Country/entity	Liberia
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Agreement on Ceasefire and Cessation of Hostilities Between the Government of the Republic of Liberia and Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy and the Movement for Democracy in Liberia
Date	17 Jun 2003
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	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Liberia peace process

Parties	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the duly authorized representatives of the Parties have signed the Agreement. Done at Accra (Ghana), this 17th Day of June 2003 in nine (9) originals in the English language. Hon. Daniel L. Chea Snr. Minister of National Defence of the Republic of Liberia For the Government of the Republic of Liberia Mr. Kabineh Janneh For Liberians United for Reconciliation and F Mr. Tiah J.D. Slanger For the Movement for Democracy in Liberia
Third parties	As Witnesses: General Abdulsalami Abubakar Former Head of State of the Federal Republic of Nigeria The Mediator Dr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas Executive Secretary of ECOWAS Mr. Abou Moussa Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Peace-Building Support Office in Liberia For the United Nations Ms. Adwoa Coleman For the African Union Ambassador Giancarlo Izzo Representative of Mr. Hans Dahlgren The European Union Co-Chair of the International Contact Group on Liberia Hon. Nana Akufo Addo Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Ghana and Co-Chair of the International Contact Group of Liberia
Description	This agreement agrees a ceasefire and its modalities between the warring parties and commits the parties to the development of a comprehensive peace agreement within 30 days of the signing of this ceasefire.

