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for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the
High Commissioner and the Secretary-General**

Written statement submitted by Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience, 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.

[26 January 2026]

* Issued as received, in the language of submission only.



Ensuring Justice in the Sudan: Extending Accountability for Crimes Against Humanity

The Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience is providing this submission on behalf of victims of violence committed by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in the Sudan and their foreign backers.

Nearly three years since the conflict erupted in the Sudan, its consequences have reached an unprecedented scale: 15 million people have been displaced(1), 20 million require health assistance, and 21 million are in urgent need of food(2).

On 19 January 2026, addressing the UN Security Council, the ICC Deputy Prosecutor Nazhat Shameem Khan stressed that the situation in Darfur had “darkened even further” over the past six months(3).

In October 2025, following an eighteen-month siege, the capture of El Fasher was characterised by widespread violence, including summary executions, sexual violence, arbitrary killings, dehumanising treatment, and abductions. The ICC Office of the Prosecutor reported that the available video, audio, and satellite evidence confirmed that such crimes were perpetrated and indicated that they constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity(4).

The attacks in El Fasher are not isolated incidents but reflect a pattern of recurring crimes, similar to those committed during the assault on the Zamzam refugee camp in April 2025. The RSF deliberately targeted civilians, conducted summary executions and mass killings, and inflicted sexual and gender-based violence. Reports also indicate attacks on health and civilian facilities, including schools, as well as pillaging and the destruction of religious sites(5). Describing, “a consistent pattern of serious violations of international humanitarian law and gross abuses of international human rights law”(6), the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights reported that “at least 1,013 civilians were killed during the offensive from 11 to 13 April 2025”.

Those responsible for the most recent crimes are actively seeking to conceal their actions. The RSF is reported to have engaged in a “multi-week campaign to destroy evidence of its mass killings through burial, burning, and the removal of human remains on a large scale”. Satellite imagery indicates that tens of thousands of bodies were removed or destroyed following the seizure of El Fasher(7), underscoring the urgent need for thorough investigations and accountability.

Ensuring accountability across the Sudan

In 2005, the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 1593, which referred the situation in Darfur to the International Criminal Court (ICC) and granted the Court jurisdiction over crimes against humanity, war crimes, and genocide committed in Darfur from July 2002 onwards. This referral ultimately led to a “landmark step toward accountability”(8) with the sentencing of Mr Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-Al-Rahman (also known as Ali Kushayb) in October 2025. The Judges of Trial Chamber I unanimously found the senior leader of the Janjaweed militia guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity dating back to 2003–2004.(9)

Despite this recent judgment and any potential future proceedings concerning the situation in Darfur, the absence of accountability for crimes perpetrated outside the region, due to the ICC’s limited jurisdiction, perpetuates cycles of violence and violations and enables similar crimes to be committed with impunity.(10) Hostilities are intensifying in other regions of the Sudan, and civilians continue to be targeted.(11) It is therefore urgent that the United Nations Security Council extends its referral.

Victims of violence perpetrated by the RSF urge the forces involved to respect their obligations under international humanitarian law, and to immediately cease attacks against civilians.

Victims also call on Member States to

- Intensify pressure on all parties involved in the conflict to ensure that ongoing crimes are brought to an immediate halt.
- Facilitate dialogue to secure a ceasefire and lasting peace;
- Assist UN bodies conducting investigations in the Sudan, including the UN Human Rights Council's the Sudan Fact-Finding Mission, by contributing to evidence preservation and documentation;
- Promote accountability by supporting the extension of the UN Security Council referral to the rest of Sudan.

