Country/entity	Liberia
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Abuja Peace Agreement to Supplement the Cotonou and Akosombo Agreements as subsequently clarified by the Accra Agreement
Date	19 Aug 1995
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

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	Implementation/renegotiation
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Liberia peace process

Parties	(Signed) Charles Ghankay TAYLOR Leader, National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) (Signed) Ltg. Alhaji G. V. KROMAH National Chairman, United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy (ULIMO) (Signed) Dr. G. E. Saigbe BOLEY Sr. Leader, Liberia Peace Council (LPC) (Signed) Ltg. J. Hezekiah BOWEN Armed Forces of Liberia (Signed) Major-General Roosevelt JOHNSON United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy (ULIMO-J) (Signed) François MASSAQUOI Lofa Defence Force (LDF) (Signed) Thomas WOEWIYU National Patriotic Front of Liberia Central Revolutionary Council (NPFL-CRC) (Signed) Chea CHEAPOO Liberia National Conference (LNC)
Third parties	(Signed) Dr. Obed ASAMOAH for and on behalf of His Excellency Flt-Lt. Jerry John Rawlings President of the Republic of Ghana and Chairman of ECOWAS (Signed) Chief Tom IKIMI for and on behalf of His Excellency General Sani Abacha, Head of State, Commander-in-Chief of the Nigerian Armed Forces (Signed) H.E. President Canaan BANANA Organization of African Unity Eminent Person in Liberia (Signed) H.E. Anthony B. NYAKYI Special Representative to Liberia of the United Nations Secretary-General
Description	This agreement amendsand supplements the Cotonou Accord, the Akosombo Agreement and its Accra Clarification. Issues covered include a ceasefire and its modalities, a schedule of implementation, transitional governance arrangements, and election modalities.

Agreement document	LR_950819_AbujaAgreement.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	Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 9: 01 Dec 1995 - 02 Feb 1996 - Resettlement/repatriation
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, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive:
i. The Parties agree that during the transitional period leading to the inauguration of an elected government, the executive powers of the Republic of Liberia shall be vested in a six-member Council of State to be composed as follows:

(a) National Patriotic Front of Liberia Mr. Charles Ghankay Taylor
(b) United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy (ULIMO) LTG. Alhaji G. V. Kromah
(c) COALITION Dr. George E. S. Boley Sr.
(d) Liberian National Conference (LNC) Oscar Jaryee Quiah
(e) Chief Tamba Tailor
(f) Mr. Wilton Sankawolo

ii. The Chairman of the Council shall be Mr. Wilton Sankawolo. All other members of the Council shall be Vice-Chairmen of equal status. In case of permanent incapacitation a new Chairman shall be appointed within the framework of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).
iii. The Parties hereby agree that the allocation of ministries, public corporations and autonomous agencies agreed by the Parties in Cotonou, Benin, on 3-5 November 1993 shall be maintained. The Parties, however, agree that the allocations for the erstwhile IGNU shall revert to the Liberian Peace Council (LPC)/COALITION. LTG Hezekiah Bowen, François Massaquoi, Thomas Woewiyu, Laveli Supuwood and Samuel Dokie shall be given ministerial or other senior government positions.

General Roosevelt Johnson's wing of ULIMO (ULIMO-J) shall occupy the following positions:

Ministries
1. Minister of State for Presidential Affairs
2. Minister of Transport
3. Minister of Rural Development
4. Minister of State Without Portfolio

Public corporations/autonomous agencies
1. National Bank
2. Corporative Development Agencies (CDA)
3. Agricultural Industrial Training Board (AIIB)
4. Forestry Development Authority (FDA)

Deputy ministers
1. Ministry of Post and Telecommunication
2. Ministry of Justice
3. Ministry of Education
4. Ministry of Information

