandate given therein to the independent international fact-finding mission for the Sudan, while noting with concern the impact of the worsening situation in the Sudan and of the liquidity crisis affecting the United Nations on the sufficient resourcing of the fact-finding mission,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 and Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 5/2 of 18 June 2007, and that States Members of the United Nations are required to uphold the highest standards in the promotion and protection of human rights,

*Recalling also* Security Council resolutions 1564 (2004) of 18 September 2004, 1593 (2005) of 31 March 2005, 2724 (2024) of 8 March 2024 and 2736 (2024) of 13 June 2024,

*Recalling further* the press statement by the Security Council on the Sudan of 13 August 2025,

Recalling all other relevant resolutions adopted and statements made by the Human Rights Council, the General Assembly and the Security Council on the Sudan, and relevant statements on the Sudan by the Secretary-General, the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sudan, the High Commissioner, the designated Expert on human rights in the Sudan, the fact-finding mission and the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide,

Noting with appreciation all relevant communiqués, statements and resolutions of the African Union, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the League of Arab States and the Sudan Quad, comprising Egypt, Saudia Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and the United States of America, issued since the start of the armed conflict on 15 April 2023,

*Noting with concern* the latest reports of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict<sup>1</sup> and on children and armed conflict in the Sudan,<sup>2</sup>

Noting with concern also the report of the fact-finding mission<sup>3</sup> and expressing deep concern at the mission's findings that there are reasonable grounds to believe that both the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces have violated international law, amounting to war crimes, and that the Rapid Support Forces have also committed crimes against humanity,

Expressing grave concern at cases, documented by the fact-finding mission in its report, of sexual and gender-based violence, acts of killing and maiming of children, arbitrary arrest and detention, killings, enforced disappearance and the mass displacement of civilians, including during reprisal attacks, and expressing grave concern also at the mission's findings that both parties have failed to minimize the impact of air strikes and artillery shelling on civilians and have targeted civilians, and that the Rapid Support Forces and its allied militias committed coordinated and large-scale attacks on the civilian population, often on the basis of civilians' gender and ethnicity, including murder, torture, rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, including sexual slavery, persecution, forced displacement, pillage, the use of starvation as a method of warfare and the destruction of objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A/79/878-S/2025/247.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> S/2024/443.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A/HRC/60/22.

Expressing deep concern at the statement by the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide ad interim on 23 June 2025 that the risk of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity in the Sudan remains very high,

Recalling the common and sustained call, since the start of the conflict, for all parties to the conflict to immediately cease hostilities and to agree and adhere to a nationwide ceasefire, and for the establishment of an inclusive and comprehensive process of Sudanowned and Sudan-led political transition, towards a democratically elected national Government following a civilian-led transition period, with the full, equal, meaningful and safe participation of women and youth, and reflecting the aspirations of the Sudanese people,

Recalling also the common and sustained call for all parties to immediately allow for full, safe and unhindered humanitarian access into and throughout the Sudan and to adhere to their obligations under international humanitarian law and, as applicable, international human rights law,

Recognizing that impunity for violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law encourages their recurrence and is a fundamental obstacle to sustainable peace in the Sudan and that a comprehensive transitional justice process should address impunity and justice gaps, provide remedies and reparations to victims and promote truth-seeking, healing and reconciliation,

Welcoming the stated commitment by the Sudanese authorities to investigate all atrocities and prosecute those responsible, as appropriate, through independent and impartial national accountability efforts and to investigate crimes and violations of national law and international humanitarian law, and urging the full implementation of such commitments, in line with international law,

Noting the ongoing investigation by the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court into alleged international crimes committed in Darfur, including in the context of the current armed conflict, and expressing deep concern about the statement of the Deputy Prosecutor to the Security Council on the situation in Darfur, pursuant to its resolution 1593 (2005) on 10 July 2025,<sup>4</sup> in particular that people in Darfur are being deprived of water and food, and that rape and sexual violence are being weaponized,

*Noting also* the forty-first report of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court to the Security Council pursuant to its resolution 1593 (2005)<sup>5</sup> and expressing grave concern about the Prosecutor's findings that there are reasonable grounds to believe that war crimes and crimes against humanity have been, and continue to be, committed in Darfur,

Welcoming ongoing civilian-led efforts to end fighting, including the founding conference of the Coordination Body of the Civil and Democratic Forces (Taqaddum), held in Addis Ababa from 27 to 30 May 2024, the conference of Sudanese civil and political groups, held in Cairo on 6 and 7 July 2024, and the continued efforts of Somoud,

