

**Security Council**

Distr.: General
4 October 2021

Original: English

**Letter dated 30 September 2021 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of
the Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the United Nations
addressed to the President of the Security Council**

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith for your attention a self-explanatory letter dated 29 September 2021 from First Lieutenant General Abdel-Fattah Al-Burhan Abdelrahman Al-Burhan, President of the Transitional Sovereign Council of the Republic of the Sudan, addressed to you (see annex).

I would be grateful if you would kindly circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mahmoud Yousif Ahmed **Alhassein**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.



**Annex to the letter dated 30 September 2021 from the
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the
United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

[Original: Arabic]

I have the honour to write in recognition and appreciation of the vital role of the United Nations and its specialized agencies in supporting the Sudan. The country has been undergoing a pivotal transition since the Sudanese people embarked on an unprecedented revolution in a bid for freedom, security, stability and dignity. For that reason, I would like to draw your attention to the most significant developments in the Sudan. In so doing, I hope to maintain our positive engagement with the international community and to strengthen our international partnership in a spirit of cooperation and international solidarity.

I would like briefly to touch on some of our commitments and what we have been able to achieve over the two years that have passed since the glorious September revolution.

1. As we have repeatedly emphasized, we are committed to overseeing and protecting the transition in the Sudan until we reach the goal of holding free and fair elections that genuinely reflect the will and aspirations of the Sudanese people. We will work to prevent any attempt, from any quarter, to hinder the transitional process. We will also continue to promote and defend democratic change until power is handed over to an elected civilian Government. We will work to build a free and stable Sudan at peace with itself, its neighbours and its regional and international environment, a Sudan whose people can enjoy freedom, justice and peace – all of which were demands of the December revolution. We need hardly state that we remain committed to the provisions of the Constitutional Document agreed upon by the stakeholders in the transition.

2. We are cognizant of the destruction and depredations that took place in the west of our country, Darfur, under the previous regime. We are committed to implementing the Juba Peace Agreement, particularly as regards security arrangements. We will spare no effort to engage positively and constructively with those groups that are not yet on board with the peace process. We remain determined to protect civilians in Darfur, particularly women and children, in order to preserve human dignity and the rights which the Sudan has undertaken to respect under the international instruments to which it is a party. We will continue to implement the national plan for the protection of civilians and to train and deploy joint forces for that purpose. Those are among the most significant priorities in Darfur at this stage. We will also continue to confiscate undeclared small arms and light weapons and to implement the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme. You will have observed that the situation in Darfur has been gradually improving, despite stumbling blocks caused by socio-economic complexities, the effects of climate change in the region, and the scarcity of international financial support for the implementation of the Juba Peace Agreement.

3. Justice was one of the three pillars of the Sudanese revolution. We are committed to putting in place and implementing a transitional justice programme drawing on regional and international expertise in that area. Because criminal justice is an important part of transitional justice, we have taken the important steps of strengthening cooperation with the International Criminal Court and endeavouring to hold accountable anyone found to have committed crimes in Darfur. In view of our commitment to protect and strengthen human rights and the rule of law, we have persisted with our efforts to combat all forms of discrimination on the grounds of gender, ethnicity and belief.

4. By establishing the Legislative Council and other mechanisms, we have been working to finalize the structure of the transitional authorities and to take the necessary steps to secure the adoption of a constitution founded on the defence of fundamental personal, political and economic freedoms. Such a document would empower society to decide on matters of government and the relationship between religion and the State. It would provide for an administrative system that would grant significant administrative, financial and political powers to local authorities. The central government would play only a limited role, which would be defined under the constitution.

5. The Transitional Government has taken bold economic and financial measures by liberalizing the exchange rate, removing basic commodity subsidies and seeking to address the country's mounting external debt. Those steps were necessary in order to eliminate inherited structural distortions in the country's economy. Although hard on our citizens, they are starting to bear fruit. I would like to reiterate my thanks to those States that participated in the partnership conferences on the Sudan. We hope that stakeholders will continue to work towards debt forgiveness and contribute to social protection programmes aimed at alleviating the impact of the economic measures on the population. At the domestic level, we have been working to boost productivity, improve the trade balance and create opportunities to attract investments that would tap the country's potential.

6. We are determined to reform the security sector and the structure of the security services, and to ensure that the armed forces are professional; maintain national security in the face of foreign aggression; defend the people's choices as expressed in accordance with the Constitution, just as they responded to the aspirations of civilians in the December revolution; and comply with international humanitarian law and international human rights law. The process of reforming the armed forces and integrating all the groups involved in the peace process is a highly complex one, involving a plethora of domestic parties and international partners. Some actors, such as the Abdul Wahid Muhammad al-Nur faction and the People's Movement under Abdelaziz al-Hilu, have not joined the peace process. We are keen to involve those actors in the integration arrangements in future.

7. We are fully committed to the Charter of the United Nations and its purposes, including neighbourly relations, non-aggression and non-interference in the internal affairs of other States. By moving our armed forces on our eastern border, we sought to redeploy and reposition them in a geographic area which historical documents and bilateral agreements show to be Sudanese territory. While we have no aggressive intent, we will respond decisively to any expansionist designs on our territory. The Sudan is complying with the principles of neighbourly relations by hosting tens of thousands of civilians from neighbouring States, in accordance with our values and our custom of helping our neighbours. Owing to the economic situation, our resources sometimes prevent us from fulfilling that duty as well as we might wish. We hope that the international community will support us in bearing that considerable burden.

Lastly, the stakeholders in the transitional process, the relevant actors in the Sudan, the Government, the movements that signed the peace agreements and those that have not done so, and everyone who wants the democratic process to come to fruition, all hope that the regional and international partners of the Sudan will support them across the board in order to build a unified, stable, democratic and prosperous Sudan. We call on the United Nations, its agencies and our partners and friends to honour their commitments to the Sudan so that the country can safely work towards development and a smooth democratic transition.