

Press Release

Inauguration of the Sudanese National Dialogue

1-“The Sudan, a country for all ”under this slogan the President of the Republic of the Sudan H.E. Omar Hassan Ahmed El Bashir addressed the inauguration session of the Sudanese National dialogue, on the 10th of October 2015. His Excellency the President of the Republic of Chad Idriss Debi and the Secretary General of the Arab League, Nabil AlArabi had also participated in the session. This is beside a wide range of Sudanese political parties, more than ninety, including opposition, and government allied parties, among them are people’s Congress parties, the Unionist Democratic party, the Umma party (Liberation and Justice), and a sizable number of the leaders of armed groups who accepted to join the dialogue due to the mediation efforts of the President of Chad.

2-In his speech, the President of the Republic retreated the importance of this National dialogue, which represents the most appropriate mechanism to achieving peace and reconciliation and to overcoming all the differences. He renewed his call to all oppositions parties and leaders of armed groups to join the dialogue stating that all the doors shall remain open for those who have the willingness and redress to join the process.

3-In this context it is pertinent to recall that prior to the launch of the National Dialogue the government of the Sudan undertook many positive steps with a view to creating the appropriate atmosphere for a transparent and objective dialogue and in order to guarantee the maximum participation of all the concerned parties, including the opposition the armed groups and the government allied parties.

These steps included: the declaration, from the part of the government, of a cease - fire and a cessation of hostilities for two month starting from 28th September 2015, the invitations that were sent from the President of the Republic to the leaders of the opposition political parties and leaders of armed groups, added to that high level delegations were dispatched to the Republic of Chad and to the Arab Republic of Egypt with a view to conducting contacts with opposition and rebel leaders to convince them to participate in the dialogue.

4- Six major issues are identified to be the core of the discussion: the national identity, freedoms and human rights, governance and administration, peace, foreign relation and economy. Six committees were established to cover the identified issues beside the committee of communication in charge of continuing the contacts with those who still refraining from joining the dialogue.

5- The National Comprehensive Dialogue is expected to continue its deliberations for three months as from October 2015. All the participants from both opposition and pro-government parties expressed their commitment to work in full transparency and to abide with the outcome and the recommendations of the dialogue which shall constitute a road map for the future political, economic and social situations in the country.

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