Welcoming also the leadership role of the African Union in responding to the situation in the Sudan, including its road map calling for an immediate ceasefire, the establishment of the African Union High-level Panel on the Sudan, in January 2024, and the convening of the inaugural and second Preparatory Meetings for the Inter-Sudanese Political Dialogue, from 10 to 15 July and from 10 to 12 August 2024 respectively,

Noting African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights resolutions 578 (LXXVII) 2023 of 9 November 2023, in which the Commission welcomed the decision of the Human Rights Council to establish the fact-finding mission in October 2023, 590 (LXXX) 2024 of 2 August 2024, in which the Commission established a joint fact-finding mission, with the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, on the human rights situation in the Sudan, and 635 (LXXXIII) 2025 of 22 May 2025, in which the Commission extended the mandate of the joint fact-finding mission for an additional period of six months,

Noting with appreciation the international humanitarian conference for the Sudan and neighbouring States, held in Paris on 15 April 2024, and the London Sudan Conference, held

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See S/PV.9955.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Available at https://www.icc-cpi.int/resource-library/reports.

in London on 15 April 2025, to mark the first and second anniversaries of the outbreak of the conflict, noting the commitments made by the international community to maintain pressure on the parties to the conflict to reach a permanent ceasefire, to allow and facilitate rapid, safe and unimpeded humanitarian access to all areas of need through all necessary routes and to protect civilians, in accordance with the commitments made in the Jeddah Declaration, and noting with appreciation the life-saving humanitarian assistance announced by regional and international partners at the conferences,

Welcoming the visit to Port Sudan by the designated Expert on human rights in the Sudan, from 27 to 31 July 2025, at the invitation of the Sudanese authorities, and welcoming also the engagement of the Sudanese authorities with the High Commissioner and the Expert,

Underlining the importance of ensuring close coordination between all mediation and peace initiatives and actors, including initiatives undertaken by other regional and international partners, and noting with appreciation the ongoing efforts by the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sudan, the Sudan Quad, the Aligned for Advancing Lifesaving and Peace in the Sudan initiative and the Consultative Group on the Sudan, comprising the African Union, the European Union, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the League of Arab States and the United Nations and Angola, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States, to help advance sustainable peace in the Sudan,

- 1. Reiterates its strong condemnation of the continuing armed conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces and their associated and allied forces and all reported violations of international humanitarian law and all violations and abuses of human rights committed in this context, including alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity, and echoes the similar condemnations expressed by the Secretary-General, the Security Council, the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, other relevant regional and subregional bodies, individual States and civil society organizations;
- 2. Expresses its grave concern at the ongoing dire humanitarian and human rights crisis in the Sudan since the start of the current armed conflict on 15 April 2023, with 30 million people in need of humanitarian assistance and up to 12 million people displaced, including 4 million people as refugees into neighbouring States,<sup>6</sup> at the spread of cholera across the Sudan and beyond its borders into neighbouring States, and at reports by the Famine Review Committee of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification that 24.6 million people more than 50 per cent of the population are experiencing severe levels of acute food insecurity, at phase 3 ("crisis") or higher, including 638,000 people at phase 5 ("catastrophe/famine"), and that famine conditions already present in Zamzam camp, in North Darfur, have spread to Abu Shawk and Salam camps and to the western Nuba Mountains,<sup>7</sup> with such conditions very likely to be present also in other areas of the Sudan;
- 3. Reiterates its call for an immediate and complete ceasefire by all parties, without preconditions, the establishment of an independent monitoring mechanism of the ceasefire, the rehabilitation of critical basic infrastructure, a negotiated and peaceful resolution to the conflict on the basis of inclusive, Sudan-owned and Sudan-led dialogue, with the active participation of Sudanese civilian actors, including women, and the recommitment of all parties to end all attempts at establishing parallel governing structures and to establish, with the people of the Sudan, a credible and inclusive process of political transition, towards a democratically elected national Government following a civilian-led transition period;
- 4. *Calls for* the full implementation of the Jeddah Declaration of Commitment to Protect the Civilians of Sudan, requests the parties to ensure and facilitate immediate, safe

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See United Nations News, "[United Nations] warns of worsening humanitarian crisis in [the] Sudan as displacement, hunger and disease escalate", 7 July 2025.

