

Beat: Politics

## **PDT MACRON LAUNCHED INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE SUPPORTING THE SUDANESE TRANSITION**

### **REMARKS BY PDT EMMANUEL MACRON**

Paris, Washington DC, 18.05.2021, 00:07 Time

**USPA NEWS** - President Macron launched an African-Paris summit bringing together, the Sudanese Leaders, of the government of transition, to celebrate the successful revolution of December 2019 and other African leaders and global financial institutions seeking to provide Africa with critical financing after the COVID-19 pandemic pledging the world's poorest region. The two days Summit was split into two parts, as the 1st day, was dedicated to the International Conference supporting the Sudanese Transition. Present Macron welcomed the two Sudanese leaders from the government of transition, President Abdelfattah Burhan and Prime Minister Abdellah Hamdok, alongside officials and members of the civil society from Sudan. President Macron announced a French pledge of 1€ billion loan to Sudan to help settle its debts. We are in favor of an outright cancellation of our debt to Sudan, which is, as you know, the largest among the Paris Club members, we are in favor of the cancellation of nearly 5 billion of dollars, unveiled President Macron.

### **JOINT CLOSING PRESS CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE SUPPORTING THE SUDANESE TRANSITION-----**

We publish the full transcript of the Remarks by President Emmanuel Macron, at Grand Palais Ephemera, 17 May, in presence of President Abdelfattah Burhan and Prime Minister Abdellah Hamdok, alongside officials and members of the civil society from Sudan, and ambassadors. "Here I want to renew my thanks to President BURHAN and Prime Minister HAMDOK for their presence in Paris today, for the exchanges that we were able to have and for the last hours that we have just spent together. Indeed, we had a long discussion before the opening of the international conference on Sudan. We listened together to the voices of the Sudanese revolution, then we worked together to mobilize all the levers to support the democratic transition in Sudan.-----

From the start of the Sudanese revolution, France, among the first, was at your side, became aware of what was at stake. This popular momentum was indeed marked by the personal commitment of thousands of young Sudanese, sometimes at the risk of their lives, and they reminded us of this earlier with great force. These actors have shown the way for an entire continent: Africa, the Arab world and beyond. President Macron introduced addressing an audience made up of officials and members of civil society from Sudan, as well as President Abdelfattah Burhan and his Prime Minister Abdellah Hamdok from the current transitional government of Sudan.

### **YOUNG SUDANESE EXPRESSED A MESSAGE OF HOPE AND COURAGE THROUGH THEIR SONGS AND ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS-----**

The French President Macron, spoke of the artistic strength of the young Sudanese who were able to transmit their collective message: "In their demonstrations, their songs, their artistic expressions, these young people and these women carried a message of hope and courage, that of forging their own destiny and therefore that of their country. Sudanese youth, Sudanese women who had this essential role during this period demanded the right to participate in the construction of the Sudan of tomorrow. "

### **THE FRENCH PDT RECALLED THE INSPIRATION FROM FRENCH REVOLUTION-----**

The French Head of State also recalled the importance of the convergence of the Sudanese revolution inspired by the French revolution of 1789: "When, Mr. Prime Minister, you came to Paris in September 2019, we had already underlined this communion between the Sudanese revolution and the French revolution. These decisive moments when everything changes, where the expression of a people comes to bring the hopes of a country, here, Sudan, but also, I must say it well, of the world. What happened in Sudan goes well beyond the mere overthrow of an authoritarian regime that had misled Islam and divided the Sudanese among themselves. »

### **THE AIM OF THIS CONFERENCE IS TO MOBILIZE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY "ON THE SIDE OF SUDAN SAID PDT MACRON-----**

The French Head of State emphasized on the french support to Sudan and paving the way for the international community : «"It is to salute this hope that we decided, in September 2019, to hold this international conference to re-mobilize the international community

by your side and accompany you on this journey. Our conference today was aimed at that and it is a success: to allow the Sudan to return to the concert of nations. For 3 decades, your country, Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister, has suffered so much. The deviations of Islam, the division of the Sudanese, violence as a response to regional aspirations sown, maintained, by the previous regime have tarnished the image that many of our contemporaries of your country. 30 years during which Sudan became isolated and which caused so much suffering. However, you are the custodians of this unique and inspiring revolution that I have just mentioned, but also of a thousand-year-old heritage, which is reflected in these archaeological treasures, in a long-lived intellectual heritage symbolized by many writers. I am thinking of the novels and poems of Tayeb SALIH that I mentioned earlier, of Abdelaziz BARAKA SAKIN, the songs of Mohammed WARDI, Sudanese cinematographic works that the world is rediscovering thanks to Suhaib GASMELBARI, Hashim HASSAN and many others. Thanks to the current transition, Sudan has indeed regained its rightful place. That of a country capable of inspiring the world. »

#### «IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO IMPLEMENT THIS DEMOCRATIC TRANSFORMATION » PDT MACRON STATED-----

The French Head of State emphasized on the economic efforts towards reforms which are more that eede at this momentum of the Sudanese democratic process "Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister, it is you who have the heavy responsibility of implementing this democratic transformation of your country. Your joint presence here demonstrates what makes your transition unique. This partnership within the institutions. This cooperation has brought many successes since it was set up in the summer of 2019. I am thinking of the major openings recorded in terms of rights and fundamental freedoms for the Sudanese. I am thinking of the economic reforms that have been initiated and I want to assure you of our support in these courageous efforts. " The French head of state added: "The withdrawal of Sudan from the American list of states supporting terrorism, which France, as you know, strongly supported and I am personally committed in this direction, opened a new field of possibilities. Finally, being able to concretely help the transition. Indeed, as long as Sudan was on this list, it was almost impossible to move, to re-engage, to put Sudan back in the concert of nations.

