



**EUROPEAN UNION**

DELEGATION TO THE REPUBLIC OF SUDAN

## Human Rights Day 2016

**Ambassador Dumond: Respect for human rights is the key for stability, peace and development in all countries**



(Khartoum, December 9) The Delegation of the European Union to Sudan hosted a reception, concert and award ceremony at on the occasion of the International Day for Human Rights. The event was attended by Human Rights defenders, European Ambassadors, the diplomatic corps, international organisations and a wide range of Sudanese civil society.

In his speech Ambassador Jean- Michel Dumond said "Tonight we commemorate, with millions of people around the world, the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly 68 years ago, on the 10th of December 1948. The respect for human rights is one of the European Union's fundamental values. The reason we celebrate this day is to acknowledge that, as citizens, each one of us, everywhere, anytime is entitled to the full range of human rights embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

During the reception, the European Union Delegation Professor Gaafar Ibn Ouf and Al Hawadeth Street Initiative were announced as the Champions of Human Rights for 2016. They were awarded

Block 1B, Plot 10, Gamhoria Street, Khartoum, P.O. Box 2363

Tel: 249.(0) 183 79 93 93– Fax: 799 391

E-mail: [delegation-soudan-info@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:delegation-soudan-info@eeas.europa.eu)

Website: [eeas.europa.eu/delegations/sudan/](http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/sudan/)

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a silver medal and a certificate for their outstanding work in promoting health as a basic human right, for their work in helping needy hospital patients and for their social initiatives. In their statements, all the awardees thanked the European Union for its support to human rights worldwide and called for peace and respect for human rights.

Ambassador Jean-Michel Dumond said "Since 2014, the EU has been implementing health programmes in Sudan, totalling approximately 40 million euros. In the East, the EU is currently funding two projects. The projects provide better access to quality care and strengthen local and State capacity to deliver quality services, particularly emergency obstetric care and referral. The EU also supports better protection from financial risks by extending health insurance coverage. In Darfur, the EU has been funding two projects. The projects help to increase the capacity of the State Ministries of Health and improve access to quality maternal and neonatal health care."

### Background

To promote Human Rights, the Delegation of the European Union celebrates the International Day for Human Rights at an annual reception, concert and award ceremony. The Award consists of a silver medal and a certificate signed and stamped by the Delegation of the European Union to Sudan. The goal of the award is to acknowledge defenders of human rights for their achievements and to encourage others to continue the path of spreading and defending universal Human Rights.