Country/entity	Sudan
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Joint Statement of Commitments from Jeddah Talks Between Sudanese Armed Forces and Rapid Support Forces
Date	7 Nov 2023
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/intrastate 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 Areement (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 Pre-negotiation/process

Conflict nature Government/territory

Peace process	Sudan Transition Process
Parties	Not signed, but the agreement lists the following participants: - Co-facilitators of the Jeddah talks that released the Joint Statement: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) The United States of America - Parties to the conflict that made commitments annexed to the Joint Statement: Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) Rapid Support Forces (RSF)
Third parties	-
Description	The co-facilitators of the talks in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) released a joint statement stating that the SAF and RSF had "committed to take steps to facilitate increased humanitarian assistance, and to implement confidence-building measures (CBMs)." The SAF and RSF also separately provided a list of commitments regarding humanitarian access.

Agreement document	SD_231107_Joint Statement of Commitments from Jeddah Talks Between Sudanese Armed Forces and Rapid Support Forces (opens in new tab) | Download PDF
Source of document	page 1 - https://igad.int/statement-of-commitments-from-jeddah-talks-between-sudanese-armed-forces-and-rapid-support-forces/ page 2 - https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/SAF-Final-Humanitarian-Commitments-Jeddah_FINAL-ENG.pdf page 3 - https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/RSF-Commitments-23.11.04_FINAL-ENG.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	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	No specific mention.
Electoral commission	No specific mention.
Political parties reform	No specific mention.

Civil society

Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) Humanitarian Commitments at Jeddah Talks (English Translation as of November 4, 2023)

...

2. Pending entry visas will be dealt with immediately, with the possibility of giving multiple entry visas for the Country Director of the organization.

...

4. Stay permits and work permits will be issued and/or extended to the Country Director of the organization for one year, and for other staff of the organization to six months.

...

6. SAF side agrees to the formation of the joint Humanitarian Forum led by UN OCHA to solve challenges facing smooth delivery of humanitarian assistance.

...

Humanitarian Commitments made by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) During Jeddah Talks (English language translation as of November 4, 2023)

We reaffirm:

1. Our commitment to allow and facilitate the rapid and unimpeded passage of humanitarian relief, including medical and surgical equipment, and ensure relief personnel the freedom of movement required for their functions.

2. Our commitment to protect and respect humanitarian workers, assets, supplies, offices, warehouses, and other facilities.

...

While respecting the principle of the neutrality of humanitarian actors, armed actors must guarantee the security of corridors for transport and areas for storage and distribution.

It is prohibited to attack, harass, intimidate, or arbitrarily detain personnel, or to attack, destroy, misappropriate, or loot relief supplies, installations, material, units or vehicles.

3. We agree to refrain from interference with principled humanitarian operations and never accompany side by side humanitarian personnel carrying out humanitarian activities, in conformity with the Amended Directives and Procedures for Humanitarian Action in Sudan.

...

4. Agree to appoint liaisons for civil-military coordination (CMCOORD), led by OCHA, to engage in a CMCOORD system to facilitate movement of humanitarian personnel and supplies and serve as an avenue for humanitarian deconfliction.

...

5. Agree to establish a RSF coordination unit led by Major General Mohammed Alawai Kulu by November 2, 2023, responsible for the safety and security of humanitarian operations, including the protection of civilians and their ability to safely access assistance, as well as the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, supplies, and movement.

...

6. Agree to participate in a UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance (UN-OCHA) led humanitarian forum comprising high-level representatives of the parties to the conflict, member states, and humanitarian organizations, to:

...

a. By November 4, 2023, agree to terms of reference and membership of the humanitarian forum.

b. By November 9, 2023, attend the initial meeting of the humanitarian forum.

c. Demonstrate implementation of agreements made with the humanitarian forum

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	Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Freedom of movement **Humanitarian Commitments made by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) During Jeddah Talks (English language translation as of November 4, 2023)** **We reaffirm:** 1. Our commitment to allow and facilitate the rapid and unimpeded passage of humanitarian relief, including medical and surgical equipment, and ensure relief personnel the freedom of movement required for their functions. ... RSF agrees to work with OCHA to establish safe delivery routes within Khartoum and ensure beneficiary freedom of movement to receive assistance.
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→Other **Reaffirming their obligations under the May 11, 2023 Jeddah Declaration of Commitment to Protect the Civilians of Sudan, both the SAF and RSF committed to:** ... • Improvement of each side's official media discourse, and reduction of inflammatory rhetoric

Mobility/access

Reaffirming their obligations under the May 11, 2023 Jeddah Declaration of Commitment to Protect the Civilians of Sudan, both the SAF and RSF committed to:

...

