

Country/entity	Nigeria Plateau State
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Joint Declaration of Commitment to Peace and Cooperation
Date	14 Dec 2014
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/local conflict

Nigerian Civil War (1967), Delta Unrest (1990 -), Communal Conflicts (1978 -), and Boko Haram Insurgency (2009 -)

Since 1960 when Nigeria became independent, it has seen a number of coup d'états and instability. In 1967, after confederation plans for the Nigerian regions to gain more independence failed, the Eastern region seceded as the Republic of Biafra and this caused the Nigerian Civil War. The conflict resulted from political, economic, ethnic and religious tensions which had existed since before Britain drew new borders when colonising the area. The discovery of oil in the Niger Delta heightened the intensity of the conflict. With the aid of British forces, the Nigerian military managed to take back the territory in 1970. Since then, ethnic violence has persisted.

Nigerian Delta Unrest (1990 -)

Conflict in the Niger Delta arose in the 1990s between foreign oil companies and ethnic groups which felt exploited after being forced to abandon their land. The Nigerian military caused international consternation in 1995 when members of the Ogoni tribe of the Niger Delta were found hanged without due process. The proliferation of arms in the region has encouraged the rise of armed groups which have targeted oil companies and pipelines. This came to a head in 2004 when Shell withdrew personnel from two oil fields in response to attacks on wells and pipelines by rebels. The military have attempted to clamp down on militant groups in the Niger Delta but it was not until the establishment of the Presidential amnesty program in 2009 which required the surrender of weapons by militants in exchange for amnesty. In 2016 a new militant group called the Niger Delta Avengers has announced its existence in the Niger Delta illustrating the continued instability in that region.

Boko Haram Insurgency (2009 -)

Sectarian violence has also been rife in Nigeria and since 2002, the radical Islamist group Boko Haram have been violently seeking to establish sharia law throughout Nigeria and an Islamic caliphate in the Northern part of the country. In 2009 they began an official insurgency which spread to Cameroon, Chad and Niger. In 2014 the group kidnapped 276 girls from a college in Chibok and bombed the town of Jos. The insurgency is the result of Muslim – Christian tensions in the country which is a constant source of instability and violence. In 2015 the military led a regional coalition of forces on a counter-offensive against Boko Haram and they were successful in taking ground. There are also conflicts between Fulani herdsman and Christian peasants in the Middle belt. Widespread corruption and lack of state authority exacerbate these many complex tensions.

Central Nigerian communal conflicts (1978 -)

Unrest in Nigeria is a product of socio-economic pressures between migrating herdsman and settled agriculturists, exacerbated by firearms proliferation, ethnic conflict, sectarianism and banditry. Since 2001, attacks have adopted a more sectarian character involving suicide bombings and shooting at churches by the jihadist group, Boko Haram. Peaks of violence occurred in 2004 and 2011, pastoral/farmer conflict has resulted in the deaths of thousands since the Fourth Nigerian Republic was founded in 1999. The Land Use Act of 1978, exacerbated conflict by allowing longtime occupants 'indigeneship' and the ability to apply for a certificate of occupancy, putting migrating communities at a disadvantage.

Close

Nigerian Civil War (1967), Delta Unrest (1990 -), Communal Conflicts (1978 -), and Boko

Stage	Framework/substantive - comprehensive
Conflict nature	Inter-group
Peace process	Nigeria - Plateau State Process
Parties	<p>Signatories, Chairpersons of the Steering Committees, Signing on Behalf of their Communities:</p> <p>Afizere: Agwom Nyam Isha [Signed]</p> <p>Anaguta: Aminu Agwom Zang, signed on his behalf by Shina Musa Agada [Signed]</p> <p>Berom: Da (Dr.) Jonah Maduga, signed on his behalf by Mr. Sam Godongs [Signed]</p> <p>Fulani: Salihu Musa Umar [Signed]</p> <p>Hausa: Alhaji Umaru Sani [Signed]</p> <p>Igbo: Barr. Zacch O. Nwankpa [Signed]</p> <p>South-South: Barr. Smart Irabor [Signed]</p> <p>Yoruba: Chief Barr. Bankole Falade [Signed]</p> <p>Women: Dr. Sumaye Hamza [Signed]</p>
Third parties	<p>Witnesses:</p> <p>Government:</p> <p>Representative of the Federal Government, Ambassador Layiwola Laseinde [Signed]</p> <p>Representative of the State Government, Hon. Isa Chungwom Song, Special Advisor Legislative Liason [signed]</p> <p>Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue</p> <p>HD Senior Advisor: David Lambo, [Signed]</p> <p>HD Gender Advisor, Alice Nderitu, [Signed]</p> <p>HD Senior Consultant, Dr. Phil Ostien, [Signed]</p> <p>HD Local Advisor, Prof. John Dung-Gwom, [Signed]</p> <p>HD Local Advisor, Khadijah Hawaja, [Signed]</p> <p>HD Local Advisor, Baba Bala Muhammad, [Signed]</p> <p>HD Local Advisor, Yakuba Sankey, [Signed]</p>
Description	<p>Communal peace agreement between the communities in Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria attempting to decrease incidents of violence between Hausa and Fulani and other groups. Agreement mediated by HD Centre and contains a list of eight recommendations that are expanded in the Annexes (but these are not attached). Recommendations touch on; Trust Building and Religious Tolerance; places of worship, burial grounds and youth; governance issues, access to public spaces; traditional rulership; land reform, IDPs and cattle rustling; settlers and migration issues in Jos City; Impunity and transitional justice as well as security of life and property.</p>
Agreement document	<p>NG_141214_Declaration of Commitment to Peace by the HD Jos Forum.pdf (opens in new tab) Download PDF</p>

