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Country/entity Liberia

Region Africa (excl MENA)

Agreement name Communique Issued at the Conclusion of the Peace Talks on Liberia, Geneva

Date 17 Jul 1993

Agreement status Multiparty signed/agreed

Interim Yes

arrangement

Agreement/conflict Intrastate/intrastate conflict

level

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 Signed:

G. Baccus Matthews Momolu Sirleaf Alhaji Kromah

Third parties

Not signed by third parties but preamble notes that the talks were facilitated and chaired

by the UN, ECOWAS and the OAU.

Page 1, Untitled Preamble: At the invitation of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, on behalf of H.E. President Nicephore Soglo, current Chairman of ECOWAS, and Dr. Salim A. Salim, Secretary-General of OAU, the parties to the Liberian conflict met in Geneva, Switzerland from 10th to 17th July, 1993 to take part and fully participate in Liberia Peace Talks aimed at ending three (3) and a half years of civil war.

These talks were held under the co-chairmanship of Mr. Trevor Gordon-Somers, Special Representative of UN Secretary-General on Liberia, President Canaan Banana, Eminent Person, OAU and Dr. Abbas Bundu, Executive Secretary of ECOWAS.

Description

A short agreement summarising the issues agreed for inclusion in the agreement to be signed at Cotonou on 24 July 1993.

Agreement document

LR_930717 Conclusion of Geneva Peace Talks.pdf (opens in new tab) | Download PDF

Groups

Children/youth Groups→Children/youth→Rhetorical

Page 1, Humanitarian Assistance: The Parties agreed that every effort should be made to deliver humanitarian assistance to all Liberians particularly children, who are malnourished and suffering from related diseases. Convoys of humanitarian assistance should travel to all areas of Liberia through the most direct routes.

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 Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Substantive

persons

Page 1, Untitled Preamble, Para 4: The Parties adopted an Agreement containing decisions with respect to political, military, humanitarian and refugee repatriation issues. This Agreement will be signed by the leaders of the Parties during the ECOWAS

Summit in Cotonou, Benin, on 24th July, 1993.

Page 2, Repatriation of Refugees: UNHCR presented to the Parties a summary of their plants for refugees repatriation and re-integration in the country. UNHCR called specific attention to the need for security and protection of United Nations staff working in the country. The Parties called upon the United Nations, particularly UNHCR, to carry out the necessary planning and resource mobilisation to facilitate a speedy return of refugees to Liberia.

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/

No specific mention.

unification

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision

No specific mention.

Governance

Political reformed)

Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→Temporary new institutions institutions (new or Page 1, Political: The Agreement on political issues reaffirmed that the Yamoussoukro Accords provide the best framework for peace. It was agreed that Liberia would be unified under a civil Transitional Government to run for a period of seven months.

> Various proposals were made with respect to the Executive, Judiciary and Legislative branches of government, with decisions in some cases deferred for consultation among

the leaders of the parties.

Elections

No specific mention.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform

No specific mention.

Civil society

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Traditional/ religious leaders No specific mention.

Public administration No specific mention.

Constitution

No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power

sharing

No specific mention.

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 No specific mention.

general

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty

No specific mention.

incorporation

Civil and political

rights

No specific mention.

Socio-economic

rights

No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication No specific mention.

Mobility/access

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deliver humanitarian assistance to all Liberians particularly children, who are

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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 No specific mention. emergency law

State of emergency No specific mention. provisions

Judiciary and courts

No specific mention.

Prisons and

No specific mention.

detention

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction

Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic

reconstruction→Humanitarian assistance

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decisions with respect to political, military, humanitarian and refugee repatriation issues. This Agreement will be signed by the leaders of the Parties during the ECOWAS

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plan

National economic 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.

Water or riparian

rights or access

Environment

No specific mention.

No specific mention.

Security sector

Security Guarantees No specific mention.

Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision

Page 1, Military: The Agreement on military issues contained conditions for a cease-fire, the establishment of a supervisory and monitoring authority, bringing together

representatives of the three parties, ECOMOG, and UN Observer Mission. Attention was

given to monitoring of cease-fire violations and the process of disarmament,

encampment and demobilization consistent with the terms and conditions of the

ECOWAS Peace Plan and the Yamoussoukro Accords.

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces

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DDR

Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes

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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 No specific mention.

general

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 No specific mention. **signatory**

Referendum for agreement

No specific mention.

International mission/force/ similar

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Enforcement mechanism

No specific mention.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source Official Journal of the ECOWAS, Vol. 22, 1997 (Special Edition).