Deputy managing directors/deputy directors general
1. NICOL National Insurance Corporation of Liberia
2. NHA National Housing Authority
3. LWSC Liberia Water and Sewage Corporation
4. NHSB National Housing and Savings Bank
5. FS Fire Service
6. GA General Auditing
7. IPA Institute of Public Administration
8. NFAA National Food Assistance Agency

Elections	Page 2, Section C, Article 15 Elections modalities: 1. The operations of the Elections Commission shall be monitored by ECOWAS, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations. Page 3, Section D, Article 16 Tenure and mandate of the Transitional Government: ...3. Holders of positions within the Transitional Government as defined by the Cotonou Accord who wish to contest the election provided for under the Schedule of Implementation shall vacate office three months before the date of elections. They shall be replaced by their nominees or by persons nominated by the parties represented in the Council of State. 4. The Chairman of the Council of State shall be ineligible to contest the first Presidential and Parliamentary elections to be held pursuant to this Agreement. Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 10: 01 Mar 1996 - 12 Aug 1996 - Preparation for elections. Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 11: 20 Aug 1996 - Election Day. Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, Notes: 3. Election Day - 14 August 1996
Electoral commission	Page 2, Section C, Article 15 Elections modalities: 1. The operations of the Elections Commission shall be monitored by ECOWAS, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations.
Political parties reform	No specific mention.
Civil society	No specific mention.
Traditional/ religious leaders	Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive: i. The Parties agree that during the transitional period leading to the inauguration of an elected government, the executive powers of the Republic of Liberia shall be vested in a six-member Council of State to be composed as follows: (a) National Patriotic Front of Liberia Mr. Charles Ghankay Taylor (b) United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy (ULIMO) LTG. Alhaji G. V. Kromah (c) COALITION Dr. George E. S. Boley Sr. (d) Liberian National Conference (LNC) Oscar Jaryee Quiah (e) Chief Tamba Tailor (f) Mr. Wilton Sankawolo
Public administration	No specific mention.
Constitution	No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power sharing

Power sharing→Political power sharing→Executive coalition
State level
Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive:
i. The Parties agree that during the transitional period leading to the inauguration of an elected government, the executive powers of the Republic of Liberia shall be vested in a six-member Council of State to be composed as follows:

(a) National Patriotic Front of Liberia Mr. Charles Ghankay Taylor
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(d) Liberian National Conference (LNC) Oscar Jaryee Quiah
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(f) Mr. Wilton Sankawolo

ii. The Chairman of the Council shall be Mr. Wilton Sankawolo. All other members of the Council shall be Vice-Chairmen of equal status. In case of permanent incapacitation a new Chairman shall be appointed within the framework of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).
iii. The Parties hereby agree that the allocation of ministries, public corporations and autonomous agencies agreed by the Parties in Cotonou, Benin, on 3-5 November 1993 shall be maintained. The Parties, however, agree that the allocations for the erstwhile IGNU shall revert to the Liberian Peace Council (LPC)/COALITION. LTG Hezekiah Bowen, François Massaquoi, Thomas Woewiyu, Laveli Supuwood and Samuel Dokie shall be given ministerial or other senior government positions.

General Roosevelt Johnson's wing of ULIMO (ULIMO-J) shall occupy the following positions:

Ministries
1. Minister of State for Presidential Affairs
2. Minister of Transport
3. Minister of Rural Development
4. Minister of State Without Portfolio

...Deputy ministers
1. Ministry of Post and Telecommunication
2. Ministry of Justice
3. Ministry of Education
4. Ministry of Information

Page 2, Section D, Article 16 Tenure and mandate of the Transitional Government:
...3. Holders of positions within the Transitional Government as defined by the Cotonou Accord who wish to contest the election provided for under the Schedule of Implementation shall vacate office three months before the date of elections. They shall be replaced by their nominees or by persons nominated by the parties represented in the Council of State.

