



DEFEND DEFENDERS

East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project

UN Human Rights Council – 49th regular session

Item 2: Enhanced interactive dialogue on the oral update of the High Commissioner on the situation of human rights in the Sudan since the military takeover

Oral statement

Delivered by: Fadia Khalafallah Awad Mohammed El Hassan

Mr. President, Madam High Commissioner,

We welcome the holding of a special session on 5 November 2021 and the [designation](#) of an expert on human rights in the Sudan. We reiterate the need for the expert's mandate to hold until the restoration of a civilian-led government, in accordance with resolution S-32/1.

In Sudan, repression intensifies. Since the 25 October 2021 coup, at least 79 peaceful, anti-military rule protesters have been killed. The Sudanese people will [not](#) accept a return to the authoritarian politics of the past.

We once again call for the reinstatement of the civilian-led government and full accountability, including at the command responsibility level, for all violations of human rights since the military coup.

Mr. President,

Despite the ongoing nature of the expert's mandate, at the next session, in July 2022, a resolution will be needed to ensure continued public debates at the Council.

Lastly, we urge the African Union to refrain from endorsing Sudan's candidacy for a second term as a Council member. This would be a mockery of the 26 October 2021 Communiqué of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union and of the Lomé Declaration on Unconstitutional Changes of Government. We urge states to desist from voting for Sudan, should it run for re-election.

Thank you.