

Human Rights Council
Twenty-fifth Session
Agenda item 1
Organizational and procedural matters

Statement by the President

PRST 25/... The human rights situation in South Sudan

At the ... meeting, held on ... March 2014, the President of the Human Rights Council read out the following statement:

“The Human Rights Council:

- a. *Expresses* deep concern about the human rights situation resulting from the crisis and violence that broke out in mid-December 2013 in South Sudan;
- b. *Acknowledges* the relevant communiqués/resolutions issued by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), African Union and the United Nations, the statements by United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to urged the parties in conflict to protect the civilian population from violence and to ensure full respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- c. *Calls upon* the parties to put an end to all violations and abuses of human rights, international humanitarian law, including attacks and killings of civilians, mass displacements of populations and to implement the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement and its Implementation Modalities as well as to show their political will and commitment to end the conflict through dialogue, reconciliation and peace building;
- d. *Expresses* support to democratically elected government in South Sudan and *encourages* the Government to investigate the root causes of the crisis and the violence that broke out in mid-December 2013 and reiterates that all perpetrators of atrocities must be held accountable;
- e. *Commends* the leading role played by IGAD in mediating between the parties to the conflict to sign cessation of hostilities agreement, and the formation of monitoring and verification team;
- f. *Calls* upon the international community, the United Nations Mechanisms and OHCHR to support the African Union and IGAD’s efforts;

- g. *Urges* the Parties to allow immediate, and full access to humanitarian assistance to all populations in need of assistance, in accordance with humanitarian principles and to facilitate the efforts of humanitarian agencies to address the critical humanitarian crisis, and to explore durable solutions to the refugees and internally displaced persons, in collaboration and coordination with local and international humanitarian organizations;
- h. *Welcomes* the establishment of the African Union Commission of Inquiry for South Sudan, as an important step towards ensuring accountability and preventing the recurrence of such abuses;
- i. *Calls* upon the South Sudan Government to cooperate fully with the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) in accordance with the Status of Force Agreement (SOFA) signed in August 2011;
- j. *Encourages* the Government of South Sudan to continue to engage with IGAD, the Human Rights Council and OHCHR on this matter.