

Minister Andrew Stephenson's statement on the Sudan Declaration

The Joint FCO-DFID Minister for Africa, Andrew Stephenson MP, has welcomed today's signing of the Constitutional Declaration by the Transitional Military Council and the Forces of Freedom and Change in Sudan. This agreement establishes the path for transition to a civilian-led government. He congratulated all parties for their commitment to achieving this deal for the future of Sudan.

Minister for Africa, Andrew Stephenson MP, said:

I welcome this historic moment for Sudan. This agreement responds to the demands of the Sudanese people who have tirelessly called for change and a better future. The signing of the Constitutional Declaration on 17 August is a vital step on the path to a peaceful and democratic future for Sudan. The people of Sudan now have the opportunity to secure freedom from repression, instability and hardship. The determination of all parties, and the support of the African Union and Ethiopia mediators, is to be commended.

This agreement sets out the structure and powers of Sudan's new government. There are, of course, outstanding issues to be addressed and we encourage all parties to engage constructively in resolving these in a timely manner. I welcome the commitment to begin work on a lasting peace agreement with the country's armed groups. Inclusive dialogue amongst all Sudanese people and respect for human rights are essential for a truly democratic transition to succeed. The UK will support Sudan's political and economic reforms, and assist the country in securing the democratic future its people have demanded and are entitled to.

Further information