The National Council for Child Welfare, the General Secretariat

Statement on the International Day of the Girl Child 2022 Celebration

Under the Motto:"Our Time Is Now—Our Rights, Our Future."

Khartoum, 11 Oct. 2022

Today, 11 October 2022, worldwide girls and the entire world celebrate the International Day of the Girl Child, designated by the United Nations' Resolution 66/ 170/2011 the annual girl child day devoted to the rights of girls, the specific difficulties they face to confront and address them to develop and protect the girl-children' rights and provide them opportunities in education, health care, nutrition and end all social practices harmful to girls' physical and psychological health, and prevent all kinds of violations including exploitation, violence and discrimination, which would limit their participation and effective contribution in the present and the future.

On this Day, the National Council for Child Welfare (the national mechanism concerned with child issues, protection and welfare in Sudan) congratulates all the girls and young ladies and all those working for and with them in all national and international NGOs, institutions and mechanisms endeavoring to fulfill and protect the full and undiminished rights of girls under this year Slogan:"Our Time Is Now—Our Rights, Our Future.")

This year's slogan comes as Sudan is announcing numerous gains for girls' rights, represented in legislative frameworks that will support, promote and protect the girl-children' rights embodied in approving the Miscellaneous Amendments Law and adding Article 141 to the Criminal Law 1991, Amendment 2020 which criminalizes and punishes against practicing the female genital mutilation / cutting (FGM/C), and passing the National Plan to End Girl Child Marriage and other legal frameworks that protect the girls' rights in their different age stages.

Sudan, like the entire world is going through many challenges embodying economic crises combined with the negative effects of the Corona Pandemic, the climate changes and otherwise variables undermining countries ability to provide support and aid for the implementation of programs and projects, which led to difficult socio-economic situations of families manifesting in the emergence of cases of violations of the girls' rights represented in violence, exploitation, discrimination and neglect.

The National Council for Child Welfare (NCCW) hereby vows to continue to work, exert relentless efforts to confront these challenges, obstacles and difficulties to protect the rights of children in general and girls in particular, in coordination and cooperation with all pertinent parties, mechanisms, institutions and organizations deliver and fulfill them in order to promote and support girls' initiatives in preserving gains and moving forward to deliver full and undiminished rights and achieve social justice. On this day, Sudan renews its commitment to all national principles and values and the regional and international covenants, agreements and treaties it has ratified to uphold the position of girls through participation in dialogues, viewpoints and decision-making.

The General Secretariat of the National Council for Child Welfare (NCCW),,

Khartoum 11/10/2022