

2/2

Comments by Pakistan on behalf of the OIC on the Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in the Sudan under agenda item 4, during the Ninth Session of the HRC, Geneva, 16 September 2008

Mr. President,

I have the honour to make these comments on behalf of the member states of OIC.

The OIC thanks the Special Rapporteur for her report. We also appreciate the Government of Sudan for the cooperation it extended to the Special Rapporteur.

We have noted the efforts made by the Sudan to improve human rights situation in the country. In her report, the Special Rapporteur also acknowledged the progress made by the Government of Sudan on legal reforms. These efforts are noteworthy and must be encouraged. While acknowledging the challenges faced by the Sudan, we encourage its consistent efforts to remove obstacles to the implementation of all national, regional and international agreements.

Mr. President,

We have also noted deployment of the UNAMID hybrid forces in Darfur and improvement in the security and humanitarian situation. The completion of national census this year will lead to national elections next year. It is our hope that the National Unity Government will take concrete measures to resolve all outstanding disputes.

The OIC considers the role of human rights monitors integrated into the UN and African Missions deployed in Sudan important. We are confident that the Government of Sudan will continue to extend all possible cooperation to the UN in efforts to improve security as well as human rights situation in the country.

I thank you, Mr. President

The OIC has a known position against country mandates. Accordingly, we support African group's efforts to achieve consensus on this particular mandate.