

25th session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group, 2 – 13 May 2016

Statement of Ms. Audra Čiapienė, Minister Counsellor

of the Permanent Mission of Lithuania

at the review of Sudan

Mr. President,

Lithuania warmly welcomes the esteemed delegation of the Sudan and thanks for its informative National Report. Expressing its support to the Sudan's efforts in implementing its National Action Plan for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (2013-2023), Lithuania encourages implementing it effectively.

Lithuania recommends the Sudan to continue the constitutional review process in full transparency and clarity on the primacy of the Covenant over domestic law.

We welcome an encouraging step by the Sudan in signing the Action Plan to end and prevent the recruitment of children and recommend fully implementing this plan by taking effective measures to end the recruitment of children into the armed and ensure that all released children will receive all necessary assistance for their physical and psychological recovery.

Lithuania recommends the Sudan to ratify Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and fully cooperate with the Court pursuant to the Security Council resolutions that those responsible for crimes under international law are prosecuted and justice for victims is guaranteed.

Lithuania also recommends the Sudan:

- to cooperate with the UN Independent Expert, including by granting him access to the entire country, and to issue a standing invitation to the special procedures;
- to adopt and enforce legislation prohibiting the dissemination of ideas based on racial or ethnic superiority and expressions of racial hatred and violence against any group of persons;

- to introduce a freedom of information law in line with international standards, to stop media restrictions and attacks on journalists;
- to amend the National Security Act to bring it into line with the country's constitutional and international obligations by waiving immunity of police, army and security forces from criminal prosecution, or revoke it;
- to ratify CEDAW and criminalize domestic violence and marital rape;
- to ratify CAT, OP-CAT, ICCPR-OP 2.

Thank you.