Statement by the Republic of Lithuania

UPR40 – Sudan

9th February 2022

Thank you, President.

Lithuania welcomes the delegation of Sudan and thanks it for its National Report.

We are deeply concerned about the power take-over by military authorities, and underscore our support for the democratic aspirations of the Sudanese people. We urge Sudanese leadership to recommit to the country’s peaceful transition, return to civilian rule and hold those responsible for human rights violations to account.

Lithuania wishes to offer Sudan the following recommendations:

First, to organise free and fair elections, and return to civilian government.

Second, to ratify the CEDAW *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women* (CEDAW), the *Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (*OP-CAT*)* and the *Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (*ICCPR), aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.

Third, to initiate prompt, effective, independent and impartial investigations into allegations of crimes under international law and to bring suspects to justice.

Forth, to ensure the protection of civilians, especially in conflict affected areas such as Darfur and South Kordofan.

Fifth, to investigate the physical and digital attacks against, and harassment of journalists, media workers and human rights defenders, and ensure freedom of expression.

Lithuania wishes Sudan a successful review.

I thank you.