Country/entity	Lesotho
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Memorandum of Agreement between the Government of Lesotho and the Interim Political Authority (IPA)
Date	3 Dec 1999
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Lesotho Crisis (1998)

After Lesotho became independent in 1966, the Basotho National Party (BNP) established a one-party-system that lasted for almost three decades. After being beaten in elections in 1998, street protests against the new government were initialized; paving the way for a coup attempt by a faction of the national army. The conflict escalated when South African and Botswanan troops intervened in support of the elected government and although the revolt was effectively dampened by the end of the year, the political situation has remained fragile since.
Close
Lesotho Crisis (1998)

Stage	Framework/substantive - partial
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Lesotho process
Parties	The Government (meaning the Executive) and the Interim Political Authority (IPA); CONTRACTING PARTIES The Rt. Hon. Pakalitha Mosisili, Prime Minister; Bereng A. Sekhonyana, Co-Chairperson IPA; Lekhetho Rakuoane, Co-Chairperson, IPA

Third parties	GUARANTORS H.E. President Joachim Chissano, President of the Republic of Mozambique and Current Chairman of SADC; WITNESS H.E. Chief Emeka Anyaoku, Commonwealth Secretary-General; Mr. Edward Omotoso, United Nations Resident Coordinator; H.E. Salim A. Salim, Organization of African Unity Secretary-General;
Description	A memorandum setting out an agreement reached about preparation to be taken for elections. It sets out the electoral-model to be used, and states that various groups and commissions will be created as follows: an expert group will be appointed to review the preparations for the elections and the timetable for elections, a new independent electoral commission appointed, a security liaison commission to take care of security, a contact group to meet with the prime minister, a joint committee on the media, joint implementation committee to facilitate implementation of the agreement and guarantors.

Agreement document	LS_991203_MoU between the government of Lesotho and IPA.pdf (opens in new tab) | Download PDF

Groups

Children/youth	No specific mention.
Disabled persons	No specific mention.
Elderly/age	No specific mention.
Migrant workers	No specific mention.
Racial/ethnic/ national group	No specific mention.
Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/displaced persons	No specific mention.
Social class	No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender	No specific mention.
Men and boys	No specific mention.
LGBTI	No specific mention.
Family	No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general)	No specific mention.
State configuration	No specific mention.
Self determination	No specific mention.
Referendum	No specific mention.
State symbols	No specific mention.
Independence/ secession	No specific mention.
Accession/ unification	No specific mention.
Border delimitation	No specific mention.
Cross-border provision	No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed)	No specific mention.
Elections	Page 1, Further agree that it is of the utmost importance that the preparations for the forthcoming general election are thorough, transparent, fair and free of irregularities in order to make the entire electoral process credible and the eventual result a true reflection of the will of the people of Lesotho. For the achievement of these objectives, the parties have therefore agreed as follows: Page 1, The Electoral-Model The parties unreservedly accept the award of the Arbitration Tribunal appointed in terms of Section 16 of the Interim Political Authority Act 1998 on the electoral model to be adopted for the forthcoming and subsequent elections. According to the award delivered on 5 October 1999, for the 2000 election only,the mix ratio of constituency seats (FPTP) to Proportional Representation (PR) shall be 80/50. Thereafter the mix ratio of FPTP and PR shall be 50% each of seats in the National Assembly. Page 1, Timetable for the Next Election [Summary] An expert group will be selected by the SADC Troika to advise on a realistic timetable for elections and ensure transparency. Page 2, The Independent electoral Commission Without in any way calling into question the integrity or professionalism of the present Independent Electoral Commission, the parties agree to facilitate the retirement of the present members of the Commission. A new electoral commission is then to be appointed as soon as possible in accordance with the Constitutional provisions. ...
Electoral commission	Page 2, The Independent electoral Commission Without in any way calling into question the integrity or professionalism of the present Independent Electoral Commission, the parties agree to facilitate the retirement of the present members of the Commission. A new electoral commission is then to be appointed as soon as possible in accordance with the Constitutional provisions. ...
Political parties reform	No specific mention.
Civil society	No specific mention.
Traditional/ religious leaders	No specific mention.
Public administration	No specific mention.
Constitution	No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power sharing	Power sharing→Political power sharing→Proportionality in legislature State level Page 2, The Electoral-Model The parties unreservedly accept the award of the Arbitration Tribunal appointed in terms of Section 16 of the Interim Political Authority Act 1998 on the electoral model to be adopted for the forthcoming and subsequent elections. According to the award delivered on 5 October 1999, for the 2000 election only, the mix ratio of constituency seats (FPTP) to Proportional Representation (PR) shall be 80/50. Thereafter the mix ratio of FPTP and PR shall be 50% each of seats in the National Assembly. Power sharing→Political power sharing→Other proportionality State level Page 3, Government - IPA cooperation 8. To enhance communication between the IPA and the Prime Minister, a Contact Group of two representatives each of the Government and the IPA is to be established immediately for the purpose of periodic meetings with the Prime Minister. Page 4, Joint Committee on the Media 9. A Joint Committee of the Government and the IPA is to be appointed upon the signing of this Agreement to ensure equitable access to the state owned media for all registered political parties. The Joint Committee will also ensure that political parties do not resort to statements or actions, which are inflammatory or untoward. Page 4, Joint Implementation Committee 10. A Joint Implementation Committee comprising equal numbers of the two contracting parties is to be appointed upon signing of this Agreement to facilitate its implementation. In this connection the parties will work together to mobilize the necessary resources for the implementation of this Agreement.
Territorial power sharing	No specific mention.

