

Over 100 Organizations Call for an 18-month Extension and Redesignation of TPS for Sudan

Violent conflicts between armed groups continue despite repeated ceasefire agreements, leaving over 1,800 dead and 1.5 million forced to flee

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WASHINGTON, DC—Today, 110 local, state, and national civil rights, immigrant rights, human rights, faith, educational and grassroots organizations delivered a <u>letter</u> to the Biden administration urging an 18-month extension and redesignation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Sudan.

The letter addresses the increasing violence and attacks in Khartoum and other cities in Sudan since April 15, 2023, resulting from the conflict between General Abdel-Fattah Burhan of the Sudanese Army, and General Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo of the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) paramilitary group. Despite ceasefire agreements, the violence continues, with thousands of civilians injured or killed. Over 1.5 million people have been displaced within Sudan and across its borders. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees advises against returning Sudanese civilians due to the conflict, categorizing it as a "refugee movement." The letter urges the administration for TPS due to the ongoing armed conflict and the threat it poses to the lives of Sudanese nationals in the United States if they are forced to return.

TPS provides life-saving protection to nationals of designated countries present in the United States who cannot be safely returned to their home country. In addition to Sudanese nationals in the United States who would benefit from the extension of the prior designation, those who arrived after the last designation must also be afforded protections as the ongoing armed conflict persists and conditions deteriorate in Sudan.

"The crisis in Sudan continues to escalate to dangerous levels, with the death toll reaching into the thousands and increasing every day. The Biden Administration, alongside the rest of the world, has watched Sudan erupt into violence, instability, and chaos that has left families mourning the loss of loved ones and fearing what is to come. Our Sudanese community members deserve humanitarian protection and we urge the administration to prioritize Sudan's TPS extension and redesignation," said **Diana Konaté**, **Policy Director, African Communities Together.**

In conclusion, the letter's signatories strongly urge the administration to take immediate action by granting an 18-month extension and redesignation of TPS for Sudan. Additionally, the advocates call for the prompt publication of the Federal Register Notice, a 180-day registration period for eligible applicants to submit their applications, and a culturally relevant outreach campaign to the directly impacted community for awareness about the relief. Access the letter and complete list of signatories <u>here</u>.

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The <u>TPS-DED AAC</u> is a national coalition of more than 100 organizations with deep expertise in law and policy surrounding TPS and DED. Member organizations range from community-based organizations directly serving impacted communities in the United States to international NGOs, working in and providing insight from affected countries.