



Human Rights Council**Forty-fifth session**

14 September–7 October 2020

Agenda item 10

Technical assistance and capacity-building**Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council
on 6 October 2020****45/25. Technical assistance and capacity-building to further improve human rights in the Sudan**

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the principles and purposes 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 instruments,

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

Recalling further Human Rights Council resolutions 39/22 of 28 September 2018 and 42/35 of 27 September 2019,

Emphasizing that States have the primary responsibility for the promotion and protection of all human rights,

Acknowledging that the situation of human rights in the Sudan has significantly improved and is on track to improve further, while technical assistance and capacity-building will nevertheless continue to be needed,

Mindful of the exemplary, non-violent and inspiring popular uprising of the Sudanese people, 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,

Welcoming the positive steps taken by the Transitional Government of the Sudan in introducing legal reforms, rebuilding and developing the legal and justice system and ensuring the independence of the judiciary and the rule of law, and the commitment of the Sudan, reflected in its constitutional document, to respect and protect human rights and all basic freedoms,

Welcoming also the initialling of a peace agreement between the Government of the Sudan and the Sudanese Revolutionary Front in Juba on 31 August 2020,

Noting with appreciation the close cooperation between the Government of the Sudan and the country office of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the Sudan,



Welcoming the appointment of 18 civilian state governors, two of whom are women, in accordance with the constitutional document,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan, including his final report,¹ and the comments of the Government of the Sudan thereon;²

2. *Welcomes* the commitments made by the Government of the Sudan to revise and amend its national legislation to bring it into line with international human rights instruments and the steps taken to date in that regard, including:

- (a) Repealing the death penalty for apostasy and in respect of minors;
- (b) Criminalizing female genital mutilation;
- (c) Repealing the Public Order Law;
- (d) Decriminalizing the consumption, purchase and sale of alcohol by non-Muslims;

3. *Also welcomes* the adoption by the Government of the Sudan of a national action plan for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security of 31 October 2000, the signing of a framework agreement on cooperation with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, and the commitment made by the Government to continue to promote women's rights, including by ensuring the full, effective and meaningful participation and leadership of women at all levels of decision-making, including in conflict resolution and peacebuilding;

4. *Further welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Government of the Sudan to investigate alleged human rights abuses and violations by all parties, and encourages its efforts to hold perpetrators to account as its foremost priority;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the continued efforts of the Government of the Sudan to implement the universal periodic review recommendations that it has accepted, and encourages the Government to continue to cooperate in the review process, including through the further implementation of accepted recommendations;

6. *Encourages* the efforts of the Government of the Sudan in creating and maintaining a safe and conducive environment in which civil society representatives, human rights defenders, the media and other independent actors can operate freely, in accordance with the constitutional document, and welcomes the signature by the Government of the Sudan of the Global Pledge on Media Freedom;

7. *Also encourages* the Government of the Sudan to accede to the international human rights treaties that it has not yet ratified;

8. *Further encourages* the Government of the Sudan to establish a national human rights institution that conforms to the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles);

9. *Welcomes* the signature of the Joint Agreement between the Prime Minister of the Sudan, Abdalla Hamdok, and Abdulaziz al-Hilu on behalf of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement-North Abdulaziz al-Hilu faction, encourages the parties to build on the recent progress made in their negotiations, and calls upon the Sudan Liberation Army-Abdul Wahid to enter into similar negotiations with the Government of the Sudan at the earliest opportunity;

10. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, relevant United Nations agencies and other stakeholders to continue to support the efforts of the Government of the Sudan to further improve the situation of human rights in the country, including by responding to the Government's requests for technical assistance and capacity-building;

¹ A/HRC/45/53.

² A/HRC/45/53/Add.1.

11. *Welcomes* the establishment and operation of a fully mandated country office of the Office of the High Commissioner in the Sudan, with field presences, since 26 December 2019, as declared by the Government of the Sudan and the Office at the enhanced interactive dialogue held during the forty-fourth session of the Human Rights Council;

12. *Also welcomes* the commitment of the Government of the Sudan to assist in establishing the field presences of the country office of the Office of the High Commissioner in the Sudan;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all the resources necessary to enable the country office of the Office of the High Commissioner in the Sudan and its field presences to fulfil their mandates;

14. *Requests* the High Commissioner to prepare a written report that assesses progress and challenges, including the work of the country office and its fields presences, in accordance with their mandates, and to present it to the Human Rights Council at its forty-eighth session, under agenda item 10, to be followed by an enhanced interactive dialogue thereon;

15. *Decides* to end the mandate of the Independent Expert, in accordance with Human Rights Council resolutions 39/22 and 42/35.

*37th meeting
6 October 2020*

[Adopted without a vote.]
