**ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO THE SUDAN (SECOND BATCH)**

**BELGIUM**

* Is the government of Sudan considering ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Second Optional protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming to the abolition of the death penalty?
* Will the government of Sudan issue a standing invitation to the special procedures and respond positively to the outstanding requests of special rapporteurs to visit the country?
* Which measures will the government of Sudan undertake to strengthen the general public’s awareness and security services’ administration of justice regarding domestic violence, sexual violence, female genital mutilation?
* What steps is the government of Sudan taking to ensure the National Independent Investigation Committee is able to fulfill its mandate to conduct a thorough, impartial, independent and transparent investigation into violations committed on 3 June 2019 and other related incidents and to hold all those responsible to account as well as secure reparations for victims? Will the government of Sudan take similar steps regarding recent incidents, such as the violence on 19 December 2021?
* The activities of journalists and human rights defenders being an integral part of an open and democratic society, will the government of Sudan amend the Press and Publication Act (2009), the Criminal Act (1991) and the Cybercrimes Act (2018) to bring them in line with international standards on the right to freedom of expression?

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

Recognising the ongoing political crisis and current absence of a Prime Minister and civilian Cabinet as envisaged by the 2019 Constitutional Declaration, the United Kingdom’s advance questions are as follows:

* How has Sudan worked with the UN Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS) and OHCHR to support the transitional processes and institutions required to create a credible pathway to democratic elections?
* What progress has Sudan made on its commitment to ensure the Protection of Civilians, including its National Plan for the Protection of Civilians, and how does it plan to work with OHCHR to implement the recommendations made on Protection of Civilians in the OHCHR report of 27 July 2021?
* What steps has Sudan taken to improve the economic, social and cultural rights of the Sudanese people, and in particular what steps are being taken to establish an effective, independent and credible National Human Rights Commission, in support of restoring the transitions to a democratic state that protects and promotes human rights?
* What progress has Sudan made towards delivering justice and accountability for crimes committed both before and after the 2019 revolution and what steps have they taken to ensure the process of reconciliation is transparent and inclusive?
* What measures has Sudan taken to protect humanitarian workers and ensure unfettered access for delivery of humanitarian support in conflict affected areas, particularly since 25 October 2021?

**PANAMA**

* Is Sudan considering extending a standing invitation to all the special procedures of the Human Rights Council? Does it intend to respond positively to the request of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children?
* What measures are put in place to address the proliferation of weapons, particularly of small arms and light weapons (SALWs) in conflict-affected areas and its nexus with sexual and gender-based violence?
* What progress has Sudan made in mitigating violence and ensuring the protection and safety of civilians, including women and girls, particularly in Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile?
* Has Sudan any future plans to sign the Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action and ratify the Arms Trade Treaty, the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons?
* What steps Sudan has taken to address the high incidence of grave violations involving children, including abductions for forced labour, killing and maiming of children and sexual violence against them?