**Universal Periodic Review 40– the Sudan**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

The Kingdom of the Netherlands is extremely concerned about the consequences of the military coup and the violent crackdown by security forces against human rights defenders, peaceful demonstrators and medical staff. We continue to hold the military authorities responsible for human rights violations which are against current national legislation and international law.

Therefore, we urgently call upon the -*de facto-* military authorities in Sudan:

1. To ensure a return to democratic transition and ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in the mediation processes, in line with UN Security Council Resolution 1325, leading to the formation of a legitimate civilian led government.
2. To effectively protect the right to peaceful assembly, **by** immediately ceasing the excessive use of force by security actors against peaceful protesters, journalists, medical staff and facilities, **by** preventing arbitrary detention and torture, and **by** repealing Emergency Order no. 4.

Thank you.