Agreement document	LR_030617_Agreement on Ceasefire Between the Government_LURD_MODEL.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 1, Preamble, para 8: GRAVELY CONCERNED that the fighting in Liberia has led to the loss of innumerable lives and the displacement of populations, and that the persistent instability places the lives of all those in Liberia at risk; Page 2, 5, Humanitarian: The Parties shall provide security guarantees for safe and unhindered access by humanitarian agencies to vulnerable groups, free movement of persons and goods, as well as for the return and resettlement of refugees and internally displaced persons.
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)	Page 1, Preamble, para 3: REAFFIRMING the provisions of Article 3 of the Constitutive Act of the African Union which, inter alia, guarantee all Member States the right to their sovereignty and territorial integrity; Page 1, Preamble, Para 6: CONSCIOUS OF ECOWAS' strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and unity of Liberia;
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	Page 1, Preamble, para 3: REAFFIRMING the provisions of Article 3 of the Constitutive Act of the African Union which, inter alia, guarantee all Member States the right to their sovereignty and territorial integrity; Page 1, Preamble, Para 6: CONSCIOUS OF ECOWAS' strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and unity of Liberia;
Cross-border provision	No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed)	Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→General references Page 1, Preamble, para 13: CONVINCED of the need for a cessation of hostilities in Liberia which will be followed by negotiations relating to the establishment of an appropriate political arrangement for Liberia; Page 3, 8, Political Reconciliation: The signing of this agreement shall be followed immediately by the engagement of the GOL, LURD and MODEL with all other Liberian political parties and stakeholders in dialogue, to seek, within a period of thirty (30) days, a comprehensive peace agreement. The peace agreement shall amongst other issues, cover the following:- ...i. Formation of a transitional government, which will not include the current President in accordance with his June 4th 2003 declaration in Accra, made at the inauguration of the "ECOWAS Peace Talks"; and
Elections	Page 3, 8, Political Reconciliation: The signing of this agreement shall be followed immediately by the engagement of the GOL, LURD and MODEL with all other Liberian political parties and stakeholders in dialogue, to seek, within a period of thirty (30) days, a comprehensive peace agreement. The peace agreement shall amongst other issues, cover the following:- ...j. Elections.
Electoral commission	No specific mention.
Political parties reform	No specific mention.
Civil society	Page 2, 5, Humanitarian: The Parties shall provide security guarantees for safe and unhindered access by humanitarian agencies to vulnerable groups, free movement of persons and goods, as well as for the return and resettlement of refugees and internally displaced persons. Page 3, 8, Political Reconciliation: The signing of this agreement shall be followed immediately by the engagement of the GOL, LURD and MODEL with all other Liberian political parties and stakeholders in dialogue, to seek, within a period of thirty (30) days, a comprehensive peace agreement. The peace agreement shall amongst other issues, cover the following:- ...h. Creation of a democratic space; Page 3, 10. Communication: Parties shall ensure that the terms of this ceasefire agreement and written orders requiring compliance are immediately communicated to all their forces. Terms of the agreement shall concurrently be communicated to the civil population via print, electronic and other media.
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	Page 2, 8, Political Reconciliation: The signing of this agreement shall be followed immediately by the engagement of the GOL, LURD and MODEL with all other Liberian political parties and stakeholders in dialogue, to seek, within a period of thirty (30) days, a comprehensive peace agreement. The peace agreement shall amongst other issues, cover the following:- ...d. Human rights issues/Reconciliation;
Bill of rights/similar	No specific mention.
Treaty incorporation	Page 1, Preamble, para 2: CONSIDERING Article 52 of the UN Charter on regional arrangements for dealing with matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action; Page 1, Preamble, para 3: REAFFIRMING the provisions of Article 3 of the Constitutive Act of the African Union which, inter alia, guarantee all Member States the right to their sovereignty and territorial integrity;
Civil and political rights	No specific mention.
Socio-economic rights	No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship	No specific mention.
Democracy	Page 3, 8, Political Reconciliation: The signing of this agreement shall be followed immediately by the engagement of the GOL, LURD and MODEL with all other Liberian political parties and stakeholders in dialogue, to seek, within a period of thirty (30) days, a comprehensive peace agreement. The peace agreement shall amongst other issues, cover the following:- ...h. Creation of a democratic space;
Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles Page 3, 9, Ceasefire Violations: Violations of a ceasefire shall include the following:- ...g. All hostile propaganda amongst the Parties, including defamatory, untruthful or derogatory statements, both within and outside the country; Page 3, 10. Communication: Parties shall ensure that the terms of this ceasefire agreement and written orders requiring compliance are immediately communicated to all their forces. Terms of the agreement shall concurrently be communicated to the civil population via print, electronic and other media.
Mobility/access	Page 2, 5, Humanitarian: The Parties shall provide security guarantees for safe and unhindered access by humanitarian agencies to vulnerable groups, free movement of persons and goods, as well as for the return and resettlement of refugees and internally displaced persons. Page 3, 9, Ceasefire Violations: Violations of a ceasefire shall include the following:- ...f. Obstruction of the activities of the JVT, JMC, ISF and Humanitarian Agencies as described in paragraphs 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 above;
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, Preamble, para 9: FURTHER CONCERNED about current deteriorating humanitarian situation where people are denied access to food, health care and adequate shelter; Page 2, 8, Political Reconciliation: The signing of this agreement shall be followed immediately by the engagement of the GOL, LURD and MODEL with all other Liberian political parties and stakeholders in dialogue, to seek, within a period of thirty (30) days, a comprehensive peace agreement. The peace agreement shall amongst other issues, cover the following:- f. Socio-economic reforms; Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Humanitarian assistance Page 2, 8, Political Reconciliation: The signing of this agreement shall be followed immediately by the engagement of the GOL, LURD and MODEL with all other Liberian political parties and stakeholders in dialogue, to seek, within a period of thirty (30) days, a comprehensive peace agreement. The peace agreement shall amongst other issues, cover the following:- ...e. Humanitarian issues; Page 3, 9, Ceasefire Violations: Violations of a ceasefire shall include the following:- ...c. Harassment, attacks, hostage taking or unlawful arrest of civilians and personnel of humanitarian agencies as well as seizure of properties of individuals and corporations; ...f. Obstruction of the activities of the JVT, JMC, ISF and Humanitarian Agencies as described in paragraphs 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 above; Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Infrastructure and reconstruction Page 2, 8, Political Reconciliation: The signing of this agreement shall be followed immediately by the engagement of the GOL, LURD and MODEL with all other Liberian political parties and stakeholders in dialogue, to seek, within a period of thirty (30) days, a comprehensive peace agreement. The peace agreement shall amongst other issues, cover the following:- g. Reconstruction/Rehabilitation;
National economic plan	No specific mention.
Natural resources	No specific mention.
International funds	No specific mention.
Business	Page 3, 9, Ceasefire Violations: Violations of a ceasefire shall include the following:- ...c. Harassment, attacks, hostage taking or unlawful arrest of civilians and personnel of humanitarian agencies as well as seizure of properties of individuals and corporations;

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	Page 1, Preamble, Para 4: REAFFIRMING our determination to establish sustainable peace, stability and security in Liberia; Page 1, Preamble, para 10: DESIROUS for an immediate resolution of the Liberian crisis, which if left unchecked, will continue to be a serious threat to sub-regional security; Page 1, Preamble, para 11: DETERMINED to undertake concrete actions that would restore normality within Liberia and ensure the safety and security of its peoples through a peaceful settlement of the crisis;

Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision
[Summary: The entire agreement provides for a ceasefire and its modalities. The ceasefire commences on 0001 hours on 18/06/2003. It is unclear whether the ceasefire is presumed to be permanent.]

