



**CAIRO INSTITUTE**  
**FOR HUMAN RIGHTS STUDIES**  
Institut du Caire pour les études des droits de l'homme  
مركز القاهرة لدراسات حقوق الإنسان

**Human Rights Council: 21<sup>st</sup> Session**

**Item 10: ID with IE Sudan**

**Oral Intervention**

**East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project (EHAHRDP) and Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS)**

**26<sup>th</sup> September 2012**

*Delivered by Mr. Ameir Suliman*

Thank you Madam President.

The East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies and the African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies express their deep concern at the ongoing grave human rights violations in Sudan.

Indeed, the human rights situation in the country has deteriorated since Sudan was discussed in this Council last September. In particular, the violent suppression of peaceful protests in Khartoum and other cities, the intimidation and arbitrary arrests of human rights defenders and journalists, and the closure of newspapers and NGO offices (as mentioned in the IE's report) are particularly worrying. The use of post-publication censorship, both online and in print, has further reduced the scope of freedom of expression in the country.

With continuing violence in the border states of Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile, as well as Darfur, the humanitarian and human rights situation remains dire. Refugees arriving in South Sudan from these areas continue to report aerial bombardments on certain villages. We are equally alarmed at the continuing lack of humanitarian access to civilians who remain in these border states. Only last month in Darfur, the Kassab IDP camp was attacked by a militia which looted homes and markets and carried out a number of extrajudicial killings, driving some 25,000 residents out of the camp, according to UN reports.

Madam President, in light of this situation and while we appreciate the challenges posed by time constraints, we deplore the limited access accorded to the IE, especially his not being able to arrange a visit to Darfur and other states.

We therefore call on the Government of Sudan to fully cooperate with the mandate-holder. We urge this Council to renew the IE's mandate and ensure that he is granted unhindered access to monitor and report on the human rights situation in all areas of Sudan and to consult with all stakeholders to allow for the effective fulfillment of his mandate.

Thank you Madam President.