2. Identify points of contact to assist with movements of humanitarian personnel and assistance.

...

Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) Humanitarian Commitments at Jeddah Talks (English Translation as of November 4, 2023)

1. Expedite customs clearance of relief goods within seven working days maximum.
2. Pending entry visas will be dealt with immediately, with the possibility of giving multiple entry visas for the Country Director of the organization.
3. Travel permits for areas impacted by pandemics, to include various types of medical emergencies, will be waived.
4. Stay permits and work permits will be issued and/or extended to the Country Director of the organization for one year, and for other staff of the organization to six months.
5. Military focal points [for civil-military coordination] have already been nominated, their names will be communicated to the co-facilitators forthwith.
6. SAF side agrees to the formation of the joint Humanitarian Forum led by UN OCHA to solve challenges facing smooth delivery of humanitarian assistance.
7. Pertaining to the loaded 90 trucks which are supposed to depart Port Sudan for designated destinations [in Khartoum], the authorities in Port Sudan have already been alerted to facilitate and expedite the procedures and to provide safety and security for the convoys (personnel, trucks and goods) until they reach their destination in full coordination with UN OCHA.

Humanitarian Commitments made by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) During Jeddah Talks (English language translation as of November 4, 2023)

We reaffirm:

1. Our commitment to allow and facilitate the rapid and unimpeded passage of humanitarian relief, including medical and surgical equipment, and ensure relief personnel the freedom of movement required for their functions.

...

While respecting the principle of the neutrality of humanitarian actors, armed actors must guarantee the security of corridors for transport and areas for storage and distribution.

It is prohibited to attack, harass, intimidate, or arbitrarily detain personnel, or to attack, destroy, misappropriate, or loot relief supplies, installations, material, units or vehicles.

...

5. Agree to establish a RSF coordination unit led by Major General Mohammed Alawai Kulu by November 2, 2023, responsible for the safety and security of humanitarian operations, including the protection of civilians and their ability to safely access assistance, as well as the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, supplies, and movement.

...

7. Agree to establish a safe route for humanitarian movement from Port Sudan into and throughout Khartoum.

...

RSF agrees to work with OCHA to establish safe delivery routes within Khartoum and ensure beneficiary freedom of movement to receive assistance.

Protection measures	Rights related issues→Protection measures→Protection of civilians **Humanitarian Commitments made by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) During Jeddah Talks (English language translation as of November 4, 2023)** **We reaffirm:** ... 5. Agree to establish a RSF coordination unit led by Major General Mohammed Alawai Kulu by November 2, 2023, responsible for the safety and security of humanitarian operations, including the protection of civilians and their ability to safely access assistance, as well as the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, supplies, and movement.
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→Humanitarian assistance

November 7, 2023 (DJIBOUTI, Djibouti): As co-facilitators of the talks in Jeddah between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF), the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), also participating on behalf of the African Union, and the United States are able to announce that the SAF and RSF have committed to take steps to facilitate increased humanitarian assistance, and to implement confidence-building measures (CBMs).

The talks in Jeddah remain focused on a narrow set of objectives – to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance, establish ceasefires and other confidence-building measures, and build toward a permanent cessation of hostilities.

Reaffirming their obligations under the May 11, 2023 Jeddah Declaration of Commitment to Protect the Civilians of Sudan, both the SAF and RSF committed to:

1. Participate in a joint humanitarian forum led by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to resolve impediments to humanitarian access and deliveries of assistance.
2. Identify points of contact to assist with movements of humanitarian personnel and assistance.

...

These shared and individual commitments can represent important steps toward facilitating increased humanitarian access to help ease the suffering of the Sudanese people.

...

Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) Humanitarian Commitments at Jeddah Talks (English Translation as of November 4, 2023)

1. Expedite customs clearance of relief goods within seven working days maximum.
2. Pending entry visas will be dealt with immediately, with the possibility of giving multiple entry visas for the Country Director of the organization.
3. Travel permits for areas impacted by pandemics, to include various types of medical emergencies, will be waived.
4. Stay permits and work permits will be issued and/or extended to the Country Director of the organization for one year, and for other staff of the organization to six months.
5. Military focal points [for civil-military coordination] have already been nominated, their names will be communicated to the co-facilitators forthwith.
6. SAF side agrees to the formation of the joint Humanitarian Forum led by UN OCHA to solve challenges facing smooth delivery of humanitarian assistance.
7. Pertaining to the loaded 90 trucks which are supposed to depart Port Sudan for designated destinations [in Khartoum], the authorities in Port Sudan have already been alerted to facilitate and expedite the procedures and to provide safety and security for the convoys (personnel, trucks and goods) until they reach their destination in full coordination with UN OCHA.

Humanitarian Commitments made by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) During Jeddah Talks (English language translation as of November 4, 2023)

We reaffirm:

1. Our commitment to allow and facilitate the rapid and unimpeded passage of humanitarian relief, including medical and surgical equipment, and ensure relief personnel the freedom of movement required for their functions.
2. Our commitment to protect and respect humanitarian workers, assets, supplies, offices, warehouses, and other facilities.

...

While respecting the principle of the neutrality of humanitarian actors, armed actors must guarantee the security of corridors for transport and areas for storage and distribution.

It is prohibited to attack, harass, intimidate, or arbitrarily detain personnel, or to attack, destroy, misappropriate, or loot relief supplies, installations, material, units or vehicles

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→General commitments The talks in Jeddah remain focused on a narrow set of objectives – to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance, establish ceasefires and other confidence-building measures, and build toward a permanent cessation of hostilities.
Police	No specific mention.

Armed forces	November 7, 2023 (DJIBOUTI, Djibouti): As co-facilitators of the talks in Jeddah between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF), the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), also participating on behalf of the African Union, and the United States are able to announce that the SAF and RSF have committed to take steps to facilitate increased humanitarian assistance, and to implement confidence-building measures (CBMs). ... **Reaffirming their obligations under the May 11, 2023 Jeddah Declaration of Commitment to Protect the Civilians of Sudan, both the SAF and RSF committed to:** ... • Establishment of communication between SAF and RSF leaders ... The belligerent parties also made specific, individual commitments regarding the facilitation of humanitarian access, which are detailed in these SAF (English; Arabic) and RSF (English; ... **Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) Humanitarian Commitments at Jeddah Talks (English Translation as of November 4, 2023)** ... 5. Military focal points [for civil-military coordination] have already been nominated, their names will be communicated to the co-facilitators forthwith. 6. SAF side agrees to the formation of the joint Humanitarian Forum led by UN OCHA to solve challenges facing smooth delivery of humanitarian assistance.
DDR	No specific mention.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	November 7, 2023 (DJIBOUTI, Djibouti): As co-facilitators of the talks in Jeddah between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF), the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), also participating on behalf of the African Union, and the United States are able to announce that the SAF and RSF have committed to take steps to facilitate increased humanitarian assistance, and to implement confidence-building measures (CBMs). ... **Reaffirming their obligations under the May 11, 2023 Jeddah Declaration of Commitment to Protect the Civilians of Sudan, both the SAF and RSF committed to:** ... • Establishment of communication between SAF and RSF leaders ... The belligerent parties also made specific, individual commitments regarding the facilitation of humanitarian access, which are detailed in these SAF (English; Arabic) and RSF (English; ... **Humanitarian Commitments made by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) During Jeddah Talks (English language translation as of November 4, 2023)** **We reaffirm:** ... Armed actors must not interfere in the actions of humanitarian operations. ... 3. We agree to refrain from interference with principled humanitarian operations and never accompany side by side humanitarian personnel carrying out humanitarian activities, in conformity with the Amended Directives and Procedures for Humanitarian Action in Sudan. ... 4. Agree to appoint liaisons for civil-military coordination (CMCOORD), led by OCHA, to engage in a CMCOORD system to facilitate movement of humanitarian personnel and supplies and serve as an avenue for humanitarian deconfliction. ... 5. Agree to establish a RSF coordination unit led by Major General Mohammed Alawai Kulu by November 2, 2023, responsible for the safety and security of humanitarian operations, including the protection of civilians and their ability to safely access assistance, as well as the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, supplies, and movement. ... RSF will facilitate the timely inspection of humanitarian cargo once along the route. RSF agrees to work with OCHA to establish safe delivery routes within Khartoum and ensure beneficiary freedom of movement to receive assistance.
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	No specific mention.
Enforcement mechanism	No specific mention.