

Country/entity	Liberia
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Decision A/DEC.2/8/90 on the Constitution of an Interim Government in the Republic of Liberia (Ecowas Peace Plan)
Date	7 Aug 1990
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Interstate/intrastate conflict(s)

Liberian Civil Wars (1989 - 1997) (1999 - 2005)

In 1989, the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) attacked border posts as part of a campaign to oust the dictatorship of Samuel Doe. This triggered a violent civil war that by 1995 had killed around 150,000 and displaced an estimated 850,000 people. The outbreak of war is attributed to the domestic socio-economic and political environment in the country of the 1980s, such as poverty, discrimination and repression. However, its sustenance is also related to past discrimination against indigenous Liberians by 'Americo-Liberians', and deep ethnic divisions that resulted.

Peace negotiations began in 1992 and completed by 1997. However, the peace lasted only a short period and in 1999 there was renewed fighting against the elected president, Charles Taylor. The Guinea-backed organisation, Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD), together with the armed Movement for Democracy in Liberia (MODEL) controlled two thirds of the country by 2003 and besieged the capital Monrovia, forcing Charles Taylor into exile in Nigeria. In August that same year, the conflict parties signed the Accra Comprehensive Peace Agreement and in 2005 new general elections were held.

Close
Liberian Civil Wars (1989 - 1997) (1999 - 2005)

Stage	Pre-negotiation/process
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Liberia peace process
Parties	DONE AT BANJUL THIS 7TH DAY OF AUGUST 1990 H. E DAWDA KAIRABA JAWARA CHAIRMAN ECOWAS STANDING MEDIATION COMMITTEE FOR THE AUTHORITY

Third parties

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Description

This short agreement commits the parties to a conference of all political parties and other interest groups to discuss the establishment of an interim government for Liberia. The agreement lists some initial principles for the establishment of the interim government and provision for general elections to be held within 12 months.

Agreement document

[LR_900807_ECOWAS Decision 2-8-90.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) Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→Temporary new institutions
Page 1, Untitled Preamble, Para 4: CONDISERING the need to set up an Interim Government in Liberia to administer the country and organise free and fair elections to usher in a democratically elected government;

Page 1, Article 1, 1: The ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee shall facilitate the convening of a conference of all political parties and other interest groups for the purpose of establishing a broad-based Interim Government in Liberia.

Page 1, Article 1, 2: The Interim Government shall administer the Republic of Liberia and take all necessary action for the preparation and organisation of free and fair elections leading to the establishment in Liberia of a democratically elected government.

Page 1, Article 2: The members of the Interim Government shall be Liberian citizens of high integrity and public stature drawn from the Liberian political parties and other interest groups.

Page 1, Article 3: None of the leaders of the warring parties to the Liberian conflict shall head the Interim Government

Elections Page 1, Untitled Preamble, Para 4: CONDISERING the need to set up an Interim Government in Liberia to administer the country and organise free and fair elections to usher in a democratically elected government;

Page 1, Article 1, 2: The Interim Government shall administer the Republic of Liberia and take all necessary action for the preparation and organisation of free and fair elections leading to the establishment in Liberia of a democratically elected government.

Page 1, Article 4: The head of the Interim Government shall not be eligible to run for the General or Presidential Elections to be held in the Republic of Liberia.

Page 1, Article 5: The elections referred to in Article 1 paragraph 2 of this Decision shall be held in the Republic of Liberia within twelve months.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society Page 1, Article 2: The members of the Interim Government shall be Liberian citizens of high integrity and public stature drawn from the Liberian political parties and other interest groups.

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→General State level
Page 1, Article 1, 1: The ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee shall facilitate the convening of a conference of all political parties and other interest groups for the purpose of establishing a broad-based Interim Government in Liberia.

Page 1, Article 2: The members of the Interim Government shall be Liberian citizens of high integrity and public stature drawn from the Liberian political parties and other interest groups.

Territorial power sharing No specific mention.

Economic power sharing No specific mention.

Military power sharing No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general No specific mention.

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty incorporation Page 1, Untitled Preamble, Para 1: MINDFUL of Article 5 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Government and defining its composition and functions;

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship	Rights related issues→Citizenship→Citizen, general Page 1, Article 2: The members of the Interim Government shall be Liberian citizens of high integrity and public stature drawn from the Liberian political parties and other interest groups.
Democracy	Page 1, Untitled Preamble, Para 4: CONDISERING the need to set up an Interim Government in Liberia to administer the country and organise free and fair elections to usher in a democratically elected government; Page 1, Article 1, 2: The Interim Government shall administer the Republic of Liberia and take all necessary action for the preparation and organisation of free and fair elections leading to the establishment in Liberia of a democratically elected government.
Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	No specific mention.
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	No specific mention.
Ceasefire	No specific mention.
Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	No specific mention.
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	No specific mention.
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	No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory	No specific mention.
Other international signatory	DONE AT BANJUL THIS 7TH DAY OF AUGUST 1990 H. E DAWDA KAIRABA JAWARA CHAIRMAN ECOWAS STANDING MEDIATION COMMITTEE FOR THE AUTHORITY
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/similar	No specific mention.
Enforcement mechanism	No specific mention.
