



Pakistan's explanation of vote by Mr. Muneeb Ahmed, Counsellor, before the vote on draft resolution L.48: "Human rights situation in and around El Obeid, in the context of the ongoing conflict in the Sudan"

62nd session of the UN Human Rights Council

(Geneva, 6 July 2026)

Mr. President,

Pakistan remains deeply concerned by the situation in and around El Obeid amidst the buildup of Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and the growing risk of a ground offensive.

The RSF's pattern of mass atrocities must not be repeated in El Obeid. It must halt its assault, refrain from further escalation, comply fully with international humanitarian law, and ensure the protection of civilians.

Sudan is a major Arab and African country and a member of the OIC. The conflict in the country, now in its fourth year, has brought immense suffering to the Sudanese people and all their rights. Its spillover effects have exacerbated the already volatile regional situation.

The solution lies in a Sudan-owned and -led political process while upholding Sudanese sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity.

Strengthening national institutions and maintaining the Sudanese Government's constructive engagement with the OHCHR (Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights) remain essential for protection of human rights and effective accountability.

Mr. President,

Pakistan appreciates that draft resolution L.48 has emphasised the need for all parties to uphold their obligations under International Humanitarian Law, particularly with regard to humanitarian relief and protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure. We also note its emphasis on upholding Sudan's unity and territorial integrity and rejection of parallel structures.

The implied equivalence between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the RSF, on the other hand, is one of the factors that has prolonged this conflict. Greater emphasis on holding the RSF responsible for the grave situation in and around El Obeid, as well as elsewhere in the Sudan, was therefore warranted in.

Moreover, given Sudan's cooperation with human rights mechanisms, this Council's approach should emphasise dialogue and cooperation to foster universal respect for human rights instead of the imposition of a mandate that does not enjoy the country's support, namely the Fact Finding Mission (FFM).

My delegation, therefore, dissociates from the consensus on references to the FFM, particularly in OP15.

Thank you.

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