



General Assembly

Distr.: General
2 September 2011

English only

Human Rights Council

Eighteenth session

Agenda item 4

Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Written statement* submitted by the Sudan Council of Voluntary Agencies (SCOVA), 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.

[22 August 2011]

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

A statement on the incidents of Southern Kordofan, Sudan

After the announcement of the complementary elections in Southern Kordofan state in June 2011, situations became tensed after Mr. Abdul-Aziz Alhilo, candidate of the SPLM, announced his refusal for the election results which won by his rival Mr. Ahmed Mohammed Haroun, candidate of the NGP, and disappeared from the capital of the state. These incidents made the two parties of CPA, in order to sustain peace which existed in the state for years, formed a mutual committee to deal with these recent situations and developments.

Unfortunately, the efforts of the committee were not successful as SPLA forces headed by Alhilo attacked the capital of the state with artillery at the time when the mutual committee was departing Kadugli airport. In response to this attack, the Sudanese armed forces reacted quickly and decisively. All this resulted in a deteriorating security and humanitarian situations never witnessed since the signing of the cease fire agreement in 2002.

Hundreds of people were killed from both sides, and about one hundred thousand were displaced to North Kordofan, Khartoum and White Nile States during the first days of the events. Also properties of people were robbed and destroyed during the 48 hours of the incidents when chaos and gun fire were predominant. Situations are now stable and many displaced people came back to their lands by the efforts of the national NGOs that sent relief and medical convoys and contributed in transporting citizens to their areas, but still there are displaced persons waiting to go back home.

As for election results, they were accepted by all monitoring parties whether from inside or outside Sudan. All the reports acknowledged the peaceful atmosphere in which elections ran through. So, the election results are indisputable. Hence, the Sudanese Council of Voluntary Associations (SCOVA) calls all parties to accept these results and to sit to formulate a setting in which all political and social components can live in peace.

As for the humanitarian situation, many organizations, networks and NGOs rushed to introduce initiatives to support and handle the humanitarian situations and the political congestion in the state. Some of these initiatives are:

- Sudanese Council of Voluntary Agencies initiative.
- University of Khartoum Peace initiative.
- Society Studies Centre and Sudanese Centre for Democracy and Development initiative.
- National Networks for Peace Support initiative.

The Minister of Justice formed an investigation committee to trace the incidents in Southern Kordofan and the recent situations. But the situation needs instant procedures to mitigate the impacts of such tragic incidents, to recover disadvantage, to mend the social texture, to bring to justice all responsible elements and to compensate the damages.

What was done by the national organizations like sending relief and medical convoys has supported so much in bringing people out of that crisis; in particular what made by the Sudanese Red Crescent society that kept the dead bodies of the two parties in highly professional way that considered all international measures in this respect in order to keep rights and healthy environment. This practice gained the praise of the International Committee of Red Crescent and Cross.

The national capacities, formal or informal, treated such incidents in full responsibility to minimize the impacts on the people and that incited us as the Sudanese Council of

Voluntary Agencies to call for developing and improving such capacities in all levels, especially the NGOs which distinguished themselves in providing relief, mending the social texture and peace building, using the minimum potentials available, without any foreign interference.

The expected role from the international community is to prompt the efforts of these organizations and to build their capacity and to rely on them to monitor human rights status as they are the nearest to the hearts of the people and the most closed to incidents. We suggest building smart partnerships between national and the international organizations to help in restoring the normal situation in the state, to bring back all displaced people to their homes and to sustain peace and development.