External Support From Foreign Actors

Crimes committed in the Sudan continue to be facilitated by external actors, including neighbouring States and the United Arab Emirates, whose significant financial and material support to the RSF has enabled atrocities against civilians. Following his mission in the Sudan in January 2026, Volker Türk emphasised that regional actors, particularly those supplying arms, must act urgently to stop providing support that fuels the conflict.⁽¹²⁾

As early as 2024, United Nations experts cited credible allegations that the United Arab Emirates was providing military supplies to the RSF via the Chad airstrip under the guise of humanitarian assistance.⁽¹³⁾ In May 2025, Amnesty International further reported clear evidence of the use of advanced Chinese-manufactured weapons in the Sudan, and assessed that these weapons had almost certainly been re-exported to the Sudan by the United Arab Emirates, a recognised hub for arms diversion.⁽¹⁴⁾ More recently, the United Arab Emirates has reportedly expanded its support to the RSF by supplying machine guns, vehicles, artillery, mortars, and ammunition.⁽¹⁵⁾ RSF operations have also revealed the deployment of drones provided by the United Arab Emirates, identifiable by their capacity to conduct air strikes.⁽¹⁶⁾

These forms of external backing have significantly reinforced the RSF's ability to sustain hostilities and conduct large-scale attacks. Addressing foreign involvement is therefore crucial to any credible effort to end the conflict in the Sudan and ensure accountability for serious violations of international law.

The victims of violence perpetrated by the RSF call on Member States to:

- Condemn the United Arab Emirates's involvement through its support for the RSF, and ensure a full investigation into its actions;
- Demand that the United Arab Emirates cease all forms of support;
- Impose sanctions on individuals and entities implicated in supporting or enabling RSF operations.

The enduring crisis in the Sudan demands immediate and decisive action by the international community to ensure accountability and halt any support to those responsible.

(1) One-Third of Sudan Displaced in 1,000 Days of Conflict, IOM Urges Urgent and Sustained Action, IOM, 9 January 2026.

(2) Sudan: After 1,000 days of war, millions of civilians still bearing brunt, UN News, 9 January 2026.

(3) Rapid Support Forces Abuses Repeated "Town after Town" in Darfur, International Criminal Court Deputy Prosecutor Tells Security Council, Citing Mass Crimes, UN Security Council, Meeting coverage, SC/16277, 19 January 2026.

- (4) ICC, The Office of The Prosecutor, Forty-Second Report Of The Prosecutor Of The International Criminal Court To The United Nations Security Council Pursuant To Resolution 1593 (2005), 19 January 2026.
- (5) Sudan: “A Refuge Destroyed”: RSF Violations in Darfur’s Zamzam Camp for Internally Displaced Persons, 2 December 2025.
- (6) Sudan: UN report details horrific patterns of violations committed during RSF takeover of Zamzam IDP camp, UN News, 18 December 2025.
- (7) RSF Systematic Mass Killings And Body Disposal In El-Fasher, North Darfur 26 October – 28 November 2025, Yale School of Public Health, Humanitarian Research Lab, 16 December 2025.
- (8) Rapid Support Forces Abuses Repeated “Town after Town” in Darfur, International Criminal Court Deputy Prosecutor Tells Security Council, Citing Mass Crimes, UN Security Council, Meeting coverage, SC/16277, 19 January 2026.
- (9) Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-Al-Rahman declared guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in Darfur, Sudan, ICC Press release, 6 October 2025.
- (10) Amid Sudan’s unimaginable crisis, its people endure with hope, UN News, 4 December 2025.
- (11) Sudan: Warn about intensification in Kordofan, UN News, 20 January 2026.
- (12) UN rights chief bears witness to trauma and resilience in Sudan, UN press release, 18 January 2026.
- (13) Dozens of UAE flights head to airstrip UN says supplies arms to Sudan rebels, Reuters, 12 December 2024.
- (14) Sudan: Advanced Chinese weaponry provided by UAE in breach of arms embargo - new investigation, Amnesty International, 8 May 2025.
- (15) UAE has reportedly increased its support to the RSF through the supply of machine gun, Middle East Eye, 28 October 2025.
- (16) W. WALLIS, C.CORNISH, Sudan civil war atrocities cast spotlight on UAE, Financial Times, 4 Novembre 2025.