

United Nations Human Rights Council

Oral Statement by the International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute (IBAHRI)

50th session of the Human Rights Council

Enhanced Interactive Dialogue with the High Commissioner for Human Rights on Universal Periodic Review adoptions on Sudan 02 July 2022

Mr President,

The International Bar Association Human Rights Institute and Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada support the UPR recommendations on abolishing the immunities provided for members of the security forces under the National Security Act and immediately halting unnecessary and disproportionate use of force against peaceful protestors in Sudan.

We are alarmed by the derailment of the transition to a civilian-led democracy by military authorities since the coup, indicated by the arresting of the former Sudanese prime minister, the unilateral suspension of articles of the binding constitutional document, the reintegration of Al Bashir loyalists into the caretaker government, and the suspension of accountability mechanisms, including the Khartoum massacre investigative committee.

We condemn the pattern of extrajudicial killings and mass arbitrary arrests of protestors, activists, such as Amira Osman, human rights defenders, and resistance committee leaders following the coup, as well as systematic violations of fair trial and due process rights, including the right to access a lawyer and to be heard before a judicial authority.

The UPR process is effective only if States fulfil their UPR promises in timely ways that comply with international law. We call upon Sudan to:

- Rescind the blanket immunity afforded to security forces,
- Investigate all unlawful detentions, arbitrary arrests, enforced disappearances, and torture, and hold to account those responsible.

Thank you.

For further information, kindly contact:

Francesca Restifo

Senior Human Rights Adviser and UN Representative International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute francesca.restifo@int-bar.org

Yassin Osman

Programme Lawyer International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute Yassin.osman@int-bar.org