Statement of the

Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs of the
Republic of Sudan

Professor / Ibrahim Ahmed Ghandour

Before
The United Nations Summit

On
The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
(25 -27 September, 2015)

New York: September 26, 2015
In the name of Allah the Most Gracious, Most Merciful

HE President Yoweri Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda,
HE Ms./Hele Tornig Schmidt, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Denmark,
Co-chairs of the Summit
Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations,
Excellencies Heads of State and Governments,
Ladies and Gentlemen, Ministers and heads of delegations,
Ladies and Gentlemen, representatives of international organizations, civil society organizations and private sector representatives,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Peace, mercy and blessings of Allah upon you

I am honored to convey to you the greetings of HE President Omar Hassan Ahmed Al-Bashir, President of the Republic of Sudan. I would also like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to the President of the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, Mr. Sam Kutesa, HE the Secretary-General, Mr Ban Ki-Moon, and the Co-facilitators Ambassador Macharia Kamau and Ambassador David Donoghue, for theirs a gracious leadership, sincere efforts and constructive work during the negotiations process, which enabled us to reach this historic moment, at which the entire world came together to adopt the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. I would also like to extend my thanks and appreciation to all delegations of Member States and representatives of civil society and international organizations, who, having captured the full sense of the importance of this document, participated in the negotiations process in a commendable spirit of solidarity and cooperation.

Co-Chairs,

Yesterday, at the advent of the seventieth anniversary of the United Nations, we took an important step as we came to adopt the 2030 sustainable development plan. While wholeheartedly welcoming the adoption of this document, having participated in all stages of the negotiations which led us thereto, I emphasise that my country Sudan took practical steps towards implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, by developing structural frames and working for their integration into national economic plans both at the federal and state level. We shall also strive to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through a constructive partnership that comprises cross-sectoral public and private sector agencies and civil society organizations, while hoping for a constructive role to be played by the United Nations and international
community in support of the implementation efforts. We also stress that the Agenda shall be implemented with strict adherence to the provisions of national legislation and close observance of religious, cultural and social values of the Sudanese people. In this regard, we would like to stress some points that we deem as important for the implementation of this agenda:

First: Our nation has achieved perceivable advances along the way towards delivering peace in all parts of the country, in pursuit of which it has made, is making and shall continue to make good efforts, with help from friends and brothers, especially the African Union and the two sisterly countries, Qatar and Ethiopia. Those efforts culminated in the call of the President of the Republic for a fully inclusive and transparent national dialogue and he announced a pardon for the combatant who will participate in these dialogue. We hope the rebel movements would listen to voice of reason and vie for peace, in response to that call. The Sudanese stance in this regard stems from its full realization and deep conviction that sustainable development is unattainable in the absence of peace, especially in the African context, and we are delighted that the document we have adopted yesterday reiterates this perspective.

Second: Unilateral sanctions, coercive measures and the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed on some developing countries, including the Sudan, constitute a steep hurdle and serious obstacle to any progress in achieving the goals of sustainable development, eradication of poverty and hunger, provision of basic services to citizens, development of infrastructures needed for boosting production, and raising productivity, enhancing openness towards markets, developing trade and creating jobs. These sanctions have adversely affected the fundamental rights of citizens, especially the poor, the provision of basic services like their rights in education and medical services and realisation of the right to development, thus violating the international law norms and contradicting the goals and principles of the United Nations Charter. Our delegation has worked in collaboration with other developing countries for the inclusion of these language in the paragraph (30) in this document and we reaffirm the need to lift the sanctions immediately.

Third: Sudan has met all the technical requirements relating to Heavily-Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative. Commitments were also made following the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2005 and implementation of the referendum in 2011, to find an urgent and comprehensive solution for the Sudan foreign debt, but no progress is seen towards the fulfilment of these obligations. We emphasize that the foreign debt and its servicing requirements have become an immense burden for developing countries, including the Sudan, and must be addressed comprehensively and urgently through mutual agreement and compromise between all relevant parties.
Fourth: We stress the importance of building a constructive global partnership for the realisation of the means of implementation set forth in this document and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, especially with regard to the least developed countries, through the provision of financial and non-financial resources, capacity building, transfer of technology, creating a favourable international environment for the growth of national economies, facilitating the accession of developing countries and least developed countries to the World Trade Organisation without impediments or political preconditions, fulfilling official development assistance obligations and increasing its volume and giving the least developed countries special attention through the promotion of international cooperation, triangular cooperation and South-South cooperation. The mobilisation of means for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will continue to be a challenge for every one and reference point and assessment standard for the resolve of the international community and its commitment to that cause.

Fifth: Our contemporary world suffers huge and unprecedented disparities due to inequity among and within its nations and because of the crises afflicting humanity as a result of the global economic and financial recession, the increasing demand on energy and fluctuation of its prices, food insecurity, armed conflicts and concerns regarding immigration and asylum issues, as well as the challenges posed by climate change and its imminent disastrous effects if not remedied. We hope in this regard, that the meeting of State Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change would reach a comprehensive agreement, which takes into account both the challenges and commitments in respect of adaptation to and mitigation of the climate change effects and reduction of greenhouse emissions, in addition to a commitment by developed countries to contribute $100 billion to the Green Fund and developing countries, by 2020.

Messrs. Co-Chairs,

We hope this summit and the adoption therein of this document will signal a recommitment to rectifying the situation, a reorientation of the world to a course of justice, equity, welfare and concern for the poor, and a recommitment to the eradication of poverty and hunger, which are the most serious issues confronting humanity before challenging our countries we have to recall the long lasting say "the poverty anywhere threatens the prosperity everywhere." It is high time that the international community stands in solidarity to address these major challenges, building on what has been achieved by implementing the Millennium Development Goals.

Accept, please, my sincere thanks.