Integrated Food Security Phase Classification, "Sudan: acute food insecurity situation – updated projections and Famine Review Committee conclusions for October 2024 to May 2025", 24 December 2024.

and unhindered humanitarian access, including cross-border and cross-line access, reiterates that humanitarian workers must be respected and protected at all times and condemns the deprivation by all parties to the conflict of essential humanitarian assistance, across several areas of the Sudan, and the attacks on humanitarian workers and looting of humanitarian convoys, warehouses and aid agencies, including by the Rapid Support Forces and other affiliated militias;

- 5. Welcomes the decision of the Sudanese authorities to extend the authorization of humanitarian access through the Adré border crossing from Chad for an additional three-month period and calls for these measures to be sustained permanently and for unimpeded aid delivery to be facilitated through all possible routes into and within the country, and reiterates its calls to all parties of the conflict to remove any bureaucratic impediments and operational conditions that unduly obstruct the movement of humanitarian personnel, goods and supplies in reaching those most in need;
- 6. Condemns the violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights reported in the Darfur region of the Sudan, including shelling across civilian neighbourhoods, resulting in civilian deaths, injuries, the destruction of towns and critical infrastructure including hospitals, schools, electricity plants, telecommunications infrastructure, religious, historical, cultural and community sites and places of worship by both sides, and acts of sexual and gender-based violence, ethnically motivated attacks on civilians and looting by the Rapid Support Forces and allied militia, and expresses its deep concern at the clear parallels between these developments and previous violations and abuses in Darfur;
- 7. Expresses its grave concern at reported incidents of the indiscriminate use of force against civilians, including children, by parties to the conflict, including indiscriminate aerial bombardments by the Sudanese Armed Forces and the use of drones against critical infrastructure in Port Sudan by the Rapid Support Forces, reprisal killings by the Sudanese Armed Forces following their recapture of Khartoum and extrajudicial killings of civilians by the Rapid Support Forces in detention centres around Khartoum, artillery shelling by both parties resulting in civilian deaths and the destruction of civilian homes and critical infrastructure, including hospitals and schools, the illegal recruitment and use of children in armed conflict, and the use of torture against and the ill-treatment and life-threatening conditions faced by detainees held by both parties;
- 8. Condemns the continued escalation of violence in and around El Fasher, in North Darfur, particularly the large-scale offensive launched by the Rapid Support Forces on Zamzam and Abu Shawk camps, leaving more than 400,000 people displaced from Zamzam camp alone, trapped without access to humanitarian aid and exposed to further violence, primarily in El Fasher and Tawilah, and reiterates calls upon all parties to the conflict to ensure the protection of civilians, as required under international law, including by allowing civilians wishing to do so to move within or away from El Fasher to safer areas;
- 9. Expresses grave concern at the escalation of violence in Kordofan, including reported attacks on a number of villages by the Rapid Support Forces in North Kordofan<sup>9</sup> and the alleged strike by the Sudanese Armed Forces on Al-Mujlad Hospital in West Kordofan resulting in a high number of civilian deaths, including health workers, <sup>10</sup> at a time of rising humanitarian needs and a severe cholera outbreak in the region;
- 10. Expresses deep concern at reports by the United Nations Population Fund that gender-based violence is being used as a weapon of war, with more than 12 million people, primarily women and girls, at risk of sexual and gender-based violence, including rape, sexual slavery and sexual exploitation and abuse, and stresses the need for all parties to

Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, "Sudan: displacement from Zamzam camp, North Darfur State – flash update No. 01", 15 April 2025.

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, "Sudan: [United Nations] human rights chief deplores killing of dozens of civilians in Kordofan", 17 July 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> A/HRC/60/22, para. 101. See also https://www.who.int/director-general/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-media-briefing---27-june-2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> United Nations Population Fund, "Situation report No. 21: Sudan emergency", 23 June 2025.

protect civilians and to ensure access to timely and quality services for survivors and the importance of providing survivor-centred responses to acts of sexual and gender-based violence while ensuring accountability for those who commit such acts;

