Sudan Transitional Government Economic Measures: Missing the Revolutionary Twinkling

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Abstract

The Sudan transitional government policy and action were different from the socioeconomic and political demands of the revolutionary forces and from the Economic Salvation Plan developed by the civil government political incubator, Forces of Freedom and Change. Economic measures proposed targeted macroeconomic stabilisation through immediate lifting of subsidies and freeing the exchange rate, without viable pre-conditions being in place. The government plan to mitigate negative effects of removing the fuel and food subsidies was to raise wage of civil servants and to provide cash transfers to the poor. Both of these two measures as proposed were totally inappropriate.

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Abstract

The islamist tyrannical, corrupt regime in Sudan, established in 1989, was brought down and a transitional government was formed in September 2019. Elements of the ravaged economy have been well known. Rather than relying on the revolutionary forces that brought down the old regime to immediately bring back the hijacked economy, recover the embezzled funds and fight corruption, the transitional government economic policy and action were different. Economic measures proposed targeted macroeconomic stabilisation through immediate lifting of subsidies and freeing the exchange rate, without viable pre-conditions being in place. The government plan to mitigate negative effects of removing the fuel and food subsidies was to raise wage of civil servants and to provide cash transfers to the poor. Both of these two measures as proposed were totally inappropriate. This paper shows how the government missed the revolutionary moment and presents a critique of its economic measures.

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