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HARARE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

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ZIMUN XII

The Cost of Innovation:

*Navigating the Ethical Responsibilities of Technological
Advancements and Societal Change for Inclusive, Sustainable
Development in a Globalised World*



Unites Nation Security Council

*Mandating a comprehensive framework for the Protection of Civilians
and the Immediate Cessation of Hostilities in the Republic of Sudan.*

Committee: United Nation Security Council.

Issue: Mandating a comprehensive framework for the Protection of Civilians and the Immediate Cessation of Hostilities in the Republic of Sudan.

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INTRODUCTION

Sudan is in the middle of a horrible conflict that started in April 2023, plunging the country into a humanitarian crisis. Establishing a comprehensive framework for the protection of civilians is crucial as we must address the far-reaching violence, mass displacement and outrageous human rights violations that are taking place, requiring urgent international attention to end suffering and lay the foundations for lasting peace!

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

- **Civilian Protection:** Civilian protection refers to numerous actions that aim to safeguard non-combatants from violences during armed conflicts or crises.
- **Cessation of hostilities:** A cessation of hostilities is a formal agreement between parties to suspend active armed combat, wars, military operations and violence.
- **International Humanitarian Law:** International rule based on numerous treaties with the goal of limiting armed conflicts and humanitarian crisis as well as to limit suffer and protect non-combatants like civilians, medical personnel, and wounded soldiers.
- **Crimes against Humanity:** Serious inhuman acts committed as part of a generalized or systematic attack launched against any civilian population and aware of this attack.
- **International displaced persons:** Individuals or groups of people who have been forced to flee their homes to avoid the effects of armed conflicts, widespread violence, human

rights violations or natural or man-made disasters, and who have not crossed an international border.

- **Refugee:** A person who has fled their country due to a well-founded fear of persecution and who cannot or does not want to seek protection from their country of origin.
- **Sudanese Armed Forces:** The Sudanese Regular Army, led by General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan.
- **Rapid Support Forces:** A powerful Sudanese paramilitary militia, led by General Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, from the Janjawid of Darfur.

BACKGROUND ON THE ISSUE

There have been many wars, power grabs, and times of instability in Sudan's history. The country had long civil wars after gaining independence in 1956. One of these wars was the Darfur War in the early 2000's leading to international intervention and accusation of genocide. Sudan is smaller now that South Sudan split off in 2011, but it still has to deal with weak governance and decisions between countries.

A popular uprising in 2019 brought down the authoritarian government of Omar al-Bashir, which had been in power for 30 years. There was a transition period with a civil-military government, but a military coup in October 2021 ended this fragile coexistence. The Sudanese army (SAF) led by General Abdel Fattah al-Birhan, and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), a strong militia led by General Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, took over. At first, these two groups worked together to take power, but soon after there were serious disagreements between them especially over how to integrate the RSFs into the regular army and how to share power.

These tensions peaked on April 15, 2023, when armed clashes broke out in the capital Khartoum, and then quickly spread to other parts of the country, including Darfur. This conflict is fundamentally a struggle for the control of power and resources between the SAFs and the RSFs, but its repercussions have led to an unprecedented humanitarian crisis for the civilian population.

CURRENT CONTEXT

Since April 2023, Sudan has been the scene of a brutal conflict characterized by aerial bombing, artillery fire, widespread looting and targeted violence. Civilians are at the heart of the clashes, suffering massive human losses, infrastructure destruction and a collapse of essential services.

The human toll is tragic, with thousands of deaths and millions of refugees. More than 10 million people have been forced to flee their homes, either by becoming internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Sudan or by seeking refuge in neighbouring countries like in Chad, Egypt, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Central African Republic etc. This travel crisis is one of the most important in the world.

MAJOR COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZATION INVOLVED

Organization/ Countries	Role
United Nations	Coordination of humanitarian response (OCHA), refugee protection (UNHCR), food aid (WFP), Child protection (UNICEF) etc.
African Union (AU)	Diplomatic efforts mediation and promotion of African solutions to the conflict.
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Protection of victims of armed conflicts, humanitarian aid and restoration of family ties.
Doctors Without Borders (MSF)	Providing emergency medical care and humanitarian assistance to affected populations.
Neighboring countries (Chad, Egypt, South Sudan, Ethiopia, CAR)	Reception of Sudanese refugees, regional security concerns, sometimes involvement in mediation efforts.

TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS

1956	Independence of Sudan
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1989	Seizure of power led by Omar al-Bashir establishing an authoritarian Islamist regime.
2003	Beginning of the conflict in Darfur, marked by atrocities and accusations of genocide.
2005	Comprehensive peace agreement ending the second Sudanese civil war and leading to the independence of South Sudan.
2011	South Sudan becomes independent after a referendum
April 2019	Omar al-Bashir is overthrown by a popular movement, supported by the army.
October 2021	Military coup led by General Abdel Fattah al-Birhan (SAF) and General Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo (RSF), ending the civil transition.
May 2023	Several ceasefire attempts negotiated in Jeddah (Saudi Arabia) failed.
June 2023	The UN and humanitarian agencies warn of an imminent humanitarian disaster, with millions of refugees and people threatened with famine.
2024	The Humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate with access to aid being severely restricted. The United Nations Security Council calls for a lasting ceasefire.

RELEVANT UN RESOLUTIONS, TREATIES, & EVENTS

- October 11 2023: The United Nations Human Rights Council adopts Resolution S-36/1 which establishes an independent international fact-finding mission for Sudan to investigate allegations of human rights violations and abuses

https://www.ohchr.org/en/ohchr_homepage

- March 12 2024: The United Nations Security Council adopts Resolution 2724 which calls for an immediate cessation of hostilities in Sudan during the month of Ramadan and unhindered humanitarian access.
<https://press.un.org/en>
- April 15 2024 The Secretary General of the United Nations participates in the High Level Unitarian Conference for Sudan in Paris, co-chaired by France, Germany and the European Union, where more than 2 billion dollars were promised for humanitarian aid
<https://www.un.org/sg/en>

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- Development of a comprehensive disarmament demobilization and reintegration (DDR) plan for combatants. Once cessation of hostilities stabilizes, a well-structured and funded DDR program must be implemented for members of FAS, PSR and other armed groups. This program should include arms down incentives, vocational training and psychosocial support to help former fighters return to civilian life.

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