



In the Name of Allah the Beneficent, the Merciful



Statement of Sudan Delegation Before the CSW 57th Session

Item 3(c): Progress achieved in the implementation of BPfA and
the Elimination of all Forms of Violence against Women and Girls

Presented by: Honorable Madam Khadiga Abu-El-Gassim
Haghamed
Head of Sudan Delegation

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Mission of Sudan
305 E 47th Street between 1st and 2nd Avenue, Suite #4
New York, NY 10017-2303
Telephone 212-573-6033
Dear Madam Chair

At the outset let me congratulate you on your election as the Chair on the 57th Session and also take this opportunity to congratulate the esteemed members of your office. My delegation assures you of its fullest cooperation and wishes for successful deliberations for this meeting and to achieve the desired results.

Madam Chair,

Sudan remained cognizant of the important role women play in the development of societies based on the righteous values, principles enshrined in our religious, reinforcing women's human rights and dignity. Sudan determined to combat violence against women and girls, and established a Unit dedicated for combating violence against women and girls upon a Presidential Decree issued in 2005. Twelve states' units are established nationwide. The Council of Ministers endorsed a National Strategy to Combating Violence against women, followed by amendment of the Criminal Act 1991 that adopted new provisions criminalizing systemic rape as war crime. On the other hand, the Ministry of Interior issued a decree increasing women police officers to ensure that women do not experience any stigma during the enquiry and investigation process, particularly in conflict and rural areas. A specialized police force was established to serve Family and Children Protection Units in seventeen states of Sudan. Due to these efforts the prevalence of violence against women and children is now reduced according to the Final Report on Violence against Women.

Sudan has launched a Zero Tolerance policy against violence against women in line with the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region under the auspices of His Excellency the Vice President of Sudan and Her Excellency the Minister of Welfare and Social Security. The Medical Council issued Decree No. 366 banning and outlawing FGM practices by medical professionals before two years. The State aligned itself with the African Group as relates the intensification of efforts for combating female genital mutilation according to the Secretary General Resolution. The government implemented its efforts with the collaboration of religious leaders and civil society organizations. The efforts resulted in lowering the prevalence rate of FGM from 97% to 64%. These are coupled by programmes for the promotion of health services including the midwifery and prenatal and postnatal services. These have contributed towards a decline in maternity

morbidity at birth from (509) cases of death in every 1000 live birth to 216 cases in 2011. As relates to HIV/AIDS the State endorsed a Five Year Sectoral Strategy for Combating HIV/AIDS and the provision of essential medicine support programme to assist those living with HIV/AIDS and the vulnerable persons. In 2012 a National Strategy for Home Care for HIV/AIDS patients. According to 2010 statistics, the prevalence rate is 0.68%. The Independent Expert on Human Rights of Sudan reaffirmed in his September Report of 2011 that the Sudanese experience in combating violence against women in Darfur is considered good practices that need to be replicated in other conflict areas.

Madam Chair,

Sudan is given considerable attention to the status of women in peace and conflict areas and plea that economical sanctions be lifted from Sudan and other similar countries as it affects the lives of women, widows and children.

At the political level women participation has increased during the period 2006-2013 which is reflected in the political and legislative organs at a rate of 25% in the National Assembly and states' Legislative Assemblies.

The State adopted an Educational Strategy that resulted in the expansion of universities and institutions and the provision of equal opportunities to males and females. In the field of the Girls' education a national strategy was formulated that contributed towards an increase in enrollment for girls to 68.7% exceeding boys. The nomads' education has noticeably progressed from 16% to 33% of this 73.7% are males and 61.8% are females.

As relates to economical empowerment, the national programmes made available by the State contributed in women's entering industrial and commercial and entrepreneurial fields. Their participation rate in the private sector is now at the level of 54%, in the economic sector 8.7% and in the civil service 66% inclusive of all public institutions. The State continued its on-going concrete plans and strategies in the development and support of the rural and urban women in implementation of MDGs and the recommendations of the Agreed Conclusions of the implementation of BPfA. These strategies include poverty alleviation including the micro-finance and Social Support

Funds. The Central Bank of Sudan established mechanisms within the Bank; the Micro-finance unit and issued directives to commercial banks to invest 12% of their investment portfolio in financing projects and programmes with a social dimension retaining 30% for women.

Madam Chair,

Finally, my delegation in pursuance to Beijing Platform for Action hereby demands that singling out economical sanctions be lifted from Sudan as it is hindering all efforts for the advancement of women, including efforts to eliminate violence against women. Based on the same reasoning, our delegation further demands, for the relief of debt from poor and developing and least developing countries. As well we need to draw your attention to the destructive acts of the rebellious groups that continued to perpetrate violence against women and girls in conflict stricken areas. We pray that this important meeting will not ignore this part to condemn these activities and recommend that dialogue be the only means for resolving conflicts and disputes. Finally, let's work together and call for a world free of violence against women.

Ms. Khadiga Abu-El-Gassim Haghamed
Head of Sudan Delegation