

Opening Remarks – Side Event on Human Rights in Africa – Special Focus on Sudan

UN Human Rights Council, 62 Regular Session,

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Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the organizers of this NGO Briefing, I wish to thank you for your presence.

This briefing is the second in the traditional triannual NGO Briefings organized by ACDHRS at each session of the HRC, which are usually devoted to the most burning situations in Africa. We meet today and the armed conflict in Sudan continues unabated without any prospect for peace. On Friday the UN Security Council in New York in accordance with Resolution S/RES/2715 of 2023 to look at the situation in Sudan. The discussion was dominated by the developments in Al-Obeid, capital city of North Kordofan State, which hosts over one million people, and the scene of military build-up by the RSF and the SAF and multiplying drones' attacks, which is harbinger of what could happen without robust intervention.

1. All efforts should be exerted to end this siege and avert a humanitarian tragedy reminiscent of the tragedy faced by the people of El-Ginena in June 2023 and Al-Fasher in October 2025.
2. The international community must multiply its efforts and exercise all possible pressure to bear on the parties to the conflict, especially SAF, and force them to sit down at the negotiation table and end this senseless armed conflict.
3. All indicators suggest that dozens of state and non-state actors are involved in the armed conflict in Sudan, yet only one country is singled out, the United Arab Emirates, and its presumed support to one party to the conflict. In reality, the role of some neighboring countries such as Egypt is especially significant as they directly participate in combat operations through air force, ground troops and intelligence agents. Attacks by Egyptian fighter jets and ground troops on 16, 17 and 18 June 2026 killed more 400 artisanal gold miners in the Red Sea State of Sudan went unnoticed and without condemnation.
4. The diplomatic and political backing extended by these countries to SAF emboldened and encouraged it to reject all peace initiatives, including calls for ceasefire for humanitarian purposes.
5. Other countries, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, play a key role in the conflict either by funding SAF while others, Turkey and Iran are providing it with weapons and military and security expertise. Signaling only one country as a culprit is an overexaggeration to say the least. Such tendency obscures the reality about the most dangerous roles played by other countries.