Written statement* submitted by the Society Studies Centre (MADA ssc), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[23 August 2011]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).
Statement on Universal Periodic Review on Sudan

First, we value many of observations and recommendations received on the Universal Periodic Review on the report of Sudan.

Secondly, since we have always paid great attention to the situation of human rights in Sudan, we witness to prove the significant improvement that has occurred in the human rights situation in Sudan without turning a blind eye on some violations that continued to occur from time to time in different conditions.

Sudan is a country that has passed recently through serious challenges rarely passed by other countries in our days. Despite this situation, pressure continued to mount on Sudan without taking in consideration the amount of the economic sufferings of its people.

It should have been noted here that the current government of Sudan succeeded to accomplish the biggest achievement and to end the longest war in Africa that continued three decades by signing the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of 2005. Sudan also honoured its constitutional schedule in organizing general elections in April 2010 after twenty years of rule by the Inqaz (Rescue) regime and the referendum of South Sudan in a pacific way that astonished all its observers.

But these huge achievements need to be strengthened through a review of some laws and legislations such as the Press and Publications Law. We need also to issue new laws that could permit easy access to information and organize how to deal with it, as part of an equation of conserving privacy.

We also call upon the government to give priority to achieving the goals of development, mainly those related to education and health as well as making use of civil society organizations active in the field.

In conclusion, we appeal to the international community to provide the necessary assist to the Government of Sudan and to civil society organizations to enable them to improve the general situation of human rights by contributing to peace and stability, supporting the process of democratic transformation and development in the country.