



# DEFEND DEFENDERS

East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project

UN Human Rights Council – 55<sup>th</sup> regular session

**Item 2: Enhanced interactive dialogue on the High Commissioner's report  
on the situation of human rights in the Sudan**

**Oral statement**

*Delivered by: Hassan Shire*

Mr. President, Mr. High Commissioner, Mr. Designated Expert,

We thank you for your report. Almost one year on, the conflict in Sudan continues unabated. All parties to the conflict are responsible for egregious violations that include targeting of and ground attacks on civilians, indiscriminate airstrikes, and attacks on hospitals, schools, medical personnel, humanitarian workers and human rights defenders. In Darfur and beyond, the Rapid Support Forces and affiliated militias have committed unspeakable ethnic-based violations and sexual violence.

In October 2023, in line with a [call](#) by 120 NGOs, the Council rightly [established](#) a Fact-Finding Mission (FFM) for Sudan. We urge states to pay their contributions to the United Nations to resolve the current liquidity crisis and to allow the FFM and other mechanisms to be fully staffed and operational.

We see efforts by the Designated Expert, the High Commissioner, as part of his global mandate, and the FFM as complementary.

By the 58<sup>th</sup> session of the Council, a new resolution will be needed to ensure continued reporting by the High Commissioner with the assistance of the Designated Expert. This does not preclude, but rather goes hand in hand, with a mandate extension for the FFM at the Council's 57<sup>th</sup> session.

Sudan should not be allowed to slip down this Council's list of priorities.

Thank you for your attention.