Economic power sharing	No specific mention.
Military power sharing	Power sharing→Military power sharing→Joint command structures Page 2, Security As another important confidence-building measure for the election, there is to be a Security Liaison Committee comprising representatives of the parties in the IPA, the Co-Chairpersons of the IPA (ex officio), the Commander of the Lesotho Defense Force, the Commissioner of Police, the Director of National Security Service and one Principal' Chief In the context of the preparations for and conduct of the election, the Liaison Committee will: Identify potential flash points and recommend appropriate preventive security measures; Foster free political activity by helping to remove impediments and threats thereto; Address concerns of political parties; Receive appropriate security briefing from the Executive; and In consultation with the Government, generally consider how best to help improve the overall security situation in the run up to and during elections. These will be in addition to any other security measures the IEC in consultation with the parties may deem necessary to ensure the security and integrity of the electoral process SADC will appoint an Official who will remain seized with issues pertaining to security matters, in addition to overall process of normalization of the political life of the country.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general	Page 1, Reaffirm their commitment to the rule of law, the promotion of democracy, good governance and human rights in Lesotho;
Bill of rights/similar	No specific mention.
Treaty incorporation	No specific mention.
Civil and political rights	No specific mention.
Socio-economic rights	No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship	No specific mention.
Democracy	Page 1, Reaffirm their commitment to the rule of law, the promotion of democracy, good governance and human rights in Lesotho;

Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles Page 2, Government - IPA cooperation 8. To enhance communication between the IPA and the Prime Minister, a Contact Group of two representatives each of the Government and the IPA is to be established immediately for the purpose of periodic meetings with the Prime Minister. Page 3, Joint Committee on the Media 9. A Joint Committee of the Government and the IPA is to be appointed upon the signing of this Agreement to ensure equitable access to the state owned media for all registered political parties. The Joint Committee will also ensure that political parties do not resort to statements or actions, which are inflammatory or untoward.
Mobility/access	No specific mention.
Protection measures	No specific mention.
Other	No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI	No specific mention.
Regional or international human rights institutions	No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law	No specific mention.
State of emergency provisions	No specific mention.
Judiciary and courts	No specific mention.
Prisons and detention	No specific mention.
Traditional Laws	No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction	No specific mention.
National economic plan	No specific mention.
Natural resources	No specific mention.
International funds	No specific mention.
Business	No specific mention.
Taxation	No specific mention.
Banks	No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights	No specific mention.
Pastoralist/ nomadism rights	No specific mention.
Cultural heritage	No specific mention.
Environment	No specific mention.
Water or riparian rights or access	No specific mention.

