



## **Press Release**

### **Humanitarian aid convoy targeted in Al-Koma, N Darfur**

#### **Sudan Human Rights Monitor calls for urgent, independent international investigation to identify the perpetrators**

The Sudan Human Rights Monitor (SHRM) strongly condemns the drone attack that targeted a humanitarian aid convoy in Al-Koma, east of El Fasher in North Darfur State, on Monday, June 2, 2025. The joint convoy, operated by UNICEF and the World Food Program, consisted of 15 trucks transporting aid from Port Sudan to the besieged city of El Fasher.

According to a statement issued by the two organizations, the attack resulted in the deaths of five individuals. Subsequent accounts received by the SHRM from the area reported the killing of six drivers and the injury of 14 drivers and volunteer guards. Four aid trucks were completely destroyed, and five others were partially damaged. Additional deaths have also been reported but remain unverified.

We affirm that targeting aid convoys constitutes a grave violation of international humanitarian law, which prohibits attacks on humanitarian workers and relief supplies intended for civilians. This incident represents a continuation of the use of food as a weapon against besieged civilian populations.

On Sunday, June 1, after a pause in aerial bombardment in Darfur since April, the same area witnessed an airstrike targeting a local market, resulting in the death of 47 civilians and injuries to over 100 others, according to reports received by SHRM. Notably, the market is held every Sunday, and this Sunday was the last before Eid al-Adha, which may explain the high casualty toll.

The attack on this humanitarian convoy is not an isolated incident but part of a broader pattern of systematic violations against humanitarian operations in Sudan. These include assaults on aid convoys, hospitals, humanitarian workers, and volunteers, as well as reports of corruption in the distribution of relief materials and their diversion to armed combatants.

As has occurred repeatedly since the start of this war, the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) have traded accusations over responsibility for the attack, each denying any involvement. Considering this, we call for an urgent, independent international investigation to identify those responsible and hold them accountable in accordance with international law. We also call on both SAF and RSF to ensure the safety and protection of humanitarian workers, facilities, and aid; to immediately cease the use of humanitarian assistance as a weapon; and to support efforts to document violations and prosecute perpetrators of war crimes in Sudan.

The continued commission of such violations without accountability only encourages their repetition and deepens the suffering of civilians.

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