

Country/entity	Liberia
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Agreement on the clarification of the Akosombo Agreement
Date	21 Dec 1994
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	(Signed) Charles G. TAYLOR Leader National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL)
	(Signed) Lt.-Gen. Alhaji G. V. KROMAH National Chairman United Liberation Movement of Liberia (ULIMO)
	(Signed) Lt.-Gen. J. Hezekiah BOWEN Chief of Staff Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL)
Third parties	Attested to: (Signed) H.E. Flt. Lt. Jerry John RAWLINGS President of the Republic of Ghana and Current Chairman of ECOWAS
Description	This agreement clarifies and expands select provisions of the Akosombo agreement. Issues covered include a ceasefire, safe havens and buffer zones, DDR, transitional governance arrangements, and a schedule of implementation for the ECOWAS Peace Plan.

Agreement document [LR_941221_AkosomboClarification.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 4, Schedule of implementation of the Akosombo Agreement from cease-fire to elections (28 December 1994-14 November 1995), 9: 01 Apr 1995 - 07 Jun 1995 - 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)	<p>Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→General references</p> <p>Page 2, Part II Political issues, SECTION A (EXECUTIVE): Consistent with part II, section A (i), of the Akosombo agreement, the provisions for the function and structure of the five-member Council of State provided for in the Cotonou and Akosombo agreements are hereby reconfirmed.</p> <p>The procedure for the appointment of the relevant officials of Government as enshrined in the Akosombo agreement is hereby reaffirmed. Such officials shall be appointed based on merit.</p> <p>The parties agree that a five-member Council of State shall be established.</p> <p>The first four members of the new Council of State shall be appointed as follows:</p> <p>National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) 1</p> <p>United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy (ULIMO) 1</p> <p>Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL)/Coalition 1</p> <p>Liberia National Conference (LNC) 1</p> <p>The fifth member of the Council of State shall be a traditional chief selected by NPFL and ULIMO in the person of the Honourable Tamba Tailor in accordance with part II, section A (i), of the Akosombo agreement and agreed by the parties.</p> <p>Consistent with part II, section A (i), of the Akosombo agreement, induction of the Council of State shall take place in the City of Monrovia under the auspices of the Chairman of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) or his designee within fourteen(14) days as of the cease-fire date.</p> <p>Page 4, Schedule of implementation of the Akosombo Agreement from cease-fire to elections (28 December 1994-14 November 1995), Notes: Installation of new Council of State</p> <p>...Inauguration of new Government - 1 January 1996.</p>
Elections	<p>Page 4, Schedule of implementation of the Akosombo Agreement from cease-fire to elections (28 December 1994-14 November 1995), 10: 08 Jun 1995 - 11 Nov 1995 - Preparation for elections.</p> <p>Page 4, Schedule of implementation of the Akosombo Agreement from cease-fire to elections (28 December 1994-14 November 1995), 11: 14 Nov 1995 - Election Day.</p> <p>Page 4, Schedule of implementation of the Akosombo Agreement from cease-fire to elections (28 December 1994-14 November 1995), Notes: Election Day - 14 November 1995.</p>
Electoral commission	No specific mention.
Political parties reform	No specific mention.
Civil society	No specific mention.

**Traditional/
religious leaders**

Page 2, Part II Political issues, SECTION A (EXECUTIVE): Consistent with part II, section A (i), of the Akosombo agreement, the provisions for the function and structure of the five-member Council of State provided for in the Cotonou and Akosombo agreements are hereby reconfirmed.

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The fifth member of the Council of State shall be a traditional chief selected by NPFL and ULIMO in the person of the Honourable Tamba Tailor in accordance with part II, section A (i), of the Akosombo agreement and agreed by the parties.

Consistent with part II, section A (i), of the Akosombo agreement, induction of the Council of State shall take place in the City of Monrovia under the auspices of the Chairman of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) or his designee within fourteen(14) days as of the cease-fire date.

**Public
administration**

No specific mention.

Constitution

No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power sharing

Power sharing→Political power sharing→Executive coalition
State level

Page 2, Part II Political issues, SECTION A (EXECUTIVE): Consistent with part II, section A (i), of the Akosombo agreement, the provisions for the function and structure of the five-member Council of State provided for in the Cotonou and Akosombo agreements are hereby reconfirmed.

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Territorial power sharing

No specific mention.

Economic power sharing

No specific mention.

Military power sharing

Power sharing→Military power sharing→Merger of forces

Page 1, SECTION H, Article 9 DEMOBILIZATION: Consistent with section H, article 9, count 4, of the Akosombo agreement it is agreed by the parties that in the reorganization of the Armed Forces of Liberia, the police, immigration and other security agencies, the combatants and non-combatants who satisfy conditions for recruitment shall be considered for inclusion. In this connection, the Council of State established under the Akosombo agreement clarified by this agreement shall establish appropriate committees which will be charged with determining the criteria for recruitment, taking advantage of the relevant expertise of ECOMOG and UNOMIL.

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 Rights related issues→Citizenship→Citizen, general
Page 1, SECTION H, Article 9 DEMOBILIZATION: Consistent with section H, article 9, count 4, of the Akosombo agreement it is agreed by the parties that in the reorganization of the Armed Forces of Liberia, the police, immigration and other security agencies, the combatants and non-combatants who satisfy conditions for recruitment shall be considered for inclusion. In this connection, the Council of State established under the Akosombo agreement clarified by this agreement shall establish appropriate committees which will be charged with determining the criteria for recruitment, taking advantage of the relevant expertise of ECOMOG and UNOMIL.

