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Greece's Statement delivered
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Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations, New York

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I would like to thank Under-Secretary-General Rosemary DiCarlo for her comprehensive briefing and her continued engagement in Sudan.

As the conflict continues into its fourth year, the suffering of the Sudanese people remains acute. We hope that ongoing diplomatic efforts will soon lead to tangible progress on the ground. Allow me to focus on three key priorities.

First, the protection of civilians. We remain deeply alarmed by the continued violence, particularly in Darfur and Kordofan, as well as in Blue Nile State, and by reports of air and drone strikes causing civilian casualties, including among displaced families who have already fled their homes in search of safety.

Recent drone strikes on a displacement shelter in El Obeid and near a displacement site in Blue Nile State, reportedly killing and injuring civilians, including women and children, underscore the urgent need to protect places of refuge.

We reiterate our profound concern about the situation around El Obeid and the risk of further escalation and mass atrocities. We condemn attacks against civilians and civilian infrastructure and urge all parties, including the SAF and the RSF, to respect their obligations under international humanitarian law and international human rights law. Civilians seeking to flee areas affected by hostilities must be allowed to do so safely, while those who remain must be protected. Those responsible for serious violations must be held accountable.

Second, the deteriorating humanitarian situation. The latest alert by the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification system highlights a growing risk of famine in parts of Greater Darfur and Greater Kordofan. Severe drought conditions associated with El Niño, combined with ongoing hostilities and constraints on humanitarian access, risk further aggravating an already devastating situation.

We urge all parties to facilitate safe, rapid, sustained and unhindered humanitarian access, remove administrative obstacles and ensure the safety of humanitarian personnel. The starvation of civilians as a method of warfare is prohibited under international humanitarian law and must never be tolerated.

Particular attention must be paid to the situation of women and children. Millions of children continue to suffer from displacement, food insecurity and lack of access to education and healthcare. Women and girls remain especially vulnerable to conflict-related sexual violence and other forms of gender-based violence. Their protection, access to essential services and accountability for violations must remain central to the humanitarian response.

Third, the need to advance a political solution. Greece reiterates its call for an immediate cessation of hostilities, including through a humanitarian truce, paving the way towards a durable ceasefire and a credible political process.

We welcome the ongoing diplomatic engagement, particularly the increasingly coordinated efforts of the Quintet, and reiterate our support to the Secretary-General's Personal Envoy, Mr. Pekka Haavisto. We also commend the efforts of the Quad, particularly those of Mr. Massad Boulos, U.S. Senior Advisor for Arab and African Affairs as well as the engagement of regional actors, including the African Union, towards a peaceful resolution of the conflict.

Greater coordination among these initiatives is essential to support a genuinely Sudanese-led and Sudanese-owned political process, leading to a civilian-led transition, with the meaningful participation of women, civil society and all relevant Sudanese stakeholders. We firmly believe that a negotiated settlement remains the only viable path towards lasting peace.

We are also concerned by the continued flow of weapons and external support that prolong the conflict and undermine mediation efforts. In this regard, we reiterate our support for strengthening the effectiveness of the 1591 sanctions regime, including through extending its geographical scope to the entire territory of Sudan. We hope for a swift conclusion of the current discussions on the renewal of the sanctions regime for Sudan.

Dear colleagues,

Any lasting solution must fully respect Sudan's sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity. Towards this end, we reject any attempts to establish parallel governing structures that risk further fragmenting the country. The Security Council must continue to work collectively towards alleviating human suffering and supporting a peaceful resolution of this conflict.

Greece remains committed to contributing to these efforts.

I thank you.