



## **Statement of Ireland**

### **50th session of the Human Rights Council**

*Enhanced Interactive Dialogue on the High Commissioner for Human Rights' report on Sudan*

**Wednesday, 15 June 2022**

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and thanks the High Commissioner and Designated Expert for their report.

Ireland remains extremely concerned by the crisis ongoing in Sudan since the military coup of 25 October 2021. The coup forces have relied on excessive violence, arbitrary arrests and detention, and curtailment of rights to freedom of assembly and expression, to suppress dissent.

This has included attacks on medical facilities, the use of sexual violence against women and girls as a form of punishment, and targeting of human rights defenders. We have seen a devastating increase in violence and attacks on civilians by armed groups and government allied forces in places such as Darfur and South and Western Kordofan.

The coup forces have presided over a serious regression in the progress Sudan had made in recent years. We are deeply alarmed by the long-term consequences for Sudan and the region.

We urge the military and security authorities to end their campaign of violence and return to the democratic transition. This is vital to restore peace and address the immense challenges facing Sudan and its people.

Ireland strongly supports the mandate of the UN Expert on Human Rights in Sudan and welcomes Mr Dieng's recent visits to Sudan.

*Mr Dieng, can you provide preliminary observations from your most recent country visit, particularly on freedom of political expression and the deteriorating situation outside Khartoum such as Darfur?*

Thank you.