

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya To the United Nations - New York Security Council - 2021-2022

BRIEFING BY THE PROSECUTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT ON THE SITUATION IN DARFUR PURSUANT TO UNSCR 1593

TUESDAY, 23 AUGUST 2022 (10:00AM)

STATEMENT AS DELIVERED BY MS. CATHERINE NYAKOE, LEGAL COUNSEL

Thank you Mr. President.

- 1. I thank Mr. Karim Khan, Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, for his briefing and take note of his thirty-fifth report. I welcome the presence of the Representative of Sudan in this meeting.
- 2. At the heart of the peace process in Sudan are a people whose efforts towards rebuilding peace in their country is evident. This includes addressing transitional justice issues and pursuing national reconciliation.
- 3. The people of Sudan have injected considerable investment into their national institutional and legal frameworks responding to international efforts under resolution 1593 in this regard. The establishment of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in relation to Darfur and a Special Court for Darfur crimes, under the Juba Peace Agreement, is among such responses.

- Mr. President,
- 4. We urge the people of Sudan to be steadfast in this resolve which is critical for their quest for peace and shared prosperity. But we remain cognisant of the complex political environment upon which these efforts are set, especially after the events of October last year.
- 5. Therefore, we urge that international efforts and engagements are mindful of the need to protect each of the achievements of Sudan, borne of the aspirations of its people.
- 6. Kenya's position remains clear. It is important to invest in strengthening the national judicial and legal capacity of Sudan so that it is able to take lead in the responsibility of ensuring justice and accountability in line with the principle of complementarity. To this end, the Court can do more to support Sudan.
- 7. We also call on the international community to extend support including through shared lessons and best practices in transitional justice, including accountability for human rights violations. The African Union has encouraged its members to do so. We urge that similar investment be made in national dialogue and reconciliation to guarantee longer lasting peace.
- 8. We note in the Prosecutor's report the intention to increase cooperation and dialogue with the African Union under a renewed strategy. We believe that regional initiatives and effort are necessary in providing a broader spectrum of practical avenues for justice and accountability. This, as envisaged in resolution 1593, should be given more focus. We look forward to hearing from the Prosecutor the outcomes of the dialogue.

9. Finally, Kenya assures the people of Sudan of our continued solidarity and cooperation as they seek sustainable peace, development and justice for all.

Thank you.