

**EU Statement on draft resolution on the
Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Sudan
14/12/07**

Mr. President,

I am speaking on behalf of the European Union.

The EU remains deeply concerned with the situation of human rights in Sudan and, while welcoming the cooperation of the Government of Sudan with the Human Rights Council mechanisms, we note that human rights violations continue occurring in various regions of the country. In accordance with its mandate, it is the duty of the Council to pay a particular attention to this situation, namely through one of its most effective mechanisms – the Special Procedures.

It is therefore with satisfaction that we note that the African Group and the European Union were able to reach an agreement to review the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Sudan and extend it for one year. We hope that all delegations will join this agreement by adopting draft resolution L.50, which the European Union is co-sponsoring, by consensus. I would like to thank in particular the delegation of Egypt and its Permanent Representative, HE Ambassador Sameh Shoukry, for his tireless efforts to reach a consensual outcome on this draft.

This draft resolution, if adopted, will allow the Special Rapporteur to continue the very good work undertaken until now in monitoring the human rights situation in Sudan. We also add to her mandate the task to ensure the effective follow-up and to foster the implementation of the remaining recommendations of the Group of Experts on Darfur that have not yet been fully implemented. This will allow the excellent work by the Group of Experts to have a continuation that will lead to an effective improvement on the situation of human rights in Darfur. We encourage the Special Rapporteur to engage in broad consultations in the discharge of all the dimensions of her extremely demanding mandate and the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights to support her as much as necessary.

We appeal to the Government of Sudan to fully cooperate with the Special Rapporteur and to continue and to intensify the implementation of all measures necessary to improve the human rights situation in the whole Sudan.

Thank you, Mr. President