

## **Civil Society Dialogue Network Geographic Meeting:**

### **‘Peacebuilding in Sudan and South Sudan: The Role of the EU’**

**Thursday 6 October 2011, Brussels**

A one-day Civil Society Dialogue Network geographic meeting took place on Thursday 6 October 2011 in Brussels, Belgium. Entitled ‘Peacebuilding in Sudan and South Sudan: The Role of the EU’, the aims of this meeting were to present civil society’s analysis of conflict risks and mitigation strategies in Sudan and South Sudan; to explore the opportunities for cross-border initiatives aimed at reducing the risk of conflict in the border areas; to consider means for promoting an enabling environment for Sudanese-led governance reforms; and to present suggestions as to how institution-building efforts in South Sudan could incorporate peacebuilding elements.

The focus of the first session was on the EU’s policies towards Sudan and South Sudan. It was moderated by Catherine Woollard, Executive Director of the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO), and included presentations from Ambassador Rosalind Marsden, EU Special Representative for Sudan; and Dietmar Krissler, Desk Officer for Sudan in the European External Action Service.

The focus of the second session was on conflict risks and mitigation strategies in the border regions. It was moderated by William Tsuma, Programme Manager for Action Learning at the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict, and included a presentation from Richard King, Director of Operations at Concordis International.

The focus of the third session was on governance challenges and inclusive constitutional review processes in Sudan and South Sudan. It was moderated by Fredrik Wesslau, Political Advisor to Ambassador Marsden.

The focus of the final session was on peacebuilding and institution-building in South Sudan. It was moderated by Oliver Blake, International Aid/Cooperation Officer in the European Commission’s EuropeAid Development and Cooperation Directorate-General, and included presentations from three civil society representatives.

The meeting brought together approximately 60 participants including representatives of civil society organisations from Sudan, South Sudan, Europe and elsewhere, and officials from several EU institutions and EU Member States’ national administrations.

A full report of the meeting will be published soon.

#### **Civil Society Dialogue Network**

The Civil Society Dialogue Network (CSDN) is a three-year project funded by the European Commission and managed by the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO) aimed at facilitating dialogue on peacebuilding issues between civil society and the EU institutions. For more information, please visit the [EPLO website](http://www.eplo.org).