STATEMENT BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SUDAN ON THE AFRICAN UNION, ARAB LEAGUE AND THE UNITED NATIONS INITIATIVE CONCERNING DELIVERY OF HUMANITARIAN ASSITANCE TO THE AFFECTED POPULATION IN BLUE NILE AND SOUTH KORDOFAN STATES

Addis Ababa: 27 June 2012

The Government of Sudan have the honour and the pleasure to announce hereby Its acceptance of the Tripartite Initiative of the African Union, the Arab League and the United Nations for the delivery of humanitarian assistance to the affected population in the Sudanese two states, i.e. Blue Nile and South Kordofan, based on the nine principles as mentioned below on the distribution of humanitarian aid to be carried out by the Sudanese Red Crescent (SRC) and any other NGOs approved by the Government of Sudan and observed by World Food Program (WFP) and the implementation modalities to be agreed upon.

The Government of Sudan and the representatives of the above mentioned organizations, have been engaged during the last few months in talks to outline the principles and to agree on practical terms and rules governing the delivery of humanitarian assistance to the affected population in the two states. They have, particularly, agreed on the following nine principles to operationalize the process, namely:-

- 1 To strictly adhere to the sovereignty of Sudan and obligation of the Government of Sudan to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country as well as its right to maintain security and enforce the law in accordance with Article 3 of the Second Protocol of 1977 annexed to the four Geneva Conventions of 1949.
- 2- Guarantee the right of access to food and humanitarian aid to all those affected by the conflict, without discrimination.

- 3- The initiative is meant to lend itself to immediately end the armed conflict through a comprehensive approach.
- 4- To acknowledge what the Government has provided in terms of humanitarian aid to affected areas in both states.
- 5-To affirm the sovereignty of the Government of Sudan in supervising humanitarian aid operations in all territories of Sudan.
- 6- To affirm the partnership between the Government and the (three) sponsoring parties in reviewing technical arrangements to resolve humanitarian problems in the affected areas.
- 7- The need to agree on a definite time frame for humanitarian operations.
- 8- To endorse a joint work plan to provide humanitarian aid between the Government and the (three) sponsoring parties.
- 9- To endorse and implement, in the two states, the laws, regulations and directives governing humanitarian work of the Government of Sudan.

The Government of the Republic of Sudan would like to stress that Its approval comes in conformity with its policy to secure and safeguard the well-being of its citizens especially in the affected areas, and in keeping with its declared acceptance of the African Union Peace and Security Roadmap, and the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2046.