Page 1, Preamble, para 13: CONVINCED of the need for a cessation of hostilities in Liberia which will be followed by negotiations relating to the establishment of an appropriate political arrangement for Liberia;

Page 1, 1: To declare and observe a ceasefire beginning 0001 hours on 18th June 2003.

Page 2, 2: To refrain from committing any act that might constitute or facilitate a violation of the ceasefire as provided for in paragraph 9 of this agreement.

Page 2, 3: Joint Verification Team (JVT). To establish an ECOWAS-led JVT comprised of two representatives from each of the parties plus representatives of the UN, AU, and ICGL.

Page 2, 4: Locations. Each party shall identify the locations of its units including combat equipment, and communicate this information to the JVT in writing within 72 hours of the signature of this agreement. The JVT will visit the locations to verify the information provided and plot unit locations on a map. This document shall be signed by all the parties and will be the reference document on the limits of their locations.

Page 2, 6: Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC). To establish a JMC to supervise and monitor the ceasefire. The JMC will be chaired by a representative of ECOWAS and include equal representation from the Parties, as well as representatives of the UN, AU and ICGL. The JMC will report daily to ECOWAS Headquarters and will investigate reports of ceasefire violations by the Parties.

Page 3, 9, Ceasefire Violations: Violations of a ceasefire shall include the following:-
a. All attacks by any of the parties against the locations of the other parties, as well as acts of sabotage, laying of mines, hostage taking and seizure of material belonging to one of the other parties;
b. Harassment, attacks, hostage taking, and arrest of combatants as well as seizure of arms and equipment belonging to another party;
c. Harassment, attacks, hostage taking or unlawful arrest of civilians and personnel of humanitarian agencies as well as seizure of properties of individuals and corporations;
d. Attempts to occupy new ground locations and the movement of military forces and resources from one location to another, without prior agreement of the JMC;
e. Any importation or resupply of arms, munitions and other weapons of war by the Government of Liberia (GOL), Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD), and the Movement for Democracy in Liberia (MODEL);
f. Obstruction of the activities of the JVT, JMC, ISF and Humanitarian Agencies as described in paragraphs 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 above;
g. All hostile propaganda amongst the Parties, including defamatory, untruthful or derogatory statements, both within and outside the country;
h. Military movements within 20 kilometres of contact lines including reconnaissance and
reinforcements, except as authorised by the JMC;
i. Recruitment of combatants.

Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	Page 2, 4: Locations. Each party shall identify the locations of its units including combat equipment, and communicate this information to the JVT in writing within 72 hours of the signature of this agreement. The JVT will visit the locations to verify the information provided and plot unit locations on a map. This document shall be signed by all the parties and will be the reference document on the limits of their locations. Page 2, 8, Political Reconciliation: The signing of this agreement shall be followed immediately by the engagement of the GOL, LURD and MODEL with all other Liberian political parties and stakeholders in dialogue, to seek, within a period of thirty (30) days, a comprehensive peace agreement. The peace agreement shall amongst other issues, cover the following... Page 2, 8, Political Reconciliation: The signing of this agreement shall be followed immediately by the engagement of the GOL, LURD and MODEL with all other Liberian political parties and stakeholders in dialogue, to seek, within a period of thirty (30) days, a comprehensive peace agreement. The peace agreement shall amongst other issues, cover the following:- ...c. Restructuring of the security forces (Security sector reform); Page 3, 9, Ceasefire Violations: Violations of a ceasefire shall include the following:- ...d. Attempts to occupy new ground locations and the movement of military forces and resources from one location to another, without prior agreement of the JMC; e. Any importation or resupply of arms, munitions and other weapons of war by the Government of Liberia (GOL), Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD), and the Movement for Democracy in Liberia (MODEL); ...h. Military movements within 20 kilometres of contact lines including reconnaissance and reinforcements, except as authorised by the JMC;
DDR	Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes Page 2, 8, Political Reconciliation: The signing of this agreement shall be followed immediately by the engagement of the GOL, LURD and MODEL with all other Liberian political parties and stakeholders in dialogue, to seek, within a period of thirty (30) days, a comprehensive peace agreement. The peace agreement shall amongst other issues, cover the following:- ...b. Commencement of a Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration programme;
Intelligence services	No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	Page 2, 4: Locations. Each party shall identify the locations of its units including combat equipment, and communicate this information to the JVT in writing within 72 hours of the signature of this agreement. The JVT will visit the locations to verify the information provided and plot unit locations on a map. This document shall be signed by all the parties and will be the reference document on the limits of their locations. Page 2, 8, Political Reconciliation: The signing of this agreement shall be followed immediately by the engagement of the GOL, LURD and MODEL with all other Liberian political parties and stakeholders in dialogue, to seek, within a period of thirty (30) days, a comprehensive peace agreement. The peace agreement shall amongst other issues, cover the following... Page 3, 9, Ceasefire Violations: Violations of a ceasefire shall include the following:- ...e. Any importation or resupply of arms, munitions and other weapons of war by the Government of Liberia (GOL), Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD), and the Movement for Democracy in Liberia (MODEL);
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	Page 2, 8, Political Reconciliation: The signing of this agreement shall be followed immediately by the engagement of the GOL, LURD and MODEL with all other Liberian political parties and stakeholders in dialogue, to seek, within a period of thirty (30) days, a comprehensive peace agreement. The peace agreement shall amongst other issues, cover the following... Page 2, 8, Political Reconciliation: The signing of this agreement shall be followed immediately by the engagement of the GOL, LURD and MODEL with all other Liberian political parties and stakeholders in dialogue, to seek, within a period of thirty (30) days, a comprehensive peace agreement. The peace agreement shall amongst other issues, cover the following:- ...d. Human rights issues/Reconciliation;

Implementation

UN signatory	As Witnesses: ...Mr. Abou Moussa Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Peace-Building Support Office in Liberia For the United Nations
Other international signatory	As Witnesses: General Abdulsalami Abubakar Former Head of State of the Federal Republic of Nigeria The Mediator Dr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas Executive Secretary of ECOWAS Ms. Adwoa Coleman For the African Union Ambassador Giancarlo Izzo Representative of Mr. Hans Dahlgren The European Union Co-Chair of the International Contact Group on Liberia Hon. Nana Akufo Addo Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Ghana and Co-Chair of the International Contact Group of Liberia
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.

International mission/force/ similar	Page 1, Preamble, para 7: ALSO RECALLING the establishment of an International Contact Group on Liberia (ICGL) to support the ECOWAS Peace Plan on Liberia; Page 2, 3, Joint Verification Team (JVT): To establish an ECOWAS-led JVT comprised of two representatives from each of the parties plus representatives of the UN, AU, and ICGL. Page 2, 6, Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC): To establish a JMC to supervise and monitor the ceasefire. The JMC will be chaired by a representative of ECOWAS and include equal representation from the Parties, as well as representatives of the UN, AU and ICGL. The JMC will report daily to ECOWAS Headquarters and will investigate reports of ceasefire violations by the Parties. Page 2, 7, International Stabilization Force (ISF): The Parties agree on the need for the creation and deployment of an international stabilization force and commit themselves to cooperation with it. They shall accord complete freedom of movement to the ISF at all times in the execution of their duties. Page 2, 8, Political Reconciliation: The signing of this agreement shall be followed immediately by the engagement of the GOL, LURD and MODEL with all other Liberian political parties and stakeholders in dialogue, to seek, within a period of thirty (30) days, a comprehensive peace agreement. The peace agreement shall amongst other issues, cover the following:- a. Deployment of an international stabilization force;
Enforcement mechanism	Page 2, 6: Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC). To establish a JMC to supervise and monitor the ceasefire. The JMC will be chaired by a representative of ECOWAS and include equal representation from the Parties, as well as representatives of the UN, AU and ICGL. The JMC will report daily to ECOWAS Headquarters and will investigate reports of ceasefire violations by the Parties.