



UNGA Debate on the 'Use of the Veto' Sudan POC Resolution, 26 November 2024

Malta Statement delivered by Her Excellency Ambassador Vanessa Frazier
Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations, New York

President

Malta aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union and would like to make some additional remarks in its national capacity.

Malta deeply regrets that the veto was used by one Permanent Member of the Council on a resolution that would have sought to alleviate civilian suffering in Sudan with due urgency.

In our view, the draft that was tabled was a balanced one, and it addressed all the legitimate concerns raised by Council Members during negotiations.

We thank the co-penholders, the United Kingdom and Sierra Leone, for their efforts.



President

Malta voted in favour of this resolution, which would have requested the development of a compliance mechanism to facilitate the implementation of the Jeddah Declaration commitments.

If adopted, the resolution would have reaffirmed the protection of civilians, in a country where protection needs are rising, and accountability is declining.

It would have sent a strong message to the warring parties to comply with their obligations under international law, and to ensure that civilians, civilian objects, and humanitarian and medical personnel are not targeted.

President

Civilians in Sudan continue to bear the brunt of the violence. How many more mass atrocities will civilians experience before the Council can act? How many more women and children must die and suffer before this Council acts?



Reports of women committing mass suicide to avoid being raped in El Jazirah State are simply horrific.

We can no longer fall silent to the dire humanitarian and human rights situation in Sudan. With continued reports of famine and deplorable levels of sexual violence, millions of Sudanese face devastation daily. They should not be left to die in silence. They should be supported as they seek justice and a future that reflects their aspirations.

We reiterate the Council's call for an immediate ceasefire.

To this end, Malta stands ready to continue working with the co-pens and all other Council members on this file to find an acceptable solution and adopt a resolution without further delays. Time is of the essence.

I thank you.