



International Development Committee

Thursday, 28 November 2024

Rt Hon David Lammy
Foreign Secretary
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office
By email

The Situation in Sudan

Dear Foreign Secretary,

On 26 November the Committee took evidence on the situation in Sudan. What we heard from those working on the ground was shocking and tragic. The witnesses felt UK Government has significant influence in multilateral bodies, the donor community and amongst regional actors that could be better utilised to leverage humanitarian access as well as to keep doors open for a political solution.

The Committee heard that on the diplomatic track there has been some significant success by the UK Government in the past year. However, we believe there is much more that could be done. I would be grateful if the Government could answer the following questions:

- What arrangements have been made for FCDO teams, including the Special Envoy, to meet with civil society groups in the UK and overseas?
- How is the FCDO working to ensure that policy is taking into consideration civilian voices?
- We welcome the UK's pledge to double aid. Unfortunately, funding for this crisis is woefully inadequate given the scale of need. What is the Government doing to review its own commitment and to encourage greater commitments from international partners?
- What is the Government doing to make it easier for local civil society delivery partners to access funding whilst maintaining realistic levels of accountability given the challenging situation?
- How does the Government intend to use sanctions to hold entities in Sudan accountable for their actions and how will the Government work with stakeholders to ensure that any humanitarian exemptions to sanctions are effective?
- We heard that leadership at Secretary of State level is crucial to successful diplomatic action on this issue. The Government has a responsibility to ensure that this conflict is not forgotten. Do you commit to continue providing this

leadership and to profile it as the humanitarian crisis of the greatest magnitude facing the world today?

- How will you ensure the relevant FCDO teams are adequately equipped to respond to the crisis?

I would be grateful for your response by 15 December. In line with our practice with Committee correspondence, we will put this letter and your response in the public domain. We would also be grateful for regular updates in writing on Government activities on addressing the humanitarian situation in Sudan on a bi-monthly basis, following your response to this letter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'S. Champion', on a light blue background.

Sarah Champion MP
Chair of the International Development Committee