The 2nd Ministerial review conference of the Geneva Declaration on armed violence reduction and development.

Sudan Statement

First of all, I wish to convey congratulations of our country delegation for your chairmanship to this important conference. Your qualifications and experiences will lead this important event to fruitful achievement and the clear way forward for us. Our delegation promises to do our best to make this conference successful under your chairmanship.

Mr. Chairman,

Since our country as one of the African countries have suffered from various aspects of armed violence over the course of last decades, which resulted in insecurity, underdevelopment in some parts of the country, hampered peaceful co-existence and led to a high availability of small arms and light weapons and other tools of violence. The government of my country has recognized the importance of reducing armed violence in all its forms, by developing feasible strategies. In addition the government has adopted strong measures to generate a conducive environment which enables our citizens to live in sustainable security, stability and welfare on one hand, and on the other hand, honor its commitment to contributing positively to the international and regional peace and stability through the implementation of the international and regional instruments, agreements and protocols, such as UNPOA, Geneva declaration on AVRDP, Oslo commitments and Nairobi declaration.

Mr. Chairman,

The government of my country recognized the complex and diverse drivers of armed violence and its fatal consequences on people and their properties at all levels. Difficulties to address these diverse drivers cannot be overcome by ad hoc approaches. Therefore, the government of my country has drafted an integrated approach built on evidence based, multi-faced and multi-sectoral approach to armed violence. This integrated approach would bridge security and development efforts and foster multi-partner cooperation between governmental authorities, civil society, academic institutions and regional organizations. This comes in line with achieving measurable reduction in the global burden of armed violence and tangible improvement in human security by 2015.

Mr. Chairman,

The government of my country has participated in various regional meetings to support advocacy such as Eastern and central Africa forums to promote principles for best and promising practices, exchange of lessons learnt and to boost regional cooperation.

As for cross border crimes and pastoral armed conflict, Sudan views border as opportunities rather than exclusive risk or threats to regional and domestic security. Based on this view, the government of my country have been seeking to strengthen cooperation with our neighboring
states by bilateral and regional mechanisms. As a result, the Government has jointly achieved many promising interventions with our neighbors including community policing, integrated border management approach to curb supply and demand for arms by investing in border development to reduce incentives for cross border movements. In addition to that the Government formed the national pastoralist council which aims to integrate pastoralist in local communities, provide them with service, and improve their livelihood.

For more border cooperation, the government of my country initiated efforts to organize a sub-regional conference on border control of SALW to bring together Libya, Chad, Central Africa, DR Congo, South Sudan and Sudan in the second half of next December.

Mr. Chairman,

The government of my country gives due consideration to youth and urban violence, and has undertaken many programs such as development of economic opportunities to avoid linking poverty to violence.

On the other hand, Sudan capitalizes on youth as a positive energy rather than just a problem through facilitating youth participation in all levels of Governance. Adopting multi programs to offer job opportunities and capacity development education as well as designing appropriate DDR program and fostering social cohesion.

Mr. Chairman,

Monitoring and evaluation of armed violence reduction measures are a key to the realization of the Geneva declaration’s objectives and Oslo commitment and contribute positively to Global M&E development.

The Government of my country has created tools for monitoring and measuring armed violence including database, measuring positive aspects rather than focusing on negative aspects of data and the systematic evaluation of the impact that AVR measures create in the long term.

Mr. Chairman,

Although Sudan is moving forward AVR measures through the adoption of a comprehensive vision at the national level, the efforts will encounter many challenges such as high availability of arms in circulation, resource limitation, ongoing war in some part of the country, weak infrastructure, lack of a long term strategy on armed violence reduction at the regional level.

To remove these obstacles Sudan will increase efforts internally with all governmental and non governmental institutions, and civil society, will strengthen cooperation and coordination with regional and international frame works and structures in a sustainable manner.

Thank you for your kind attention.