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Statement of Ireland

52nd session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive Dialogue on the High Commissioner for Human Rights' oral update on Sudan

Friday, 3 March

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and thanks the High Commissioner for his update.

We welcome the cooperation extended by Sudan to the designated expert, his predecessor and the High Commissioner: we urge Sudan to take forward their recommendations.

Ireland remains deeply concerned by the impact the military coup continues to have on human rights protection in Sudan, including with regard to forced displacement and the unlawful exploitation of natural resources by armed actors, all of which undermine security and development. The de facto authorities continue to repress dissent through the use of deadly and disproportionate force, detention without due process, sexual and gender-based violence and targeting of the media, medical facilities and civil society.

We underscore the importance of accountability. As the High Commissioner noted following his recent visit, impunity only breeds further violence. We therefore welcome the commitments expressed by Sudan in their recently shared position paper, to a “peaceful political transition, ending conflicts and violence, adhering to the principle of accountability, and ending impunity”.

The starting point for addressing this immense challenge must be an end to violence against civilians, release of those unlawfully detained, and the swift establishment of a civilian-led transition with the means to initiate urgently required political, economic and security reforms.

High Commissioner, what information can you provide on any shift in behaviour of the security forces towards protesters since the signing of the Framework Agreement in December 2022?