

Country/entity South Sudan

Region Africa (excl MENA)

Agreement name Laarim and Didinga Intercommunal Peace Dialogue: Resolutions & Recommendations

Date 13 Mar 2024

Agreement status Multiparty signed/agreed

Interim arrangement Yes

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/local conflict

Sudan Conflicts (1955 -)

Agreements relate to several distinct dyads, and also the negotiated independence of South Sudan, and subsequent internal conflict in South Sudan. Sudan-South Sudan. The long-standing conflict between the north and the south of the country dates back to colonial times, where the British introduced a so-called 'Southern Policy', severely hampering population movements between these big regions. Immediately after gaining independence in 1956, southern movements started to fight for independence; this fight became professionalised in 1983 with the foundation of the soon internationally supported Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA). When the Islamic Front government introduced strict sharia laws in the south after it took over power in 1988 the war intensified. A decade later, the military situation reached a stalemate, enabling internationally facilitated peace negotiations to begin in 1997. After more fighting, a final negotiation push began in 2002, leading to the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in January 2005.

Sudan-South Sudan post referendum. South Sudan became independent in July 2011; since then, relations between the two countries are complicated and violent conflict led by the SPLM (North) in the Sudanese Nuba mountains region has since intensified.

Darfur. Other long-standing violent conflicts are in the east and the west of the country. In the east, the Beja Congress, established in 1957, is the spearhead of a currently 'peaceful' opposition movement. In the west, the violent conflict in Darfur intensified in the early 2000s and rapidly gained international attention, even resulting in genocide charges against leading figures of the Sudanese government. The situation on the ground is complex, with over a dozen organisations (most notably the Sudanese Liberation Movement and the Justice and Equality Movement) fighting the Sudanese government and allied groups like the Janjaweed – although all parties have switched sides on numerous occasions. Several mediation attempts have not been successful, due to the shaky commitment of the Sudanese central government and the distrust among the armed opposition.

South Sudan - internal

In December 2013, after president Salva Kiir accused opposition leader Riek Machar of attempting a coup, violent conflict broke out between government forces of the SPLM/A and anti-governmental groups. In addition, several other political militias as well as communal militias have joined the conflict. In 2015 the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (ARCSS) was signed. Due to unsuccessful implementation the agreement was revitalized in 2018. In September 2019, Kiir and Machar agreed to establish a power-sharing government after struggles on forming a unity transitional government.

Close

Sudan Conflicts (1955 -)

Stage Framework/substantive - partial

Conflict nature Inter-group

Peace process	South Sudan: Post-secession Local agreements
Parties	Not signed, agreement mentions the following parties as having produced it: The Didinga and Laarim communities.
Third parties	-
Description	The Didinga and Laarim communities met to discuss the issue of cattle thefts and establish mechanisms for justice.

Agreement document [SS_240313_Laarim and Didinga Intercommunal Peace Dialogue_Resolutions & Recommendations \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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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→Substantive
8. The Didinga who were forced to flee Loryok by insecurity in 2014, should return and reclaim their former plots or places.
The local county authorities, chiefs and youths will assist them to resettle.

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 No specific mention.

Electoral commission	No specific mention.
Political parties reform	No specific mention.
Civil society	No specific mention.
Traditional/religious leaders	<p>2. Should there be killing in any village, the youths/kraal leaders and the local chief investigate the case, arrest the culprit and hand to the government.</p> <p>...</p> <p>3. Stolen Livestock should be investigated by the local chief and youths/kraal leaders and the culprit arrested and the case either settle locally by the chief or for gravier case the culprit is handed to the government.</p> <p>...</p> <p>The number of stolen animals must be proven by the chief and the village.</p> <p>6. Any body who is assaulted or robbed in any village should report the case to the local chief who will investigate it and take appropriate measures.</p> <p>...</p> <p>The local county authorities, chiefs and youths will assist them to resettle.</p> <p>...</p> <p>The movement of animals grazing spots will be coordinated and organized in collaboration and agreement with respective local youths and community leaders.</p> <p>12. The youths/Kraal leaders and chiefs should ensure that animals are not driven into farms and no person should vandalize crops, bee hives or any other property when grazing the animals.</p> <p>13. The chiefs and youths/Kraal leaders are to form peace committees to monitor any peace violation</p> <p>...</p> <p>20. The chiefs, Kraal leaders and youths to form peace committees by end of March 2024</p>
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 The movement of animals grazing spots will be coordinated and organized in collaboration and agreement with respective local youths and community leaders.

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 The case may be solved in a customary court if the parties agree.

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→Property return and restitution
E.g. (5 cows, the 58 goats) and a gun should be returned to the rightful owners
...
8. The Didinga who were forced to flee Loryok by insecurity in 2014, should return and reclaim their former plots or places.

Pastoralist/nomadism rights 11. The cattle of BUDI county are to graze anywhere in the county.
The movement of animals grazing spots will be coordinated and organized in collaboration and agreement with respective local youths and community leaders.

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 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

1. Community leaders, chiefs and Youth/Kraal leaders, should not protect or harbour criminals (both criminals from the locality and other villages) and stolen livestock.
...
3. Stolen Livestock should be investigated by the local chief and youths/kraal leaders and the culprit arrested and the case either settle locally by the chief or for gravier case the culprit is handed to the government.
Anyone complicit in livestock theft is a thief himself/herself and will be also punished.
Taking possession of strayed livestock and hiding them, is equal to theft and will be punished as livestock theft.
[4. This resolution applies to any recent livestock and murder case.
E.g. (5 cows, the 58 goats) and a gun should be returned to the rightful owners
...
6. Any body who is assaulted or robbed in any village should report the case to the local chief who will investigate it and take appropriate measures.
7. If a thief is killed in action, there is no case.
But if a thief is subdued alive, he/she should be handed over to the government.
...
9. It is an abomination for a Laarim to kill a Didinga and for a Didinga to kill a Laarim.
...
12. The youths/Kraal leaders and chiefs should ensure that animals are not driven into farms and no person should vandalize crops, bee hives or any other property when grazing the animals.
...
15. Relatives or friends who defend a criminal automatically become criminals themselves.
16. Penalties for livestock theft.
The following rules will government the livestock theft:
17. A person or persons who steal an animal for food will make a replacement of 5 animals - one animal to replaced the animal killed for food, two animals as an accrued fine, and two animals as a fine for the government.
18. For an that is stolen and reared, the penalty is 3 animals:
the stolen animal, one animal accrued as fine and one animal as a fine for the government.
The formula applies for more than one animal stolen.
E.g. if two animals are stolen, two animals as accrued fine and two animals as a fine for the government.
Total animals to be paid = 6 animals.

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
17. A person or persons who steal an animal for food will make a replacement of 5 animals - one animal to replace the animal killed for food, two animals as an accrued fine, and two animals as a fine for the government.
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The formula applies for more than one animal stolen.
E.g. if two animals are stolen, two animals as accrued fine and two animals as a fine for the government.
Total animals to be paid = 6 animals.

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.
