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UNITED NATIONS PRESS RELEASE



For immediate release

Statement by Ms. Alice Wairimu Nderitu, United Nations Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, on the situation in Sudan

(New York, 6 June 2024) – The United Nations Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, Alice Wairimu Nderitu, continues to raise alarm at reports of the horrific attacks in Sudan, particularly those carried out by the Sudanese paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) on a village in Gezira State on 5 June, resulting in the tragic loss of at least 100 lives, as reported by local activists and the media. This attack increases the risk factors and indicators for genocide and related crimes (war crimes and crimes against humanity) in Sudan.

The Special Adviser condemns this brutal act and calls for a thorough and impartial investigation to ensure that those responsible are brought to justice. “Violence continues. Suffering continues. There is no end in sight. All possible prevention efforts must be taken. Accountability remains central for this. Perpetrators of this and all other attacks must be held accountable for their actions. I urge all parties involved to prioritize the protection of civilians and adhere to international human rights and humanitarian law. They have committed to this with the Jeddah Declaration of Commitment to Protect the Civilians. They have the obligation to do this under international human rights and international humanitarian law. They continue negating their international obligations and their own word.”

Special Adviser Nderitu reiterated the concerns expressed in her past statements of 05 June 2024, 15 April 2024, 21 December 2023, 14 November 2023, 5 September 2023, 13 June 2023, 3 November 2022 and 8 September 2022, as well as in her briefing to the UN Security Council on 21 May 2024. “It is unquestionable that risk factors and indicators for genocide and related crimes (war crimes and crimes against humanity) are present, and the risks are increasing. The warring parties must, immediately, explicitly and with no space for ambiguity, call for the protection of all civilian populations and respect their international obligations and their own word without delay. The international community must accelerate all possible efforts to protect the population of Sudan and end this crisis urgently,” the Special Adviser reiterated.

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For media queries please contact:
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Genocide Determination in Sudan and Imposing Accountability Measures

PRESS STATEMENT

ANTONY J. BLINKEN, SECRETARY OF STATE

JANUARY 7, 2025

On April 15, 2023, the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) launched a conflict of unmitigated brutality that has resulted in the world's largest humanitarian catastrophe, leaving 638,000 Sudanese experiencing the worst famine in Sudan's recent history, over 30 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, and tens of thousands dead. In December 2023, I concluded that members of the SAF and the RSF had committed war crimes. I also determined that members of the RSF and allied Arab militias had committed crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing.

The RSF and RSF-aligned militias have continued to direct attacks against civilians.

The RSF and allied militias have systematically murdered men and boys—even infants—on an ethnic basis, and deliberately targeted women and girls from certain ethnic groups for rape and other forms of brutal sexual violence. Those same militias have targeted fleeing civilians, murdering innocent people escaping conflict, and prevented remaining civilians from accessing lifesaving supplies. Based on this information, I have now concluded that members of the RSF and allied militias have committed genocide in Sudan.

The United States is committed to holding accountable those responsible for these atrocities. We are today sanctioning RSF leader Mohammad Hamdan Daglo Mousa, known as Hemedti, for his role in systematic atrocities committed against the Sudanese people. We are also sanctioning seven RSF-owned companies located in the United Arab Emirates and one individual for their roles in procuring weapons for the RSF. In addition, we are today announcing Hemedti's designation under Section 7031(c) for his involvement in gross violations of human rights in Darfur, namely the mass rape of civilians by RSF soldiers under his control. As a result of this designation, Hemedti and his immediate family members are ineligible for entry to the United States.

Hemedti has wantonly ignored commitments under international humanitarian law, the 2023 "Jeddah Declaration of Commitment to Protect the Civilians of Sudan," and the 2024 Code of Conduct produced by the Advancing Lifesaving and Peace in Sudan initiative. This code includes commitments to allow the unimpeded passage of humanitarian relief and prevent war crimes such as sexual violence, which the RSF and aligned militias under Hemedti's leadership have committed.