Groups

Children/youth	Groups→Children/youth→Rhetorical Page 2, Responsibilities as Community Leaders and Members ... - To continue especially to emphasise the inclusion of women and youth in all of our activities. Groups→Children/youth→Other Page 3, Presenting the Recommendations [Note: Listed in Annex] ... - Session II: Rebuilding Places of Worship, Burial Grounds and Issues Relating to the Youth.
Disabled persons	No specific mention.
Elderly/age	No specific mention.
Migrant workers	No specific mention.
Racial/ethnic/ national group	Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Substantive [Summary] Page 5, Agreement is structured to include representatives of the Afizere, Anaguta, Berom, Fulani, Hausa, Igbo, and Yoruba.
Religious groups	Groups→Religious groups→Other Page 3, Presenting the Recommendations [Note: Listed in Annex] - Session I: Trust Building and Religious Tolerance. - Session II: Rebuilding Places of Worship, Burial Grounds and Issues Relating to the Youth.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/displaced persons	Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Other Page 3, Presenting the Recommendations ... - Session V: Countryside Problems such as Land Annexations, cattle rustling, and displacement people. Deferred to a grassroots dialogue process conducted in Barkin Ladi, Jos South, and Riyom Local Government Areas. - Session VI: Jos City Issues such as Ownership, Indigeneship and Settlers.
Social class	No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender

Page 2, Responsibilities as Community Leaders and Members
... - To continue especially to emphasise the inclusion of women and youth in all of our activities.

Page 3, Commitment to Peace and Implementation
...We also recognize that the various levels of Government, Traditional and Religious leaders, women and youth have a unique role in overseeing the security and prosperity of Jos, of Plateau State, and of Nigeria as a whole.
...We welcome the Jos Women Steering Committee's Declaration, and commend their heroic efforts thus far. We also commend the ongoing efforts of support groups (Businesses, Inter-faith, Youth, and NGOs) and are determined to involve them in the implementation of the HD Jos Forum Recommendations.

Page 6, Women: Dr. Sumaye Hamza [Signed]

Page 7, Witnesses, HD Gender Advisor, Alice Nderitu, [Signed]

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 No specific mention.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society [Summary] Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue mediated the agreement.

Traditional/ religious leaders	Page 2-3, Responsibilities as Community Leaders and Members [Summary] Adopts a code of conduct, including respect for rights and freedoms in the Nigerian Constitution, respect the peaceful customs of each other's communities; to encourage the refrain from violence, emphasise the inclusion of women and youth, to encourage all public officials to act impartially, to encourage all political candidates to show tolerance, to foster a good relationship between security and community, and to implement the recommendations from this agreement.
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Page 3, Session IV: Traditional Rulership issues and renaming of places etc.
... - Session IV: Traditional Rulership issues and renaming of places etc.

Public administration	No specific mention.
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Constitution	No specific mention.
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Power sharing

Political power sharing	No specific mention.
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Territorial power sharing	No specific mention.
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Economic power sharing	No specific mention.
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Military power sharing	No specific mention.
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Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general	No specific mention.
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Bill of rights/similar	No specific mention.
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Treaty incorporation	No specific mention.
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Civil and political rights	No specific mention.
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Socio-economic rights	No specific mention.
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Rights related issues

Citizenship	No specific mention.
Democracy	No specific mention.
Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	Rights related issues→Media and communication→Other Page 2, Responsibilities as Community Leaders and Members ... - To encourage all political candidates and supporters, as well as religious leaders, to show tolerance and respect for all communities and to avoid inflammatory communal-based speech, policy and incitement.
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 Page 2, Responsibilities as Community Leaders and Members
... - To respect the peaceful traditions and customs of each other's communities consistent with the rights and freedoms enshrined in the Nigerian Constitution and other relevant codes of conduct.

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 Land, property and environment→Land reform/rights→Land reform and management
Page 3, Presenting the Recommendations
... - Session V: Countryside Problems such as Land Annexations, cattle rustling, and displacement people. Deferred to a grassroots dialogue process conducted in Barkin Ladi, Jos South, and Riyom Local Government Areas.

**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 Page 2, Responsibilities as Community Leaders and Members
... - To foster a cooperative relationship between our communities and the security forces, where appropriate and possible, in an attempt to root out individual perpetrators of violence and criminality amongst our communities.

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 Transitional justice→Reparations→Material reparations
Page 3, Presenting the Recommendations
... - Session VII & VIII: Impunity, Reparations and Compensation. Securing Lives and Property and Public Apologies.

Reconciliation No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar	No specific mention.
Enforcement mechanism	No specific mention.
Related cases	No specific mention.
Source	Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue; https://www.hdcentre.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Declaration-of-Committment-to-Peace-by-the-HD-Jos-Forum-December-2014.pdf
