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**Human Rights Council**  
**Thirty-second special session**  
5 November 2021

## **Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council on 5 November 2021**

### **S-32/1. Situation of human rights in the Sudan**

*The Human Rights Council,*

*Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,*

*Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and other relevant international human rights conventions and instruments,*

*Reaffirming that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights, and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,*

*Reaffirming also its strong commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity and national unity of the Sudan and its solidarity with the Sudanese people,*

*Recalling all previous Human Rights Council resolutions on human rights in the Sudan, including resolutions 39/22 of 28 September 2018, 42/35 of 27 September 2019 and 45/25 of 6 October 2020,*

*Recalling also all relevant resolutions adopted and statements made by the General Assembly and the Security Council on the Sudan,*

*Recalling further General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 and Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 5/2 of 18 June 2007,*

*Emphasizing that States have the primary responsibility for the promotion of, respect for and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the freedoms of expression and of assembly, including in the context of peaceful protests,*

*Recalling the statements made by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on 25 October 2021 and the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association on 2 November 2021,*

*Recalling also the obligations of the Sudan under the international human rights covenants and other treaties to which it is a State party, and recalling further the commitment of the Sudan, reflected in the Sudan Constitutional Declaration of 2019 and the Juba Peace Agreement of 2020, to respect and protect human rights,*

*Welcoming the ratification by the Sudan of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,*



*Reaffirming* the importance of the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in planning and decision-making with regard to mediation, confidence-building, conflict prevention and resolution, and in all other efforts to maintain and promote peace and security, and the need to prevent and redress human rights violations and abuses, such as sexual and gender-based violence,

*Acknowledging* that, prior to the military takeover on 25 October 2021, the situation of human rights in the Sudan had improved significantly and had been continuing to improve, and acknowledging also the continuing role of human rights monitoring, reporting, technical assistance and capacity-building, in particular by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in the Sudan, in assisting this improvement,

*Recalling with appreciation* the exemplary, non-violent and inspiring popular uprising of the Sudanese people in 2019, in particular the wide participation of women and youth calling for freedom, peace and justice, which led to a fundamental change in the political situation in the Sudan and the formation of the civilian-led transitional Government, led by Prime Minister Abdallah Hamdok,

*Noting with appreciation* the cooperation between the Sudan and the country office of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the Sudan, and stressing the importance of the continuation of that cooperation,

*Noting with appreciation also* the cooperation between the Sudan and the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in the Sudan, including on the protection of civilians,

*Expressing deep concern* about the arbitrary arrest of civilian government leaders, political figures, human rights defenders, journalists, students, lawyers and others, and about restrictions on the exercise of freedom of expression, both online and offline, including Internet shutdowns, as well as on the rights to freedom of association and of peaceful assembly, and at the excessive use of force committed against peaceful protesters since 21 October 2021,

*Noting* the postponement of the review of the Sudan in the context of the universal periodic review in the light of the current situation,

*Recalling* that States members of the Human Rights Council are required to uphold the highest standards in the promotion and protection of human rights,

1. *Welcomes* the decision of the African Union Peace and Security Council on 26 October 2021 to suspend the Sudan from participating in all activities of the African Union following the military takeover on 25 October 2021 by the Sudanese military;

2. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and the decision of the African Union to undertake a mission to the Sudan, both with a view to finding a solution to the current situation there, calls upon all stakeholders in the Sudan to cooperate fully with both the Special Representative and the African Union, and encourages the Special Representative and the African Union to coordinate their activities;

3. *Condemns in the strongest possible terms* the military takeover on 25 October 2021 by the Sudanese military against the transitional Government led by Prime Minister Abdallah Hamdok, the suspension of transitional institutions and the unilateral imposition of measures that are contrary to the Sudan Constitutional Declaration and the terms of the Juba Peace Agreement;

4. *Calls for* the immediate restoration of its civilian-led transitional Government and the return to the internationally supported governing principles in the Sudan, in compliance with the Sudan Constitutional Declaration and the Juba Peace Agreement, in both letter and spirit;

5. *Takes note* of the press statement of the Security Council of 28 October 2021 on the situation in the Sudan;<sup>1</sup>
6. *Condemns* the arbitrary detention by the Sudanese military of Prime Minister Hamdok, other members of the Cabinet of the Government of the Sudan, other civilians and other senior national, regional and local officials appointed by the transitional Government, and calls upon the Sudanese military to release, immediately and without preconditions, all individuals detained unlawfully and arbitrarily since the start of the military takeover;
7. *Urges* that the safety and dignity of all those in custody be strictly assured in accordance with the international human rights obligations of the Sudan;
8. *Calls upon* the Sudanese military, without delay and without preconditions, to engage in dialogue with civilian leaders;
9. *Welcomes* the statements by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Secretary-General and the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association on this subject;
10. *Expresses deep concern* at reports of human rights violations and abuses perpetrated since the military takeover on 25 October 2021, particularly the excessive use of force that has resulted in the killing and injuring of peaceful protestors;
11. *Emphasizes* the importance of full respect for human rights, and recalls in particular the obligation of the Sudan to respect the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, among others, and urges the Sudan in this regard in particular to protect journalists, media workers, human rights defenders, students and lawyers, and to lift restrictions on the Internet, telecommunications services and social media so as to ensure access of the people of the Sudan to information;
12. *Urges* all actors in the Sudan to demonstrate the utmost restraint, and to refrain from violence and from committing further human rights violations and abuses;
13. *Calls upon* the Sudan to ensure accountability for those responsible and support for the victims of any such violations and abuses;
14. *Requests* the High Commissioner to update the Human Rights Council at its forty-ninth session, in an enhanced interactive dialogue, on the situation of human rights in the Sudan since the military takeover;
15. *Also requests* the High Commissioner to designate without delay an expert on human rights in the Sudan, who shall, with the assistance of and in close cooperation with the country office of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the Sudan, monitor the developing situation of human rights in the Sudan, including taking due regard to ensure a gender perspective throughout their work, and engage with all relevant parties, including civil society, on the developing situation of human rights since the military takeover of 25 October 2021 until the restoration of its civilian-led Government;
16. *Further requests* the High Commissioner, with the assistance of the designated Expert on Human Rights in the Sudan, to present to the Human Rights Council, at its fiftieth session, a comprehensive written report focusing on the situation of human rights since, and human rights violations and abuses committed during, the period of the military takeover, to be followed by an enhanced interactive dialogue;
17. *Decides* that the term of office for the designated Expert on Human Rights in the Sudan should conclude upon the restoration of its civilian-led Government;
18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make all necessary financial, technical and logistical support available to the Office of the High Commissioner in this regard;
19. *Calls upon* the High Commissioner and the designated Expert to monitor human rights violations and abuses and to continue to bring information thereon to the

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<sup>1</sup> [www.un.org/press/en/2021/sc14678.doc.htm](http://www.un.org/press/en/2021/sc14678.doc.htm).

attention of the Human Rights Council, and to advise on the further steps that may be needed if the situation continues to deteriorate;

20. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

*2nd meeting  
5 November 2021*

[Adopted without a vote.]

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