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	No specific mention.
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	Rights related issues→Media and communication→Governance of media Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive: ...iii. The Parties hereby agree that the allocation of ministries, public corporations and autonomous agencies agreed by the Parties in Cotonou, Benin, on 3-5 November 1993 shall be maintained. The Parties, however, agree that the allocations for the erstwhile IGNU shall revert to the Liberian Peace Council (LPC)/COALITION. LTG Hezekiah Bowen, François Massaquoi, Thomas Woewiyu, Laveli Supuwood and Samuel Dokie shall be given ministerial or other senior government positions. General Roosevelt Johnson's wing of ULIMO (ULIMO-J) shall occupy the following positions: ...Deputy ministers ...1. Ministry of Post and Telecommunication ...4. Ministry of Information
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	Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive: ...iii. The Parties hereby agree that the allocation of ministries, public corporations and autonomous agencies agreed by the Parties in Cotonou, Benin, on 3-5 November 1993 shall be maintained. The Parties, however, agree that the allocations for the erstwhile IGNU shall revert to the Liberian Peace Council (LPC)/COALITION. LTG Hezekiah Bowen, François Massaquoi, Thomas Woewiyu, Laveli Supuwood and Samuel Dokie shall be given ministerial or other senior government positions. General Roosevelt Johnson's wing of ULIMO (ULIMO-J) shall occupy the following positions: Ministries ...2. Minister of Transport 3. Minister of Rural Development ...Deputy ministers ...3. Ministry of Education ...Deputy managing directors/deputy directors general ...2. NHA National Housing Authority ...5. FS Fire Service ...8. NFAA National Food Assistance Agency
National economic plan	No specific mention.
Natural resources	No specific mention.

International funds No specific mention.

Business Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive:
...iii. The Parties hereby agree that the allocation of ministries, public corporations and autonomous agencies agreed by the Parties in Cotonou, Benin, on 3-5 November 1993 shall be maintained. The Parties, however, agree that the allocations for the erstwhile IGNU shall revert to the Liberian Peace Council (LPC)/COALITION. LTG Hezekiah Bowen, François Massaquoi, Thomas Woewiyu, Laveli Supuwood and Samuel Dokie shall be given ministerial or other senior government positions.

General Roosevelt Johnson's wing of ULIMO (ULIMO-J) shall occupy the following positions:

...Public corporations/autonomous agencies
...2. Corporative Development Agencies (CDA)
3. Agricultural Industrial Training Board (AIIB)

...Deputy managing directors/deputy directors general
1. NICOL National Insurance Corporation of Liberia
...3. LWSC Liberia Water and Sewage Corporation

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	Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive: ...iii. The Parties hereby agree that the allocation of ministries, public corporations and autonomous agencies agreed by the Parties in Cotonou, Benin, on 3-5 November 1993 shall be maintained. The Parties, however, agree that the allocations for the erstwhile IGNU shall revert to the Liberian Peace Council (LPC)/COALITION. LTG Hezekiah Bowen, François Massaquoi, Thomas Woewiyu, Laveli Supuwood and Samuel Dokie shall be given ministerial or other senior government positions. General Roosevelt Johnson's wing of ULIMO (ULIMO-J) shall occupy the following positions: ...Public corporations/autonomous agencies ...4. Forestry Development Authority (FDA)
Water or riparian rights or access	Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive: ...iii. The Parties hereby agree that the allocation of ministries, public corporations and autonomous agencies agreed by the Parties in Cotonou, Benin, on 3-5 November 1993 shall be maintained. The Parties, however, agree that the allocations for the erstwhile IGNU shall revert to the Liberian Peace Council (LPC)/COALITION. LTG Hezekiah Bowen, François Massaquoi, Thomas Woewiyu, Laveli Supuwood and Samuel Dokie shall be given ministerial or other senior government positions. General Roosevelt Johnson's wing of ULIMO (ULIMO-J) shall occupy the following positions: ...Deputy managing directors/deputy directors general ...3. LWSC Liberia Water and Sewage Corporation