Today's action is part of our continued efforts to promote accountability for all warring parties whose actions fuel this conflict. The United States does not support either side of this war, and these actions against Hemedti and the RSF do not signify support or favor for the SAF. Both belligerents bear responsibility for the violence and suffering in Sudan and lack the legitimacy to govern a future peaceful Sudan. The United States continues to evaluate additional actions to impose costs on those perpetuating the conflict and atrocities against the Sudanese people. We also continue to support the Sudanese people in achieving their aspirations for a

peaceful, just, and inclusive democratic future, which is why in December I [announced](#) that the United States will provide \$30 million to support Sudanese civil society actors.

The Department of the Treasury actions were taken pursuant to [Executive Order 14098](#), "Imposing Sanctions on Certain Persons Destabilizing Sudan and Undermining the Goal of a Democratic Transition," as amended. For more information on today's action, see Treasury's press release. The public designation is made pursuant to Section 7031(c) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2024 (Div. F, P.L. 118-47), as carried forward by the Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2025 (Div. A, P.L. 118-158).

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United States Mission to
the United Nations

Statement by Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield on the Determination of Genocide in Sudan

UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Office of Press and Public Diplomacy

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 7, 2025

Statement by Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield on the Determination of Genocide in Sudan

Today, after careful review of the facts and a comprehensive legal analysis, Secretary of State Antony Blinken has determined that members of the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and allied militias have committed genocide in Sudan.

This determination builds on Secretary Blinken's announcement in December 2023 that members of the RSF and allied Arab militias were responsible for ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. In 2023, Secretary Blinken also determined that members of the RSF and Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) were responsible for war crimes.

In addition to today's determination, sanctions have been placed on seven RSF-owned companies based in the United Arab Emirates and one individual responsible for procuring weapons for the RSF.

RSF leader Mohamed Hamdan Daglo, known as Hemedti, has wantonly ignored commitments under international humanitarian law, the 2023 "Jeddah Declaration of Commitment to Protect the Civilians of Sudan," and the 2024 Code of Conduct produced by the Advancing Lifesaving and Peace in Sudan initiative.

These atrocities demand accountability. And so, together with this determination, the United States has imposed sanctions on Hemedti, for his pivotal role in fueling the war in Sudan. Hemedti has also been designated under Section 7031(c) for his involvement in gross human rights violations, including the mass rape of civilians by RSF soldiers under his control.

Today the Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control sanctioned Hemedti under Executive Order 14098, "Imposing Sanctions on Certain Persons Destabilizing Sudan and Undermining the Goal of a Democratic Transition," for the RSF's killing tens of thousands, displacing 12 million, and triggering widespread starvation throughout Sudan.

The United States does not support either side of this war, and these actions against Hemedti and the RSF do not signify support or favor for the SAF. Indeed, the SAF has carried out attacks against civilians by air and artillery strikes and continues to obstruct the delivery of humanitarian aid. Both belligerents bear responsibility for the violence and suffering in Sudan and lack the legitimacy to govern a future peaceful Sudan.

It is long past time for the warring parties to lay down their guns, facilitate the unrestricted flow of humanitarian aid, and uphold their obligations under international humanitarian law. The people of Sudan demand and deserve, protection, peace, and justice.

Since the outbreak of this war, I have called on the United Nations and the global community to do more and give more to end this unimaginable suffering – convening numerous meetings both within the United Nations Security Council and beyond it but it is not enough. This is a small step in holding parties accountable. aimed at taking action.

As the largest humanitarian donor to the people of Sudan, the United States remains dedicated to alleviating the suffering of the many vulnerable Sudanese people who have been caught in this war – and is committed to helping the Sudanese people have a voice and create their own future.

In the days ahead, we will continue to take action against those who undermine Sudan's security and stability – and continue to use all available tools to promote peace, accountability, and democracy for the Sudanese people.

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