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Sudan UPR Briefing for Belgium

Sudan Task Force

Advocacy and engagement with States coordinated by the Committee for Justice (CFJ).

The Sudan Task Force invites Belgium to renew and strengthen its recommendations to Sudan in light of continuing violations, with concrete protection and accountability measures for the 2027 Universal Periodic Review.

Previous recommendations and implementation

International justice and accountability

2022 recommendation 137.43: "Consider ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and provide unconditional cooperation and access to areas of concern for International Criminal Court investigators."

Implementation assessment: *Sudan noted this recommendation.* Ratification of the Rome Statute remains outstanding. The Sudan Task Force documents summary executions, killings linked to ethnicity, deaths in custody and attacks on civilian facilities. Independent investigations, evidence preservation and effective remedies remain seriously deficient. Cooperation with individual requests from the International Criminal Court and the full scope of domestic implementation have not been comprehensively verified.

Women peace and security

2022 recommendation 137.234: "Ensure continued consultation with women's rights groups and include a gender perspective throughout the implementation of the Juba Peace Agreement, including in security- and military-sector reform."

Implementation assessment: *Sudan supported this recommendation.* Full implementation of the specified women, peace and security plan, participation, consultation or cooperation arrangements has not been verified. The Sudan Task Force documents rape and other sexual violence during raids, flight, detention and displacement. Survivors face fear of retaliation, stigma and limited access to medical, psychosocial and legal assistance. Security-sector reform also requires independent, public vetting and meaningful consultation with women's rights groups.

Accountability for violations against children

2022 recommendation 137.271: "Increase efforts towards ensuring accountability for grave violations against children by bringing perpetrators to justice and by providing remedies to victims."

Implementation assessment: *Sudan supported this recommendation.* Effective protection and accountability for children have not been demonstrated. In May 2026, the Rapid Support Forces detained

Geneva office:
7 chemin de Balexert, Châtelaine
1219 Geneva, Switzerland
Tel: +41 22 940 35 38

Paris office:
60, rue François 1er
75008 Paris, France
Tel: +33 6 85 03 50 85

Gambia office:
in front of the Independence Stadium
Gate, Bakau Newtown, Gambia.
Tel: +220 238 4045

Website: www.cfjustice.org
E-Mail: oc@cfjustice.org
X: @Cfjusticeorg
Facebook: Cfjusticeorg

23 students under 18 travelling towards examinations in Chad, with information about ransom demands. The Sudan Task Force documents continuing serious violations and accountability gaps. The full range of rehabilitation, reintegration or remedy measures in the earlier recommendation has not been verified.

New recommendations from the Sudan Task Force

The Sudan Task Force proposes that Belgium put forward the following recommendations during Sudan's 2027 Universal Periodic Review.

Extrajudicial killings and civilian protection

1. Within six months, establish an independent investigation and prosecution team for unlawful deaths and attacks on hospitals, markets and displacement sites since April 2023, preserve forensic evidence, protect victims and witnesses, and publish quarterly figures on investigations and judicial referrals.

Sexual and gender based violence

2. Within six months, establish formal coordination between the unit combating violence against women, prosecutors and health authorities to investigate and refer conflict-related sexual violence cases, maintain a unified confidential case system, and publish annual anonymized data on investigations and judicial referrals.

3. Within six months, establish free and confidential referral services for survivors in conflict-affected States and displacement sites, providing medical care, psychosocial support and legal assistance, including accessible mobile services for children and women with disabilities, without conditioning care on filing a complaint.

Accountability and implementation

4. Cooperate fully with the International Criminal Court and United Nations and African investigation mechanisms, ratify the Rome Statute within 18 months, and submit implementing legislation to the competent legislative authority within six months of ratification.

5. Within six months, establish an independent and public vetting system for integrating members of armed groups into State security institutions, publish the criteria, and exclude anyone reasonably suspected of responsibility for war crimes pending completion of an independent investigation.

Suggested note on timing: *Unless otherwise specified, the proposed implementation deadlines would run from the adoption of Sudan's 2027 UPR outcome. Existing legal obligations and urgent protection measures require immediate action.*