**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other International Organizations**

**Statement by Montenegro**

**3rd UPR cycle – Review of Sudan**

**Geneva, 1 February 2022**

[Montenegro welcomes the distinguished delegation of Sudan.]

Montenegro notes with concerns that the ongoing crisis in the country continues to be plagued by violence and excessive force by the military authorities against peaceful protesters, including the arbitrary arrest and detention of civilians, activists and journalists. We reiterate our call on the Sudanese military authorities to refrain from violent action, de-escalate tensions and avoid further loss of lives. [Also, to fully respect human rights and fundamental freedoms, especially freedom of expression, association, and peaceful assembly.]

Montenegro reiterates its support for the democratic aspirations of the Sudanese people and the civilian-led transition to democracy in line with the 2019 Constitutional Declaration, as the only path to freedom, peace, and justice for all Sudanese. We strongly support the UNITAMS’ led consultations to facilitate internal dialogue among all Sudanese political actors to resolve the political crisis.

We recommend to Sudan:

1. To ensure accountability for the grave violations of human rights by bringing perpetrators to justice and providing remedies for victims;
2. To investigate all cases of enforced disappearance and ensure that those responsible are prosecuted and punished commensurate with the gravity of their crimes.

[We wish Sudan a successful UPR cycle.]

I thank you.