United Nations



Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator

Sudan

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On the Occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict

Statement by the United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Sudan a.i., Kristine Hambrouck

(*Port Sudan, 19 June 2025*) Today, on the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, we stand in solidarity with survivors across Sudan and renew our collective commitment to preventing and responding to these grave violations.

As Sudan enters the third year of a devastating conflict, reports of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) continue to emerge at an alarming scale. Women and girls have been disproportionately affected, subjected to rape, sexual slavery, abduction, and other brutal forms of violence. Men and boys have also been subjected to sexual violence, often in silence and with limited recognition of their needs. Survivors have borne the brunt of this crisis, often with little access to care, protection, or justice.

Yet, amid extraordinary suffering, we have also witnessed extraordinary courage, from survivors of conflict-related sexual violence who continue to speak out despite stigma and fear; from women-led organizations providing critical support to survivors with limited resources and under dangerous conditions; and from frontline service providers delivering lifesaving care, trauma support, and safe spaces in some of the most affected areas. Survivors continue to call for compassionate support, to be heard without judgment, and for meaningful actions that recognize their experiences and restore their dignity.

To meet the growing needs of survivors, women, girls, men, and boys, we must ensure the availability of comprehensive, survivor-centered services. These services are not only a matter of dignity and justice, they are lifesaving, helping to prevent further harm, address urgent medical needs, and support survivors in their path to recovery. These services must be accessible to all, regardless of location, status, or identity.

As the humanitarian and UN system, we remain firmly committed to a survivor-centered approach, one that prioritizes the rights, dignity, and agency of survivors in every response. We will continue to support and work alongside Sudanese women-led organizations, who are at the forefront of service provision and survivor advocacy, and whose leadership is essential to advancing effective, inclusive, and accountable responses.

This day serves as a powerful reminder: we cannot allow sexual violence to be normalized, dismissed, or ignored. We must act—through prevention, through care and protection for survivors and their families, through accountability for perpetrators and through sustained cooperation across all sectors of society.

Together, let us ensure that commitments become action, and that no survivor is left behind.