

## Sudan - Immediate Action to Avert Catastrophic Famine

The Congress of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party, convening in Estoril, Portugal on October 4-6, 2024:

### Notes with concern:

- In August, the United Nations Famine Review Committee declared a famine in Sudan;
- The world's worst famine in 40 years threatens 2.5 million deaths before year's end;
- The war which began in April 2023 between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) is responsible for fuelling war-induced starvation and gross human rights violations, especially towards women and children;
- Widespread crop fires, with food production destroyed at source by militias, and the UN World Food Programme reports inadequate food supplies, with aid being obstructed from reaching its destinations by the warring parties;
- A subsequent recent surge in displacement of people, estimated at 10 million, has caused a related spike in Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries and towards Europe;
- The warring parties are being armed by regional powers, including UAE, Egypt and Iran, with Russia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Qatar competing for influence to control food supplies and Red Sea shipping lanes;
- The conflict is giving the RSF the opportunity to resume ethnic cleansing in Darfur and the SAF to systematically target civilians, both war crimes;
- The appeals by the UN and INGOs for humanitarian support have been considerably underfunded with the pledging conference in Paris in April 2024 securing only half of what was needed.

### Calls on:

- All major aid donors, including European governments and the EU, to respond to the humanitarian crisis with immediate additional emergency aid, providing logistical support and security to ensure successful aid distribution;
- European governments and the EU to play a stronger role seeking a cease-fire and long-term peace where civilians form a democratic government and war crimes are prosecuted;
- The RSF and SAF to agree an immediate ceasefire, and a to agree on a democratic transition process led by civilian actors;
- Countries supplying arms to the warring factions to immediately cease supply and use their influence to bring the combatants to the negotiating table.