Resolution on Sudan: the situation in Southern Kordofan and the eruption of fighting in Blue Nile State

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The European Parliament adopted a resolution on Sudan: the situation in Southern Kordofan and the eruption of fighting in Blue Nile State.

The resolution was tabled by the ECR, S&D, Greens/EFA, EPP, ALDE, and GUE/NGL groups.

It **strongly condemns the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) invasion of Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile states**, noting that the situation in Southern Kordofan remains tense, with fighting between the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM North) and renewed fighting also erupting in Blue Nile State. It urges all parties immediately to cease fighting and seek a political solution based on the Framework Agreement on the Political and Security Arrangements in the Blue Nile and Kordofan States signed on 28 June 2011. It also **calls for the lifting of the state of emergency in Blue Nile State**, which was announced on 2 September 2011 by President Bashir. Members note that the attacks perpetrated in Southern Kordofan against civilians include targeted summary and extrajudicial killings, mostly of perceived Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) supporters, arbitrary arrests and detentions, house-to-house searches allegedly targeting the ethnic Nuba group, enforced disappearances, destruction of churches and looting, and they demand a halt to these acts as well as a halt to Sudan's indiscriminate aerial bombings. Those believed to be responsible for any violations must be held accountable through an independent investigation by the United Nations. Sudan and South Sudan must adhere to all provisions of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and Members reiterate the EU's commitments to engage with Sudan and South Sudan to promote democratic governance and respect for human rights for all Sudanese people. They demand that all sides allow humanitarian agencies to have **immediate, unhindered access to all those in need free from intimidation and violence**.

The resolution calls on the Commission, EU Member States and the international community to **honour their funding commitments to the region**, particularly to address severe shortages of food aid, emergency shelter and protection. It recalls that the Commission has allocated EUR 100 million in 2011, including EUR 11 million for the Transitional Areas, but the International South Sudan Appeal is still only 37% financed. Members call for **close attention to the food security situation** and measures to be put in place should the situation worsen, and are of the opinion that additional assistance might be needed to overcome the looming threat of a new large-scale humanitarian crisis in the region.

Parliament calls on the **African Union to strengthen its cooperation with the ICC** in order to promote awareness of, and uphold respect for, human rights throughout Africa. It wants an end to impunity for all crimes perpetrated during the war in Sudan, and hopes that President Omar al-Bashir will soon be tried in The Hague as part of the necessary re-establishment of justice, the rule of law and justice for victims.

Underlining their support for the efforts of the African Union High-Level Implementation Panel on Sudan, Members call on the **international community to facilitate negotiations between the parties to the CPA,** and the efforts of the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Sudan.