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Plenary sitting

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the agenda for the debate on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law

pursuant to Rule 122 of the Rules of Procedure

on Sudan: the situation in Southern Kordofan and the eruption of fighting in Blue Nile State

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on behalf of the ECR Group

European Parliament resolution on Sudan: the situation in Southern Kordofan and the eruption of fighting in Blue Nile State

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Sudan,
 - having regard to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement signed between the Sudanese parties on 9 January 2005,
 - having regard to the African Union's decision of April 2004 to establish the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS),
 - having regard to the Council conclusions on Sudan on 31 January 2011,
 - having regard to the UN Security Council Resolution 1978(2011),
 - having regard to the Framework Agreement between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement - North of 28 June 2011,
 - having regard to the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights' *Preliminary report on violations of international human rights and humanitarian law in Southern Kordofan from 5 to 30 June 2011*, August 2011,
 - having regard to the statement of 21 June 2011 by the European Parliament's President Jerzy Buzek on the situation in Abyei and South Kordofan,
 - having regard to the statement of 28 August 2011 by the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Commission Vice-President Catherine Ashton, on South Kordofan,
 - having regard to the statement of 2 September 2011 by the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon urging end to fighting in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile states,
 - having regard to Rule 122 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas on 9 July 2011 South Sudan declared its independence from the Republic of Sudan (Sudan) as a result of a self-determination referendum held in application of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) that ended the Second Sudanese Civil War (1983-2005) between the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) and the Government of Sudan headquartered in the northern capital city Khartoum,
- B. whereas the CPA established during the North-South civil war a strip of land along the frontlines consisting of "Three Protocol Areas" - the Sudan's Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan states, and the Abyei area,

- C. whereas these three areas concentrate great natural resources (agricultural land, livestock, water, Gum Arabic, minerals and oil), making them invaluable and covetable possessions,
- D. whereas the majority population of Southern Kordofan is composed of nomadic Misseriya and Hawazma Arabs, loyal to Khartoum, and agriculturalist African Nuba, which inhabit mainly the capital city Kadugli and surrounding Nuba Mountains,
- E. whereas the persistent marginalization of the Nuba ethnic communities by the Government of Sudan precipitated some of them to fight alongside the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), the armed wing of the pro-South Sudan SPLM, during the second North-South civil war,
- F. whereas the CPA also provided for popular consultations to take place in 2011 for residents of the Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile states to determine their respective constitutional future,
- G. whereas Ahmed Haroun, the winner of the mid-May 2011 gubernatorial elections in Southern Kordofan, suspended the planned referendum,
- H. whereas SPLM contested Haroun's electoral victory citing multiple irregularities,
- I. whereas on 23 May 2011, Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir, who is charged by the International Criminal Court (ICC) with various war crimes against civilians and crime against humanity, ordered the Joint Defence Board established under the CPA to dismantle the Joint Integrated Units, formed of equal numbers of Sudan's Army (SAF) and SPLA personnel, in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile by the end of the month, informing as well SPLA-North forces in the two states that they had to either disarm or move south of the Sudan's 1956 North-South border,
- J. whereas the controversy over the election results and the threat of forceful SPLA disarmament were exacerbated by SAF raid on Kadugli and the town of Um Durein perpetrated on 5 June 2011,
- K. whereas SAF repeated shelling and aerial bombardments since 7 June 2011 of densely populated areas caused the scuttle of more than 6,000 Internally Displaced Persons and civilian casualties in Kadugli, Um Durein, Um Serdeiba, Heiban, Kauda, Dilling, and Salara areas,
- L. whereas the Human Rights section of the United Nations Mission to Sudan (UNMIS Human Rights) reported that SAF, allied with Misseriya and Hawazma militia elements of the Popular Defence Forces, were conducting house-to-house searches and identity checks that were allegedly targeting the ethnic Nuba group and have subsequently resulted in detention and arrests and, in some cases, summary executions (extrajudicial killing) in many pro-SPLM areas of Kadugli,
- M. whereas UNMIS Human Rights registered also cases of looting of civilian homes and UN agencies' offices and humanitarian warehouses, including UN assets located at the Kadugli airport, by SAF and affiliated militias,

N. whereas SAF and SPLA-N artillery exchanges continue to deteriorate the security situation in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile states, fettering the access of humanitarian agencies to the ravaged areas,

1. Strongly condemns SAF invasion in the Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile states;
2. Urges the Government of Sudan to immediately resume and prolong its earlier commitment of 23 August 2011 to declare a unilateral two week cease fire in Southern Kordofan, and to extend it to the Blue Nile state;
3. Calls on Sudan and South Sudan to adhere to all provisions of the 2005 CAP in order to promote durable peace, uphold people's right to self-determination, respect defined borders, and ultimately pave the way to reconciliation between the two countries;
4. Rebukes deliberate military attacks on civilians as well as the destruction of private and public property, such as the UNMIs venues and assets;
5. Welcomes the various statements of the UN Secretary General, the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs, and the President of the European Parliament which strongly condemned the spiral of violence and the military occupation of Southern Kordofan and the Blue Nile states, urging all parties to the conflict to resume formal negotiations on a permanent cessation of hostilities through a political settlement;
6. Reiterates the need to maintain both the UNMIS and AMIS missions to Sudan, and to send additional peacekeeping forces therein to avoid re-plunging into a new North-South war;
7. Commends the EU for having allocated since 2005 some EUR 665 million to the whole of Sudan to address the needs of the most vulnerable populations, 45% of which was earmarked for South Sudan; is of the opinion that additional assistance might be needed to overcome the looming threat of a new large-scale humanitarian crisis in the region;
8. Calls on the international community, and especially on the African Union and the Arab League, to increase individual or joint efforts in enforcing the CPA and ensuring a gradual normalisation of North-South relations;
9. Calls on the African Union to strengthen its cooperation with the ICC in order to promote awareness of, and uphold respect for, Human Rights throughout Africa; requests that an end be put to impunity for all crimes perpetrated during the war in Sudan, hopes that President Omar al-Bashir will soon be brought to the Hague as part of the necessary re-establishment of justice, the rule of law, and piety for victims; stresses the need to conduct thorough investigations of all new cases of Human Rights abuses resulting from the current conflict in Southern Kordofan and the Blue Nile states;
10. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the EU Council and Commission, the HR/VP Catherine Ashton, the UN Security Council and the UN Secretary General, the institutions of the African Union and the Arab League, the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, the respective governments of Sudan and South Sudan, and the authorities representing the Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile states.