

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 Ft-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 amends and 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 (AIB)
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. NEAA National Food Assistance Agency

Elections	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 11: 20 Aug 1996 - Election Day.</p> <p>Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, Notes: 3. Election Day - 14 August 1996</p>
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	<p>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:</p> <p>(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</p>
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:

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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:

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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:

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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:
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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 (AIB)

...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:

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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:

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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:
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- (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:
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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.