Security sector

Security Guarantees	Page 2, Security As another important confidence-building measure for the election, there is to be a Security Liaison Committee comprising representatives of the parties in the IPA, the Co-Chairpersons of the IPA (ex officio), the Commander of the Lesotho Defense Force, the Commissioner of Police, the Director of National Security Service and one Principal' Chief In the context of the preparations for and conduct of the election, the Liaison Committee will: - Identify potential flash points and recommend appropriate preventive security measures; Foster free political activity by helping to remove impediments and threats thereto; Address concerns of political parties; - Receive appropriate security briefing from the Executive; and - In consultation with the Government, generally consider how best to help improve the overall security situation in the run up to and during elections. - These will be in addition to any other security measures the IEC in consultation with the parties may deem necessary to ensure the security and integrity of the electoral process - SADC will appoint an Official who will remain seized with issues pertaining to security matters, in addition to overall process of normalization of the political life of the country.
Ceasefire	No specific mention.
Police	Page 2, Security As another important confidence-building measure for the election, there is to be a Security Liaison Committee comprising representatives of the parties in the IPA, the Co-Chairpersons of the IPA (ex officio), the Commander of the Lesotho Defense Force, the Commissioner of Police, the Director of National Security Service and one Principal' Chief In the context of the preparations for and conduct of the election, the Liaison Committee will:
Armed forces	Page 2, Security As another important confidence-building measure for the election, there is to be a Security Liaison Committee comprising representatives of the parties in the IPA, the Co-Chairpersons of the IPA (ex officio), the Commander of the Lesotho Defense Force, the Commissioner of Police, the Director of National Security Service and one Principal' Chief In the context of the preparations for and conduct of the election, the Liaison Committee will:
DDR	No specific mention.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	No specific mention.
Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.

Corruption	[Summary] Agreement stipulates transparency in planned elections. Page 1, Timetable for the Next Election [Summary] An expert group will be selected by the SADC Troika to advise on a realistic timetable for elections and ensure transparency.
Crime/organised crime	No specific mention.
Drugs	No specific mention.
Terrorism	No specific mention.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general	No specific mention.
Amnesty/pardon	No specific mention.
Courts	No specific mention.
Mechanism	No specific mention.
Prisoner release	No specific mention.
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	No specific mention.
Missing persons	No specific mention.
Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	Page 1, Agree that the pre-eminent need of the hour is for reconciliation, peace, stability and national unity to enable -Lesotho to make the most of the opportunities of the post-apartheid Southern Africa;

Implementation

UN signatory	Witness: United Nations Resident Coordinator.
Other international signatory	No specific mention.
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/ similar	Page 1, Timetable for the Next Election [Summary] An expert group will be selected by the SADC Troika to advise on a realistic timetable for elections and ensure transparency. Page 2, The Independent electoral Commission ... Two international experts who will serve on the Commission until after the next election will supplement the new Commissioners. These international experts will enhance the professional resources available to the IEC and serve as an important confidence-building presence.
Enforcement mechanism	Page 3, Joint Implementation Committee 10. A Joint Implementation Committee comprising equal numbers of the two contracting parties is to be appointed upon signing of this Agreement to facilitate its implementation. In this connection the parties will work together to mobilize the necessary resources for the implementation of this Agreement. Page 3, Guarantors The Presidents of the SADC Extended Troika will serve as Guarantors of this Agreement. Furthermore, the Secretaries-General of the United Nations (UN), the Organization of African Unity (OAU), and the Commonwealth will, in co-operation with the parties and the Guarantors, do all in their power to ensure the implementation of this Agreement.