



Permanent Mission
of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the Office of the United Nations and
to the other International Organizations
Geneva

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Geneva, 4th May 2016

German national statement

Sudan

Mr President,

at the start, allow me to express my government's concern about the decision taken by the Government of Sudan to willfully and disingenuously obstruct the participation of Sudanese civil society at the UPR pre-session in March.

Mr President,

we commend the Government of Sudan for its constructive approach towards and the concessions made in the current peace negotiations to end the conflicts in Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile, notably the signing of the road map drafted by the African Union High Level Implementation Panel. The National Dialogue as a means to enable a more participative and inclusive political system and to address issues regarding internal peace, constitutional and basic freedoms and human rights is equally commendable.

Yet, Germany is concerned by the number of recommendations accepted by Sudan in its first UPR cycle, where no progress has been made to date. [These include recommendations made in relation to freedom of assembly and association and press freedom. We therefore call on Sudan to follow-through on its commitments made five years ago – in 2011.]

Germany recommends the following to the Government of Sudan:

1. To guarantee the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association in line with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and to amend existing legislation that is in violation of it.
2. To immediately cease aerial bombardments and to allow access for humanitarian aid to areas of conflict so as to meet its obligations under international law.
3. To repeal the constitutional amendment that transforms the National Intelligence and Security Service into an entity with powers to arrest and detain and to launch, without delay, independent investigations into the human rights violations committed by this Service.

Thank you.

Advance written questions submitted to the State under review

1. How does the Government of Sudan intend to uphold the highest standards of press freedom, as also enshrined its constitution, in the face of its repeated threats to the media, inter alia resulting in confiscation of newspapers?

How does the Government of Sudan justify the detention of political activists without charge and trial in light of its international human rights obligations and what steps will it take to ensure that such unlawful detention is prevented in the future