



**Statement by Sweden in the interactive dialogue on Sudan**

*Delivered by H E Excellency Ambassador Veronika Bard  
Geneva, May 4, 2016 (speaking time 1 min 10 sec)*

Mr President,

Sweden wishes to welcome the delegation and express our thanks for the information related to our advance questions.

Sweden would like to give the following recommendations to the Government of Sudan:

- 1) to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and to adopt a National Action Plan on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security,
- 2) to take all necessary steps to ensure full and unhindered access by independent humanitarian organisations to civilians in need of assistance in Darfur, Blue Nile and South Kordofan,
- 3) to continue taking strong measures to combat human trafficking and the sexual exploitation and abuse of migrant women and children, including by fully implementing the Human Trafficking Act of 2014, training law enforcement officials and ensuring adequate protection for victims of human trafficking.

Sweden welcomes that the Government of Sudan has formulated a national action plan to combat violence against women and established the federal Combatting Violence against Women Unit. The Government has also organised consultations on ratifying CEDAW and preparatory discussions on a national action plan on UN Security Council resolution 1325. However, women still face challenges of access to justice and of judicial bias and women in Sudan continue to be subjected to sexual and gender-based violence, in particular in the conflict affected areas.

Thank you, Mr. President