Letter dated 30 March 2020 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith my report, prepared in accordance with paragraph 3 (a) (iv) of resolution 1591 (2005). I was unable to deliver the report to the Security Council as planned owing to the current precautionary measures in effect to mitigate the risks of coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

For the sake of transparency, I encourage Security Council members who wish to submit their statements on this matter to forward them to the President of the Security Council.

I should be grateful if the present letter and the report were issued as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sven Jürgenson
Chair
Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan
Report by the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan

1. In accordance with paragraph 3 (a) (iv) of resolution 1591 (2005), I have the honour to brief the Security Council on the work of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan. The present report covers the period from 12 December 2019 to 25 March 2020.

2. The Panel of Experts on the Sudan submitted its final report (S/2020/36) to the Committee in December 2019. The Committee members discussed the content and recommendations presented by the Panel on 10 January 2020. Following those discussions, the Committee considered follow-up action, and the Chair, on behalf of the Committee, addressed a letter to the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations, reiterating some of the Panel’s recommendations. The Panel’s final report was made publicly available on 14 January 2020.

3. On 3 March 2020, the Committee received the Panel’s fourth quarterly report. The Panel informed the Committee about its investigative visit to the Sudan, in particular Darfur, which it conducted in February 2020. The Panel gathered important information pertaining to the peace process and the military and financial capabilities of the Darfurian armed groups in Darfur and the region, as well as the regional dynamics and security issues. Cooperation from the Government of the Sudan during the visit was good, and the Panel was able to gain access to previously unauthorized areas, in particular localities controlled by the Sudan Liberation Army-Abdul Wahid. On behalf of the Committee, the Chair wishes to take this opportunity to thank the Government of the Sudan for its continued cooperation with the Panel.

4. On 16 March 2020, the Committee was scheduled to meet with representatives of the Sudan and the Central African Republic, Chad, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Libya, South Sudan and Uganda. This would have been the seventh meeting of the Committee to discuss the implementation of the measures with the Sudan and regional States. The States invited were also scheduled to share their views on the final report of the Panel of Experts. Owing to the current precautionary measures to mitigate the risks of coronavirus disease (COVID-19), this informal consultation was postponed.

5. Lastly, it was the intention of the Chair to visit the Sudan in April. This would have been the fifth such visit aimed at obtaining first-hand accounts of the state of implementation of the sanctions measures. The information gathered would also have fed into the Security Council’s review of the measures on Darfur, as expressed in paragraph 3 of resolution 2508 (2020).

6. Again, precautionary measures were taken in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, and the trip has been postponed until further notice.