COMMITTEE FOR JUSTICE
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# Sudan UPR Briefing for Canada

## Sudan Task Force

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

The Sudan Task Force invites Canada 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

#### Women's rights and treaty implementation

**2022 recommendation 137.26:** "Ratify all articles of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women without reservations."

**Implementation assessment:** *Sudan noted this recommendation.* Sudan has not acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. The accession objective remains outstanding. 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.

#### Justice for victims of protest violence

**2022 recommendation 137.252:** "Take measures to ensure justice for the families and survivors of the 3 June 2019 crackdown on peaceful protestors and those killed and injured since 25 October 2021, including survivors of sexual and gender-based violence."

**Implementation assessment:** *Sudan supported this recommendation.* Outcomes for every case arising from the June 2019 crackdown and the events following October 2021 have not been verified. The Sudan Task Force documents continuing unlawful killings, sexual violence and major accountability gaps. Independent investigation, protection of victims and witnesses, and effective access to justice remain necessary.

### New recommendations from the Sudan Task Force

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

#### Extrajudicial killings and civilian protection

1. Immediately issue binding written orders to all forces under State authority prohibiting extrajudicial and summary executions, intentional attacks on civilians and other unlawful use of force, and train all units deployed in conflict areas on these orders within six months.

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**2.** 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.

**3.** Within three months, adopt directives prohibiting the use of explosive weapons with wide-area effects in populated areas and the military use of medical and humanitarian facilities, and establish a mechanism to monitor and investigate violations.

**Sexual and gender based violence**

**4.** 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.

**5.** 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.

***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.*

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