



**Statement of Ireland**  
**42nd session of the Human Rights Council**

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Item 10: Interactive dialogue with the Independent Expert on the situation of  
human rights in the Sudan

**25 September 2019**

Mr (Vice) President,

Ireland aligns with the statement of the European Union and wishes to add the following.

Ireland would like to thank Mr Nononsi for the comprehensive report submitted in advance of this Session. The signing of the Constitutional Declaration on 17 August by the Transitional Military Council (TMC) and the coalition of opposition groups marks a significant milestone in Sudan's efforts towards sustainable peace. Ireland welcomes the prominent role played by women and youth in the political transition, and the inclusion of four women in the new cabinet is very positive.

Ireland remains concerned, however, by the lack of accountability for attacks against protesters and the violations of human rights which have taken place since December 2018, and in particular those that took place on 3 June of this year. We reiterate that all violations against protestors, including confirmed cases of sexual and gender based violence, must be independently investigated and the perpetrators held accountable. It is vital to end impunity and guarantee justice for victims.

The report's details of the restrictions placed on the freedoms of expression and association, and access to media and the internet in recent months are also of serious concern. The promotion and protection of these rights is essential for a peaceful and sustainable transition to democracy.

The humanitarian situation continues to represent a grave challenge for the people of Sudan, with an estimated 5.7 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. We are concerned by reports that challenges facing access for humanitarian organisations have increased and we call for full compliance with international humanitarian law.

*Mr Nononsi, in your report you recommend that the international community should continue to support the Government in order to ensure a peaceful and sustainable transition to a civilian-led government. In this regard, Ireland welcomes the continued strong engagement of the African Union and Ethiopia in mediating the talks to date. Could you elaborate on ways in which the international community can continue to assist in Sudan's transition?*

Thank you.