#### IMF WORLD BANK AfDB WILL IMPLEMENT FINANCIAL TOOLS IN SUDAN-----

« That was the objective of today's conference: to realize the economic promises of the Sudanese transition, because its success largely depends on the reconstruction of your economy. This reconstruction, this re-engagement in the concert of nations, requires two priorities. The first is that we move forward as quickly as possible to rid Sudan of the burden of its external debt. Our discussions today have been very constructive on this subject and it is excellent news that Sudan will soon be able to reach the first phase of the so-called HIPC debt reduction initiative, which will eventually allow it to benefit from 'relief from its external debt. Indeed, to begin the relief of the Sudanese debt, it was necessary to fulfill two essential conditions. On the one hand, the settlement of Sudan's arrears with multilateral financial institutions: IMF, World Bank, Sudan with multilateral financial institutions: IMF, World Bank, African Development Bank, on the other, implementation by the Sudan of economic reforms showing the seriousness and the rigor of the new authorities. I can tell you very clearly today that these two conditions are met. " Pdt Macron explained.

#### FRANCE IS COMMITTED TO A RELAY LOAN OF \$ 1.5 Bn IN SUDAN-----

President Macron announces the financial commitment of France vis-À -vis the economic and democratic reconstruction of Sudan: "Today's conference is a success and the conditions which alone allowed the opening of the debt reduction initiative. so-called HIPC have been fulfilled. We have taken our responsibilities to allow Sudan to repay its arrears. France has committed to a bridge loan to the tune of \$ 1.5 billion. Our American and British partners ensured the clearance of the other arrears, the complementary commitment of France, Norway, Saudi Arabia, of all the members who were present around the table with regard also the World Bank and the African Development Bank, helped finalize the discussion. The new Sudanese authorities have also fulfilled their part of the contract. They implemented very courageous reforms, such as the fusion of the Sudanese pound exchange rates, the overhaul of the system of subsidies for basic products, the establishment of a fund to support Sudanese families, among others. things. For this, I would like to pay tribute to your energetic action, Mr. Prime Minister and to that of your Government. »

#### PDT MACRON ANNOUNCES LOSS OF LARGER SUDAN \$ 5Bn DEBT BY THE PARIS CLUB-----

President Macron made the announcement which delighted the leaders of the transitional government of Sudan, to erase one of the largest parts of the Sudanese debt, by the Paris club: "Everything is therefore reunited, we can move forward towards the launch of the debt reduction process. This process will be formalized in a few weeks by the IMF, the end of June is undoubtedly the reasonable horizon. Everyone will then have to say what efforts they can make. As far as France is concerned, I want to tell you now, Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister. We are in favor of an outright cancellation of our debt to Sudan, which is, as you know, the largest among the Paris Club members, we are in favor of the cancellation of nearly 5 billion of dollars. This is for us the meaning of our support for your transition, this is the meaning of our commitment alongside the youth of Sudan who made your revolution. " French

President Macron continues : « Rest assured, Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister, that France will not relax its efforts to accelerate this process of relieving your external debt." But this effort, I insist on this point, will have to be collective. Today's meeting has helped build consensus on this issue and we now expect the participants of our conference today, whether or not they are members of the Paris Club, to make the same effort, c that is, the effort required to free the Sudanese from the burden of debt. "So reassures President Macron, his Sudanese counterparts

THE SECOND PRIORITY IS TO REALIZE THE ECONOMIC PROMISES-----

President Macron recalled the positive outcome of Mo Ibrahim's report, to take the tangible step to the next level. Sudan. The Business Forum, which was held in this direction this morning, marked a first step. Mo IBRAHIM reported to us earlier, the Minister of the Economy, Finance and Recovery launched the work this morning alongside him and your side, Mr. Prime Minister. From now on, it is a movement of return of private investors and international companies in Sudan which must be launched. The Sudanese government presented several flagship projects in this direction this morning. The calls for tenders will soon be completed because it is essential, indeed, that your people can see the concrete effects of the transition in their daily lives. "

"THIS TRANSITION IS DEEPLY SUDANESE AND MUST SHAKE OUT AND BE AN EXAMPLE" DECLARED PDT MACRON-----

French head of state Macron ended his statement with an optimistic and encouraging note « Your transition is profoundly Sudanese, but it must be able to shine and set an example. Sudan can be a model for Africa and the Arab world, and I am thinking in particular of your direct neighbors concerned by the issues of political transition. During our discussion this afternoon with President BURHAN and Prime Minister HAMDOK, we discussed in detail the example that Sudan can set for Chad, perhaps for Ethiopia, for other neighboring countries. For this, our duty is to help you succeed and to support the courageous women and men who have put an end to obscurantism. I would like to thank you once again, Mr President, Mr Prime Minister, for your presence here today and I want to assure you of France's determination to remain by your side. Thank you. » President Macron concluded.

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