- 11. Also expresses deep concern at the findings of the independent international fact-finding mission for the Sudan regarding the suspension of telecommunications services and seizure of critical infrastructure, 12 which disrupted civilian access to essential services and hindered humanitarian coordination, and expresses grave concern at the systematic censorship and suppression of media freedom through arrests of and attacks and threats against journalists, contributing to widespread misinformation and worsening the humanitarian and human rights crisis;
- 12. Strongly deplores the reported killings, attacks, arbitrary detention and acts of intimidation and retaliation targeting humanitarian and health workers, including national and locally recruited personnel, human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders, community leaders, local actors, including mutual aid groups, public servants and local government workers, journalists and other media workers, students, lawyers and civil society actors, and targeting members of international organizations and the diplomatic community in the Sudan, which has a direct impact on the capacity of the international community to respond to the human rights and humanitarian crisis in the Sudan;
- 13. *Urges* all parties to the conflict in the Sudan to immediately de-escalate tensions, respect and protect civilians, including those who are humanitarian workers and health workers, and civilian infrastructure, and to allow civilians to move freely to gain access to the basic services and humanitarian assistance that they need, consistent with international law;
- 14. *Urges* the United Nations, together with the African Union, to accelerate consideration of practical options for enhancing the protection of civilians in the Sudan, in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders and in full recognition of the obligation of the Sudan to act in accordance with international humanitarian law and to protect its population from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity;
- 15. Condemns all forms of external interference that fuels the conflict, urges all parties to the conflict, as well as external actors, to respect and uphold the unity and territorial integrity of the Sudan and reiterates the call by the fact-finding mission that material support to both parties be halted and that all States and entities respect and enforce the existing arms embargo in Darfur, in effect pursuant to Security Council resolution 1556 (2004) of 30 July 2004 and subsequent resolutions;
- 16. Commends Sudanese and regional relief and aid workers and local responders, including mutual aid groups, operating in the Sudan and along its borders for their bravery and work in challenging and dangerous circumstances to provide life-saving support to communities and calls for their protection, and also commends neighbouring countries that have hosted and provided assistance to refugees fleeing ongoing violence and recalls the importance under international law of respect by all States for the principle of non-refoulement;
- 17. Acknowledges the major burden on countries hosting refugees and the impact on neighbouring countries, expresses grave concern about the continuing gap in the provision of financial support for United Nations response plans in the Sudan and in neighbouring States and reiterates the need for scaled-up international support;
- 18. *Stresses*, once again, that ensuring accountability for violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights is central to any solution to the ongoing crisis in the Sudan, as well as to efforts to address the root causes of the armed conflict and prevent further instability in the Sudan, and underscores the urgency of initiating prompt, full, independent, impartial, transparent and credible investigations into all alleged abuses and violations by all parties to the conflict, to end impunity and hold accountable

Conference room paper of the independent international fact-finding mission for the Sudan (issued with A/HRC/57/23 and containing detailed information and analysis), para. 267. Available at https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/regular-sessions/session57/list-reports.

those responsible through robust and credible criminal justice processes, while noting the important role that the International Criminal Court can play in this regard;

- 19. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the independent international fact-finding mission for the Sudan for a period of one year;
- 20. *Encourages* the fact-finding mission to give due regard to ensuring the complementarity of its efforts with those of other actors, including independent national accountability efforts and regional investigations;
- 21. Requests the fact-finding mission to provide the Human Rights Council with an oral update on its work at its sixty-second session, to be followed by an enhanced interactive dialogue with the participation of a representative of civil society, and a comprehensive report at its sixty-third session, to be followed by an interactive dialogue, and to present the report to the General Assembly at its eighty-first session, to be followed by an interactive dialogue;
- 22. Requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, with the assistance of the designated Expert on human rights in the Sudan, to submit to the Human Rights Council at its sixty-fourth session a comprehensive report on the situation of human rights in the Sudan and on violations and abuses committed by all parties to the conflict, to be followed by an interactive dialogue with the participation of the High Commissioner and the Expert;
- 23. Requests the Secretary-General to provide all the resources and expertise necessary to enable the Office of the High Commissioner to provide such administrative, technical and logistical support as is required to implement the provisions of the present resolution:
- 24. *Calls upon* the parties to the conflict to cooperate fully with the fact-finding mission in the performance of its work, and calls upon the international community to support fully the implementation of its mandate;
  - 25. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

41st meeting 6 October 2025

[Adopted by a recorded vote of 24 to 11, with 12 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

#### In favour:

Albania, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechia, Dominican Republic, France, Georgia, Germany, Iceland, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), North Macedonia, Republic of Korea, Romania, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland

### Against:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Cuba, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kuwait, Morocco, Qatar, Sudan, Viet Nam

#### Abstaining:

Algeria, Bangladesh, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Maldives, Thailand]