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38th Special Session of the Human Rights Council on the human rights situation in and around El Fasher, in the context of the ongoing conflict in the Sudan 14th November 2025

Statement delivered by Ambassador Vincenzo Grassi, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in Geneva

Mr. President, Mr. High Commissioner,

Italy expresses its strongest condemnation of the appalling deterioration of the human rights and humanitarian situation in Sudan, further exacerbated following the fall of El Fasher into the hands of the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) militia.

We are particularly alarmed by credible reports of widespread executions of civilians, sexual violence against women and girls, ethnically motivated violence, as well as looting and the deliberate destruction of hospitals and other essential infrastructure.

After more than three years of conflict, the people of Sudan, particularly women and children, continue to face the world's most severe humanitarian and displacement crisis. More than ten million people have been forced to flee their homes, while over half of the population is experiencing acute food insecurity, and famine conditions are confirmed in several regions. Italy remains steadfast in our support for Sudanese population, including by delivering humanitarian and emergency assistance. In this regards, Minister Tajani announced that "Italy is at the forefront of humanitarian assistance, supporting the most vulnerable civilians, starting with children. Italy has allocated over EUR 125 million to strengthen basic services and assist Sudanese communities in neighboring countries".

Since the hostilities began, the most vulnerable – particularly women, children, and the elderly – have borne the greatest impact. The atrocities they have suffered may amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity. It is imperative that all parties take immediate measures to safeguard civilians, in full compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law.

Italy calls for an immediate end to hostilities and for all parties to respect their obligations under international law, including by guaranteeing safe and unhindered access to deliver humanitarian and health aid.

We continue to stand in solidarity with the people of Sudan and support its aspirations for a peaceful and democratic future, with respect for human rights and the rule of law at its core.

Thank you.