



# General Assembly

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## Human Rights Council

### Eighteenth session

Agenda item 4

**Human rights situations that require the Council's attention**

### **Written statement\* submitted by the Society Studies Centre (MADA ssc), 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).

## **Statement about current events in South Kordofan**

(The Society Studies Centre) has kept an eye on the three areas (Abyei, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile) since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and its known protocols. The recent events in South Kordofan show that the parties to the agreement renounced to their obligations towards peace in the region in a way that exposes the stability of the zone to danger. As the Centre pays great attention to the deteriorating humanitarian situation resulting from the violence in the region, we sent on the 11<sup>th</sup> of August 2011 a team to study the abuses committed by the parties (SPLM and Sudanese government). We are now preparing a detailed report on the events and violations committed in the area.

But generally, we can conclude that recent violence in the region, according to the succession of events, is due to the refusal of the SPLM of the results of recent elections that finished by the election of Ahmed Haroun, candidate of NCP (201455 votes) as Governor of South Kordofan and the loss of general Abd al-Aziz al-Hilou, candidate of SPLM (194955 votes) with a very little margin of (6500 votes). The SPLM accuses the government of rigging the elections despite the recognition of international, regional and local observing organizations of integrity and transparency of those elections. Therefore, the position of the SPLM constitutes a refusal of the obligations of democratic transition and even more than that, it caused dramatic escalation of violence in the region. Others might see things differently in estimating that the call of government to disarm SPLA; within the framework of the security arrangements in the region, led to the escalation of events. Whatever the reasons, the parties opted violence and fighting in a way that threatened the stability and caused loss of lives and waste of resources.

Therefore, the Centre calls upon the two parties to an immediate truce, to allow distribution of humanitarian aid to those affected and to sit for negotiation and dialogue away from the context of violence and war.

Meanwhile, the Centre has initiated, in coordination with the Sudanese Centre for Development and Democracy, a new campaign heading to strengthen the role of local civil society to insure its capacities and capabilities to protect the vital interests of local community.

Based on the above, we call upon the international community to take necessary measures to enhance and strengthen the role of local civil society so that it can play its essential task facing challenges and crises in the region and not to respond to irresponsible –internal and external- plans trying to exploit the circumstances for agendas, certainly other than interest the people of Sudan.