



AI Index: **AFR 54/0698/2026**
9 February 2026

ORAL STATEMENT

Interactive Dialogue on the oral update of the OHCHR on the human rights situation in and around El Fasher, in the context of the ongoing conflict in the Sudan

UN Human Rights Council
9 February 2026

Mr President,

We welcome this interactive dialogue on Sudan and the High Commissioner's update, in the context of a conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) that continues to be devastating for civilians.

Following an 18-month siege of El Fasher, the RSF took control of the city on 26 October 2025. Amnesty International found that, after the takeover, the RSF killed civilians on a mass scale, committed sexual violence against women and girls and took hostages for ransom.

In the context of the attack, the RSF also violently and systematically cleared out villages around El Fasher. One such example is the April 2025 largescale assault on Zamzam, the largest camp for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Sudan's North Darfur. During the Zamzam attack and in its aftermath, the RSF and its allied forces deliberately killed civilians, pillaged and destroyed protected objects, and took hostages. RSF fighters also deliberately set fire to homes, businesses and damaged critical civilian infrastructure and displaced over 400,000 people in the process.

The SAF and RSF fighting in the Kordofan region is also having a heavy toll on civilians. El Obeid in North Kordofan is one city currently under RSF siege. As the RSF continue attacking El Obeid, there is significant risk of further atrocities like those that occurred in El Fasher.

El Fasher is a stain on our collective conscience; the warning signs were clear. To avoid its repeating, and further civilian suffering in places like El Obeid and other parts of Kordofan region, coordinated international diplomatic pressure must be applied on the warring parties and on their regional and international backers to end violence against civilians. The flow of arms and other support fuelling the conflict must stop.

While famine conditions have already been confirmed in El Fasher and Kadugli, the UN is now warning of the risk of famine in 20 additional areas across the greater Darfur and Kordofan regions. The international community must increase humanitarian support for Sudan and the SAF and RSF must allow aid to reach those desperately in need.

We further call on all states and UN officials to take urgent measures to ensure the provision of prompt and adequate resources for all HRC mandates, including the Sudan Fact-Finding Mission. The FFM should have adequate resources matching the scale and gravity of the violence in Sudan with a view to conduct thorough and comprehensive investigations, identify perpetrators, preserve evidence, and prepare case files for those responsible for crimes under international law across Sudan.

Thank you, Mr. President