



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH

Email:
fcdo.correspondence@fcdo.gov.uk

Nicholas McGeehan

nick@fairsq.org

www.gov.uk/fcdo

Our ref: TO2026/09316

30 April 2026

Dear Nicholas McGeehan,

Thank you for your correspondence of 7 April, on behalf of FairSquare, about our sanction designations related to Sudan. The Parliamentary Correspondence Team in the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office have been asked to reply.

You are right to raise the appalling humanitarian situation in Sudan. The conflict has left over 33 million people in urgent need of aid, 25 million people facing catastrophic levels of food insecurity, and 12 million people forced to flee their homes. The evidence of atrocities committed by the warring parties is staggering, including mass executions, starvation, and rape being used as a weapon of war. The suffering wreaked by what is now the largest humanitarian crisis of the 21st century is intolerable and demands immediate global attention.

Over a dozen states are enabling the conflict or supplying weapons. As the Foreign Secretary made clear in her statement on 19 February, "We urgently need an end to arms flows. Reports into breaches of the [UN] arms embargo which we agree should be extended and enforced, must be investigated." We continue to emphasise to all parties the importance of refraining from actions that prolong the conflict and ask all those with influence over the warring parties to bring them to the negotiating table to seek a political resolution.

Last year, we worked closely with the United States, which is penholder for the embargo, and other UN Security Council (UNSC) members to secure the renewal of the long-standing UN arms embargo on Darfur, and sanctions regime. It will require further renewal before September 2026, and the UK will continue to support that effort – and expand it where possible. We expect all countries to comply with their obligations under UN sanctions regimes and will continue to work closely with partners on the UNSC to enforce these, and with the Panel of Experts to support their work. The UK has a longstanding arms embargo in place for the whole of Sudan.

You note our sanctions designations to date, which now total 24 individuals and entities aligned with or backing the warring parties. This includes senior commanders in the RSF and SAF suspected of committing atrocities, including using rape as a weapon of war, as well as a network of those suspected of profiting from recruiting

foreign fighters to take part in the conflict, or facilitating the purchase of military equipment.

At the UN level, four further designations were agreed by the Sudan sanctions committee on 28 April, linked to RSF leadership and RSF procurement networks. This follows previous UN designations of RSF commanders agreed in February this year and November 2024. Although we do not speculate on future designations as it would undermine their effectiveness, our sanctions policy is continually under review as part of our efforts to respond to further atrocities, deter the perpetrators and demonstrate that those who commit atrocities are held to account.

Sanctions remain one of the tools we use to deter perpetrators of atrocities in Sudan, alongside our launch of the Coalition for Atrocity Prevention and Justice, which is bringing together likeminded partners to press for accountability, advance justice and bolster local peacebuilding and protection efforts. We will continue working together in the months to come, to strengthen our advocacy, reinforce efforts to curb arms flows, and deepen support for Sudanese human rights defenders. We also support the work of the UN Fact-Finding Mission and the International Criminal Court, and have coordinated closely with the Centre for Information Resilience and other partners, including Sudanese Human Rights' Defenders, to document violations of international humanitarian law.

We are urgently pressing for an immediate ceasefire and an end to external support for the warring parties. Working alongside the Quad (comprised of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and the US), we continue to use all diplomatic channels to maintain pressure on the warring parties to allow unrestricted humanitarian access, act in line with their commitments under international law, including protection of all civilians, humanitarian workers and their operations, and urge agreement to a ceasefire. This includes through our co-hosting of the Sudan Conference in Berlin, alongside Germany, France, the US, EU, and African Union, which cohered international peace efforts, and ensured Sudan receives the global resolve and funding it requires. The UK joined the other Co-Chairs in issuing a [statement](#) outlining the principles discussed by participants, including pressing the warring parties for an immediate ceasefire, to guarantee unimpeded humanitarian access, and to adhere to international humanitarian law. The Conference also brought together 40 Sudanese civilians to agree a declaration on ending the war, and principles for an inclusive, civilian-led political transition. The Foreign Secretary and Ministers across Government continue to engage Quad members and key regional actors to drive progress, putting Sudan at the top of their agendas.

Sudan is, and will remain, a priority for this Government. Our goal is clear: to protect civilians, ensure humanitarian aid reaches those most in need, and work with Sudanese and international partners to deliver long-term peace, justice and recovery. Thank you for taking the time to write to us about these important issues.

Yours sincerely,

Parliamentary Correspondence Team