SCALE OF THE TRAGEDY IN THE NUBA MOUNTAINS REGION IN SUDAN

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Half a million children face the risk of famine

In mid-August, the Civil Authority of New Sudan (CANS) declared famine in the SPLM-NORTH Controlled Areas in the Nuba Mountains and New Funj Regions. The Civil Authority appealed to all national, regional, and international organizations, as well as all institutions working in the field of humanitarian work, for an urgent response. For more details on this issue, the SPLM-NORTH Official website met with Mr Juma Idris Koko, Director of the Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Agency in the Nuba Mountains region, in an inclusive interview, where he revealed facts and statistics reflecting the scale of suffering and catastrophic conditions experienced by the IDPs in the Nuba Mountains.

- *Q1: Describe the food security situation in the IDP camps and the number of displacement camps in the Nuba Mountains region?*
- *A1: We have more than 15 displacement camps in the region. In these camps, many children and elderly people are suffering from malnutrition due to hunger and lack of food and medicine. We are in urgent need of assistance to save the lives of the people of the Nuba Mountains.*
- *Q2: How many women and children are residing in the displacement camps?*
- *A2: The number of children under the age of Five in the camps exceeds 257,921 children. The number of children over five years old is 221,075. As for the number of women, it is 147,383 women and 73,692 men. The total number of IDPs is 122,819 families. The total population displaced in all the camps is over

736,916 individuals of which the number of pregnant women exceeds 36,846.

Q3: How is food provided for this number of IDPs?

*A3: Frankly, the situation is now out of our control and is very difficult. A small number of local organizations have provided some aid and supplies, but it is not sufficient. The number of IDPs is very large compared to the limited resources, and the existing organizations can not meet all the needs.

- *Q4: How many people are suffering from malnutrition?*
- *A4: There are a large number of malnutrition cases among children and the elderly in different age groups, and we are currently compiling statistics, which we will provide later.
- *Q7: Have there been any recorded deceased due to malnutrition?*
- *A7:* During August, the statistics reported to us indicate that more than 187 people of different age groups have died due to malnutrition and hunger, most of them are children and the elderly, in various Counties of the region, including the Kumbor camp in Heiban County, the Agiery camp in Um Dorain County, New Tagali, Lagawe, Alrief Al.Shargi, Kau Nyaro, Dalami, and Tobo Counties.

