

Society Studies Centre (SSC)

An NGO with Observer Status at the ACHPR

A Statement at the 56th Session of the ACHPR , April- May 2015

Item 4: Human Rights Situation in Africa

The Impact of Unilateral Coercive Measures (Economic Sanctions) on the Enjoyment of Economic and Social Rights

Madam , chair

The Society Studies Center (SSC) expresses its deep concern on the continuing and annual renewal of unilateral and coercive measures(sanctions) against Sudan since 1997, which remain to be the greatest challenge to the human rights situation in Sudan ; the Sudanese people, who are the most affected party by these procedures , these sanctions are mostly considered as punishment to the people of Sudan. Because it prevents the people of Sudan from enjoying their economic ,social and cultural rights.

The effects of these coercive measures(sanctions) are numerous, but we can give few examples of their effects on the aspects more related to the welfare of the people of Sudan namely, the agricultural, animal and industrial sectors, considering that Sudan is an agricultural country with the majority of its population depending on agriculture and animal grazing as their main source of livelihood. These sectors were affected due to the inability to obtain the necessary production inputs especially machinery, improved seeds, necessary chemicals, fertilizers and spare parts. Large companies and factories were compelled to stop their work. Also In the transport sector, the airlines, railways and Shipping lines were all badly affected by lack of spare parts. Most notable of these is Sudan Airways Co, which was forced to suspend all of its air fleet subsequent to several plane crashes causing hundreds of deaths and injuries.

Madam , chairperson

In this regard The human rights council issued tow resolution during last 2 years , the first resolution in 2013 which the council strongly condemn the unilateral coercive measures(sanctions) as it violates the fundamental's rights of the population of the targeted states including, child, elder, disabilities, women as vulnerable groups and right to development . in addition to that the HRC adopted resolution A/HRC/27/L.2 on it's 27 session in 2014 appointed special Rapporteur to investigate on the negative impacts of these sanctions on human rights.

Madam , chairperson

The continuity and annual extension of these sanctions represent the most serious crime against the people in view of the direct impact they have on the economic and social rights of the Sudanese people. We therefore call upon African Commission as the commission concerning and focusing on the rights of people to work for an end of these unjust sanctions imposed on people of Sudan. And in this regard we call on:

- Call upon African Commission to appoint a Rapporteur to investigate on the negative impacts of these sanctions on enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights.
- Call upon African Union's related bodies to take necessary measures to end the suffering of African people from the negative impacts of sanctions.