



Permanent Mission
of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the Office of the United Nations and
to the other International Organizations
Geneva

36th Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council

Geneva, 27 September 2017

Item 10

Interactive Dialogue with the Independent Expert on Sudan

German Statement

Mr President,

Germany aligns itself with the statement made on behalf of the European Union and thanks the Independent Expert for his comprehensive report and the recommendations.

We welcome that there were some positive steps undertaken by the Government of the Sudan– including the release from custody Ibrahim Mudawi following a presidential pardon, and the efforts undertaken to facilitate humanitarian access.

However, Germany remains concerned about a number of human rights issues that are still largely unaddressed. As we welcome the outcomes of the National Dialogue on rule of law and human rights, we encourage the government of Sudan to implement the recommendations of the Independent Expert and the Dialogue Committee without delay – especially those that call for a repeal of the 2015 constitutional amendments which give the National Intelligence Security Services the right to arrest and detain. We are deeply concerned about current practices that reportedly include torture and harassment of human rights activists.

Germany agrees with the Independent Expert that the fight against the wide-spread impunity in conflict areas is of highest importance. Necessary measures must be taken to investigate those crimes, arrest all perpetrators and to protect the victims, in particular in relation to sexual and gender based violence. Therefore, we urge the government of Sudan to launch independent investigations.

We underline that the Government of the Sudan has the primary responsibility to ensure the protection of its civilians, and it needs to undertake effective measures to address the serious institutional gaps in the justice and security sectors to promote respect for the rule of law and protection of human rights.

Mr. Nonansi, you recommend that the international community should provide support to civil society organizations to improve their human rights advocacy and rule-of-law capabilities. Could you please elaborate on this aspect?

Thank you.