



Femmes Africa Solidarité

26th Human Rights Council- 25 June 2014

Report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on progress of technical assistance and capacity-building for South Sudan in the field of human rights

Thank you Mr. President,

FAS would like to express its growing concern, about the security situation and growing humanitarian crisis in South Sudan, as violence, insecurity and intensified ethnic tensions persist despite the signing of several peace agreements.

We express particular concern for South Sudanese women and girls, who bear the brunt of conflict disproportionately, as they are exposed to increased risk of violence and exploitation, and to rampant sexual and gender based violence.

Enabling humanitarian access and assistance is an immediate priority and should address the specific needs and concerns of women and children.

FAS wishes to stress on the need for a coordinated effort among all stakeholders to end impunity and lack of accountability for sexual and gender based crimes by carrying out the necessary steps to investigate, prosecute and punish perpetrators.

Pursuant to UNSCR 1325, FAS engaged with South Sudanese women and facilitated their access to address the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and to meet with the African Union Commission of Inquiry on South Sudan. These efforts, we are happy to report, have contributed to the inclusion of South Sudanese women civil society in the peace talks.

Mr. President,

FAS stands in solidarity with the South Sudanese women who are demanding an end to the ongoing violence and we urge conflict parties to honour peace agreements and adhere to the Kampala Convention. We further call for a better protection of civilians and for the establishment of an inclusive and transparent system to monitor and evaluate the implementation of peace agreements.

We call the international community to support regional efforts to resolve the crisis through dialogue, inclusive and substantive peace talks, ensuring civil society organisations and South Sudanese women's full and meaningful participation in the ongoing peace processes.

Finally, we call the government of South Sudan to fully collaborate with UN human rights mechanisms and bodies and we request the Human Rights Council to adopt a strong resolution that properly reflects the gravity of the situation in South Sudan.

Thank you.