

Country/entity Angola

Region Africa (excl MENA)

Agreement name Peace Accords for Angola, Lisbon ('Bicesse Accords')

Date 31 May 1991

Agreement status Multiparty signed/agreed

Interim arrangement Yes

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Angolan Civil War (1975 - 2002)

The conflict has involved political divisions, and agreements emanate from two dyads. Unita-dyad. Immediately following Angola's independence in 1975, a civil war broke out between the two main armed independence movements, the (then government) Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA). The UN-mediated Lusaka Protocol in November 1994 did not end fighting and another attempt in 1998 failed due to continuous ceasefire violations. After internal splits and the killing of their founder Jonas Savimbi, UNITA was defeated by MPLA forces in 2002.

Cabinda dyad. Additionally, in the Cabinda enclave, the Front for the Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda (FLEC) fought a low intensity guerrilla warfare against the MPLA government since independence, but by the early 2000s, FLEC had lost significant operational power and in 2006 the group eventually declared a ceasefire.

Close
Angolan Civil War (1975 - 2002)

Stage Framework/substantive - partial

Conflict nature Government

Peace process Angola: UNITA process

Parties President of the People's Republic of Angola; President of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola;

Third parties Portugal (mediator), US, USSR (observers) [apparently not signatories]

Description Agreement constitutes four related agreements. First, the head agreement for the various Bicesse Accords. This agreement sets out the parties, and the various sub agreements that constitute the Bicesse Accords, but does not itself contain any substantive provisions. This agreement accepts as binding the following documents, which constitute the Peace Accords for Angola; (a) The cease-fire agreement (including annexes I and II thereto) [see attachment I]; (b) Fundamental principles for the establishment of peace in Angola (including the annex thereto regarding the Joint Political-Military Commission) [see attachment II]; (c) Concepts for resolving the issues still pending between the Government of the People's Republic of Angola and UNITA [see attachment III]; (d) The Protocol of Estoril [see attachment IV].

Agreement document [AO_910508_Head_of_Document \(Bicesse Accords\).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) No specific mention.

Elections FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PEACE IN ANGOLA,
1. parties agree that general election to be held.
2. UNITA to become political party.
3. negotiations on changes to the Constitution.

PROTOCOL OF ESTORIL I. provides for elections and its terms.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society No specific mention.

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 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 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 Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision
Page 1, Annex, Letter dated 8 May 1991 from the Minister for External relations of Angola to the Secretary-General
... Although the said Accords will be in force after the formal signature at the end of this month, the cessation of the hostilities must be verified "in fact" as of 15 May 1991, at which date the mechanisms of verification should be started.

Page 1, Enclosure, Peace Accords for Angola
The Government of the People's Republic of Angola and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), with mediation by the Government of Portugal and the participation of observers from the governments of the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Accept as binding the following documents, which constitute the Peace Accords for Angola;
(a) The cease-fire agreement (including annexes I and II thereto) [see attachment I];

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 No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar

Page 1, Annex, Letter dated 8 May 1991 from the Minister for External relations of Angola to the Secretary-General

... Therefore, I would like to request Your Excellency to inform the Security Council of the necessity to keep the forces of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM) until the realization of the general elections that will take place between September and November 1992.

Enforcement mechanism

CEASEFIRE AGMT, II.3. provides for release of all civilian and military prisoners, to be verified by the ICRC. Requests the UN to stay in Angola until elections take place.

Page 1, Annex, Letter dated 8 May 1991 from the Minister for External relations of Angola to the Secretary-General

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... (b) Fundamental principles for the establishment of peace in Angola (including the annex thereto regarding the Joint Political-Military Commission) [see attachment II];
