

A Call to Action for a Healthier Sudan:

Distinguished guests, esteemed colleagues,

I stand before you today not just as an official representative to my country, but also a concerned public health professional deeply interested in the health and well-being of Sudanese people. The recent conflict has cast a long shadow, and its impact on our healthcare system is undeniable since the eruption of war on 15th April 2023. Hospitals, once bustling with life, now stand partially empty, some even bearing the scars of violence. Essential medicines, once readily available, are running low.

Yet, amidst the challenges, there are glimmers of hope. Our national vaccination campaigns have shown tremendous progress, leading to the containment of outbreaks emerged due to the deterioration of all social determinants of health. Our dedicated healthcare workers, despite the dangers, continue to serve their communities with unwavering commitment.

However, significant obstacles remain. Many facilities, particularly in rural areas, are struggling with shortages of medicines, equipment, and qualified personnel. Displaced populations face an even greater struggle in accessing healthcare. Beyond the immediate impact of conflict, pre-existing issues persist. Non-communicable diseases like diabetes and heart disease are on the rise, and maternal and child mortality rates remain high, especially in underserved communities. Mental health services, too, fall short of addressing the growing needs of our people.

Addressing these challenges is paramount. We are committed to restoring and sustaining essential health services through the following approaches:

- **Strengthening our healthcare infrastructure.** This includes renovating damaged facilities, ensuring a steady supply of medications, and investing in life saving medical equipment.

- **Supporting and safe guarding our healthcare workforce.** We will attract and retain qualified medical personnel, particularly in rural areas, and enhance safe working conditions. The safety and well-being of our doctors and nurses is a top priority and significant for the continuity of health services during this emergency
- **Ensuring equitable access.** No Sudanese, regardless of location or financial means, should be denied quality healthcare. We are dedicated to rehabilitating primary health care centers and strengthening community-based healthcare initiatives and deploying mobile medical clinics to reach those most in need.

We cannot achieve this alone. We stand before you today not simply seeking aid, but seeking partnership. We call upon international organizations and partner nations to join us in these efforts Your expertise, your financial support, and your provision of medical supplies are critical in building a healthier Sudan.

This journey will not be easy as we expect to be challenged by the existing and emerging setbacks of the war. But by working together, with unwavering dedication, we aspire to build a resilient healthcare system that can respond to emergency health needs and yet provide routine health services to achieve all for health and health for all.

Together, let us create a healthcare system that not only treats illness but actively promotes well-being. This is not just a challenge for Sudan, but a challenge for the global community. By joining hands, we can not only heal our nation, but set a powerful example for the world.

Thank you.