



# General Assembly

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**Human Rights Council**  
**Eighteenth session**  
Agenda item 6  
**Universal Periodic Review**

**Written statement\* submitted by the Sudan Council of  
Voluntary Agencies, a non-governmental organization in  
special consultative status**

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[23 August 2011]

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\* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

## **Right to development**

Sudan is considered one of the least developing countries. It is a country of special nature as it witnessed cultural and racial diversity and it is one of the large countries even after the separation of the South. The country witnessed some conflicts where development insufficiency was the mutual cause of these conflicts. Instead of all that, there is a recognizable improvement during the previous years as studies and surveys done in 2009 showed that there is a considerable change in poverty ratio and a decrease of unemployment as a result of the efforts to curb poverty and to activate policies, strategies, tools and projects for poor strata. The budget for poor strata is increased from 2.2 million in 2004 to 3.2 million in 2007 instead of the impacts of the international economic situation.

One of the hot issues that always raised is the right of these poor strata who consider themselves as marginalized and their rights are robbed; so, they claimed their rights in development and power and they believe that development is imbalance between different parts of the country and that led to conflicts during the past in Nuba Mountains, Eastern Sudan and Blue Nile.

CPA, Abuja and East Sudan agreements produced a new reality in respect of availing development for all these areas. That was represented in the establishment of different projects and funds which made a huge change in development in Sudan like: Eastern Sudan Development Funding project which is supported by international donors; also Kordofan corporation for development and improvement; building commissions in Darfur. All these projects reflected in the progress of development. Besides the general policies concerned with regional rule and its improvement and the state policy towards providing basic services in fields of health and education where universities spread and pre-school opportunities improved in all states of the Sudan.

We praise these efforts which resulted in many rights as development in Sudan has improved and that was a recognized effect of the peace agreement; but we believe that there are development rights that should be satisfied specially for those affected by the dams and those affected by the establishment of the great development projects. Affected persons should be satisfactorily compensated.

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