



S U D A N

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Statement

By

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To

The High-Level Meeting on the Comprehensive Review of the Progress Achieved
in Realizing the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Political
Declaration on HIV/AIDS

8th-10th June 2011 – New York

Mr. President,

Excellencies, Head of States and Government

Honorable Ministers,

Head of Missions,

Distinguished Delegates,

I would like to seize this opportunity to congratulate the Secretariat and Co-sponsors for their leadership role and coordination of this high level conference on HIV/AIDS. I would also like to thank and express our appreciation to the secretary general of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-Moon and the Executive Director of UNAIDS, Mr. Michel Sidibe for the comprehensive efforts in fighting HIV/AIDS epidemic.

This meeting is of a great importance as the world marks 30 years into the HIV epidemic, despite substantial progress noted since the 2001 Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS by the UN General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS and political declaration in 2006, HIV/AIDS remains a major challenge and formidable thread to global development, especially in Africa.

Sudan is described as having a low generalized epidemic with an average HIV prevalence rate estimated around 2.6%. However the prevalence of HIV is reported to be 3.0% (among pregnant women) in Southern Sudan which is bit higher than the national rate. With peace prevailing and mobility restored, Southern Sudan is therefore likely to experience a rapid increase in HIV prevalence that can reach as high as 6% by 2015 (UNAIDS 2010).

Mr. President,

Sudan has been able to register the following progress; development of five years national strategic frame work and monitoring evolutions , guide lines for treatments and prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV and main streaming of HIV in the line ministries.

These efforts aiming to reduce the transmission from mother to child from 30% to 10% ; And to increase care and support services for people living with HIV from 10% to 30% by year 2014. Sudan is also working to finalize the biological and behavioral survey which will inform with the accurate prevalence of HIV in Sudan.

The Government of Sudan is committed to fighting HIV and AIDS by ensuring universal access to HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support services to PLHIV and prioritizes the following areas; Development of an effective resource mobilization and utilization strategy for the national HIV response; investment in generation of strategic information to improve our understanding of the epidemic and response; scaling up access to quality HIV/AIDS services and integration of HIV in all sector plans at national and state levels; building capacity at

national and decentralised levels in planning and coordination of the HIV response and a sustained public HIV/AIDS awareness campaign including advocacy for increased and sustained political and leadership commitment at all levels.

Global Fund is currently the only source of funding for ART and HIV care services in Sudan; while the Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) support capacity building of relevant government institutions and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) at all levels. In the case of South Sudan the two sources of HIV funding are ending by July 2011 which will create a huge gap in HIV and AIDS service delivery.

The major challenge at hand is limited coverage of HIV/AIDS services; resource mobilization is still challenging and future funding of the HIV response is uncertain; limited capacity of partners for a rapid scaling up of interventions at state and lower levels and there is limited strategic information particularly on MARPs.

Mr. President,

Sudan is renewing its stand on the role of the family, cultural and religious values in the fight of HIV/AIDS. Sudan would like to stress that principle of sovereignty is the right of each member states as stated in the United Nations charter and the principles of international laws; according to this Sudan has participated effectively in the negotiations which took place during last two months between the member states to reach the political declaration on AIDS, which is going to be declared by this high level meeting.

We strongly believe that, the outcome of this high level meeting on HIV/AIDS is an excellent opportunity for the world to join hands and intensify national, regional and international efforts to reverse the HIV epidemic.

I would like to urge the international community especially the developed countries to enhance financial support to the developing countries, including capacity building to ensure continuity of HIV/AIDS services to the needy people. Sudan renewed its commitment to continue its work in fighting HIV/AIDS at the regional and international levels. I wish you all fruitful deliberation and thank you for listening.