Press Release on Zero Tolerance for FGM / C International Day, Feb 06,,,

Press Release on Zero Tolerance for FGM / C International Day, Feb 06,,,

Today, 06 February 2022, we celebrate the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation / Cutting (FGM / C) on 06 February, while Sudan is facing several political and socio-economic challenges and variables, however, the children rights protection and upholding remain steadfast constants, unaffected by the course of actions, coupled with the commitment to the human rights criteria as per Article 42/2 of the Constitutional Declaration and Affirmation of the Obligation with all international charters and agreements ratified by the Sudan.

On this Day and under the Slogan: "Come On, Hurry Up to Enforce Article 141 of Sudan Penal Code," the State of Sudan reiterates its undertaking to deliver on and reinforce the protection of the rights of child-girls and overcome all challenges for the abandonment of the female genital mutilation / cutting (FGM/C), attainable through coordination with all the country's federal and states institutions, the civil society organizations (CSOs) and the regional and international organizations.

Ending this harmful practice is a duty to protect the women and girls of the Sudan.

The FGM/C practice prohibition and criminalization was endorsed on 10 July 2020 by the approval of a variety of amendments to Sudan Penal Code of 1991, 2020 amendment, Article 141 "the Female Genital Mutilation," which necessitates more actions to enforce this Article through a number of incorporated activities within a roadmap and an action plan encompassing societal awareness-raising campaigns on the criminalization of practicing the female genital mutilation / cutting (FGM/C) and the acceptance thereof, for the protection of child-girls and support health, social and media channels and mechanisms in the light of the different approaches and developed inputs and entries while targeting all active and influential groups in the society to depict the practice in its true nature as a violence that should stop and a violation of the human rights due to its psychological and physical health and social tribulations, therefore it is time to activate the Political Will to mobilize and implement the National Strategy for Ending the Female Genital Mutilation / Cutting (FGM/C) 2021-2031, combined with FGM/C abandonment in support of the huge campaigns all over the local communities across the different eras and crowned with the National Saleema Initiative.

Today, we issue a press release across the firm partnership between the governmental, non-governmental and civil society entities within the formal campaigns and under the umbrella of the State's Political Will, to work together, hand-in-hand, for 'FGM/C Free Sudan' and speed up pace in wide strides to enforce the law prohibiting and criminalizing the practice of female genital mutilation / cutting (FGM/C) and review and activate all the policies and strategies to this effect, along with all relevant campaigns in the fields of health, education, law, justice and media. We highly value the collective and individualistic efforts for FGM/C abandonment to

keep our girls Saleemat i.e. uncut, safe and healthy and protect them from this atrocious violation.