Security sector

Security Guarantees	Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 5: 02 Oct 95 - 14 Dec 95 - Deployment of ECOMOG/UNOMIL to safe havens throughout the country.
Ceasefire	Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision Ceasefire commences at midnight on 26/08/1995 and is presumed to be permanent. Page 1, Section A, Article I Cease-fire: The Parties to this Agreement hereby declare a cease-fire and the cessation of hostilities effective at 12 o'clock midnight 26 August 1995. Page 3, Section G, Article 8 Peace enforcement powers: 1. Enforcement of violations of cease-fire shall be in accordance with the terms of the Cotonou Accord. Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 1: 22 Aug 95 - 4 Sep 95 - Factions inform combatants of ceasefire. Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, Notes: 1. Cease-fire - 2359 hours 22 August 1995 (Midnight 22/23 August 1995)
Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	No specific mention.
DDR	Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 2: 5-26 Sep 1995 - Factions disengage from check points/ present combat positions to areas under own arrangements. Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 6: 08 Oct 1995 - 08 Nov 1995 - Completion/preparation for new assembly/encampment sites. Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 7: 09 Nov 1995 - 31 Dec 1995 - Combatants in assembly/ encampment sites. Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 8: 01 Dec 1995 - 30 Jan 1996 - Disarmament/demobilization Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 9: 01 Dec 1995 - 02 Feb 1996 - Resettlement/repatriation
Intelligence services	No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive: i. The Parties agree that during the transitional period leading to the inauguration of an elected government, the executive powers of the Republic of Liberia shall be vested in a six-member Council of State to be composed as follows: (a) National Patriotic Front of Liberia Mr. Charles Ghankay Taylor (b) United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy (ULIMO) LTG. Alhaji G. V. Kromah (c) COALITION Dr. George E. S. Boley Sr. (d) Liberian National Conference (LNC) Oscar Jaryee Quiah (e) Chief Tamba Tailor (f) Mr. Wilton Sankawolo
Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.
Corruption	Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive: ...iii. The Parties hereby agree that the allocation of ministries, public corporations and autonomous agencies agreed by the Parties in Cotonou, Benin, on 3-5 November 1993 shall be maintained. The Parties, however, agree that the allocations for the erstwhile IGNU shall revert to the Liberian Peace Council (LPC)/COALITION. LTG Hezekiah Bowen, François Massaquoi, Thomas Woewiyu, Laveli Supuwood and Samuel Dokie shall be given ministerial or other senior government positions. General Roosevelt Johnson's wing of ULIMO (ULIMO-J) shall occupy the following positions: ...Deputy managing directors/deputy directors general ...6. GA General Auditing
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	(Signed) H.E. Anthony B. NYAKYI Special Representative to Liberia of the United Nations Secretary-General
Other international signatory	(Signed) Dr. Obed ASAMOAH for and on behalf of His Excellency Flt-Lt. Jerry John Rawlings President of the Republic of Ghana and Chairman of ECOWAS (Signed) Chief Tom IKIMI for and on behalf of His Excellency General Sani Abacha, Head of State, Commander-in-Chief of the Nigerian Armed Forces (Signed) H.E. President Canaan BANANA Organization of African Unity Eminent Person in Liberia
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.

International mission/force/ similar	Page 2, Section C, Article 15 Elections modalities: 1. The operations of the Elections Commission shall be monitored by ECOWAS, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations. Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 3: 5-26 Sep 95 - Verification by ECOMOG/UNOMIL/LNTG/ warring factions. Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 4: 15-30 Sep 95 - Reconnaissance mission/build-up of logistics - ECOMOG/UNOMIL/LNTG. Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 5: 02 Oct 95 - 14 Dec 95 - Deployment of ECOMOG/UNOMIL to safe havens throughout the country.
Enforcement mechanism	Page 3, Section G, Article 8 Peace enforcement powers: 1. Enforcement of violations of cease-fire shall be in accordance with the terms of the Cotonou Accord.