



DEFEND DEFENDERS

East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project

UN Human Rights Council – 60th regular session

Item 2: Interactive dialogue on the report of the Fact-Finding Mission (FFM) for the Sudan

Oral statement

Delivered by: Niemat Ahmadi

Mr. President, dear Members of the FFM,

It is difficult to describe Sudan's tragedy with words. Two and a half years after the current conflict started, the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and their allied forces continue to show utter disregard for international law. Your report details a litany of atrocities, including sexual and ethnic-based attacks, some of which constitute crimes under international law. Those responsible have forfeited any role in shaping Sudan's future.

All efforts must be directed at stopping the fighting, protecting civilians, and centering accountability and justice. These objectives are not mutually incompatible; they reinforce each other.

Mr. President,

Over 100 civil society organisations have **urged** states to support a mandate extension for the FFM to allow it to continue collecting and preserving evidence and identifying those responsible. Beyond our call for a two-year extension, we highlight avenues to **enhance** global attention to Sudan and advance the accountability agenda — through both enhanced interactive dialogues and mobilisation of the General Assembly and Security Council.

Irrespective of the next resolution's details, the bottom line is we need an ambitious UN response.

To help end this conflict, the warring parties, who are inflicting this misery on the Sudanese people, must be held accountable. We urge states to listen to victims' and survivors' voices, meet with Sudanese human rights defenders present in Geneva this week, and do the right thing by voting 'Yes' on the FFM's mandate extension.

Thank you.