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ORAL STATEMENT

ITEM 10: Interactive Dialogue on the Technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in the Sudan

SUDAN: ACTION NEEDED BY THE GOVERNMENT

UN Human Rights Council
Forty-fourth session
30 June – 17 July 2020

Madam President,

Amnesty International welcomes recent public commitments by the Government of Sudan, following momentous changes in 2019, to protect freedom of expression, assembly and association, and ensure justice and accountability.

We urge the government to translate these commitments into action, including through effective and genuine investigation and prosecution of individuals suspected of serious human rights violations and abuses, especially those committed under the past regime and on 3 June 2019. We urge the government to conduct all necessary reforms to ensure investigations and prosecutions can be conducted before independent, impartial and competent courts, in accordance with fair trials standards and without recourse to the death penalty. We urge the government to ratify human rights treaties such as the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT).

We remain concerned that human rights violations continue to be committed in Sudan, including acts of excessive use of force and unlawful killings, especially in Darfur and other conflict areas.

We welcome the surrender of Ali Kushayb to the International Criminal Court (ICC) this June. This a positive step towards justice for the victims of war crimes and crimes against humanity that he is suspected of committing in Darfur. The Sudanese authorities should build on this momentum by handing over to the ICC former President Omar al-Bashir and the others suspects to answer allegations against them. We also urge the Government of Sudan to ratify the Rome Statute and ensure Sudanese criminal law and procedure is consistent with its provisions.

We welcome this Council's continued attention to the human rights situation in Sudan, including through mandated reporting, dialogues, and a heightened focus on promoting accountability for human rights violations and abuses.

Thank you, Madam President.