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 Page 1, SECTION C, Article 4 TERMS AND CONDITIONS (SAFE HAVENS AND BUFFER ZONES), para 1: Consistent with section C, article 4, count 5, of the Akosombo agreement, the parties agree to facilitate the establishment of safe havens and buffer zones throughout Liberia in accordance with a plan to be drawn up by the Liberian National Transitional Government (LNTG) in collaboration with the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL) and the Economic Community of West African States Military Observer Group (ECOMOG) in consultation with the parties. In this connection, the deployment of ECOMOG and UNOMIL, the establishment of buffer zones, safe havens and other measures necessary to restore normalcy throughout the territory of Liberia, shall be undertaken in accordance with the Cotonou and Akosombo agreements.

Page 4, Schedule of implementation of the Akosombo Agreement from cease-fire to elections (28 December 1994-14 November 1995), 4: 08 Feb 1995 - 21 Feb 1995 - Deployment of ECOMOG/UNOMIL to safe havens throughout the country.

Ceasefire Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision
Ceasefire commences at 2359 hours on 28/12/1994 and is presumed to be permanent.

Page 1, SECTION A, Article 1 CEASE-FIRE: The Parties to this agreement hereby declare a cease-fire and the cessation of hostilities effective as of 2359 hours on the twenty-eighth day of December 1994.

Page 4, Schedule of implementation of the Akosombo Agreement from cease-fire to elections (28 December 1994-14 November 1995), 1: 28 Dec 94 - 11 Jan 95 - Factions inform combatants of ceasefire.

Page 4, Schedule of implementation of the Akosombo Agreement from cease-fire to elections (28 December 1994-14 November 1995), Notes: Cease-fire - 2359 hours 28 December 1994 (Midnight 28/29 December 94).

Police Page 1, SECTION H, Article 9 DEMOBILIZATION: Consistent with section H, article 9, count 4, of the Akosombo agreement it is agreed by the parties that in the reorganization of the Armed Forces of Liberia, the police, immigration and other security agencies, the combatants and non-combatants who satisfy conditions for recruitment shall be considered for inclusion. In this connection, the Council of State established under the Akosombo agreement clarified by this agreement shall establish appropriate committees which will be charged with determining the criteria for recruitment, taking advantage of the relevant expertise of ECOMOG and UNOMIL.

Armed forces

Page 1, SECTION C, Article 4 TERMS AND CONDITIONS (SAFE HAVENS AND BUFFER ZONES), para 2: In keeping with section C, article 4, count 6, LNTG shall enter into a status-of-forces agreement with ECOWAS within seven (7) days as of the seating of the Council of State established under this agreement.

Page 1, SECTION H, Article 9 DEMOBILIZATION: Consistent with section H, article 9, count 4, of the Akosombo agreement it is agreed by the parties that in the reorganization of the Armed Forces of Liberia, the police, immigration and other security agencies, the combatants and non-combatants who satisfy conditions for recruitment shall be considered for inclusion. In this connection, the Council of State established under the Akosombo agreement clarified by this agreement shall establish appropriate committees which will be charged with determining the criteria for recruitment, taking advantage of the relevant expertise of ECOMOG and UNOMIL.

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DDR

Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes

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Page 4, Schedule of implementation of the Akosombo Agreement from cease-fire to elections (28 December 1994-14 November 1995), 2: 12 Jan 1995 - 04 Feb 1995 - Factions disengage from check points/present combat positions to areas under own arrangements.

Page 4, Schedule of implementation of the Akosombo Agreement from cease-fire to elections (28 December 1994-14 November 1995), 6: 13 Feb 1995 - 13 Mar 1995 - Completion/preparation for new assembly/encampment sites.

Page 4, Schedule of implementation of the Akosombo Agreement from cease-fire to elections (28 December 1994-14 November 1995), 7: 01 Mar 1995 - 30 Apr 1995 - Combatants in assembly/encampment sites.

Page 4, Schedule of implementation of the Akosombo Agreement from cease-fire to elections (28 December 1994-14 November 1995), 8: 01 Apr 1995 - 30 May 1995 - Disarmament/demobilization

Page 4, Schedule of implementation of the Akosombo Agreement from cease-fire to elections (28 December 1994-14 November 1995), 9: 01 Apr 1995 - 07 Jun 1995 - Resettlement/repatriation

Intelligence services

No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces

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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 Attested to:
(Signed) H.E. Flt. Lt. Jerry John RAWLINGS
President of the Republic of Ghana and Current Chairman of ECOWAS

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar

Page 1, SECTION C, Article 4 TERMS AND CONDITIONS (SAFE HAVENS AND BUFFER ZONES), para 1: Consistent with section C, article 4, count 5, of the Akosombo agreement, the parties agree to facilitate the establishment of safe havens and buffer zones throughout Liberia in accordance with a plan to be drawn up by the Liberian National Transitional Government (LNTG) in collaboration with the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL) and the Economic Community of West African States Military Observer Group (ECOMOG) in consultation with the parties. In this connection, the deployment of ECOMOG and UNOMIL, the establishment of buffer zones, safe havens and other measures necessary to restore normalcy throughout the territory of Liberia, shall be undertaken in accordance with the Cotonou and Akosombo agreements.

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Page 4, Schedule of implementation of the Akosombo Agreement from cease-fire to elections (28 December 1994-14 November 1995), 3: 12 Jan 1995 - 04 Feb 1995 - Verification by ECOMOG/UNOMIL/LNTG/warring factions.

Page 4, Schedule of implementation of the Akosombo Agreement from cease-fire to elections (28 December 1994-14 November 1995), 4: 21 Jan 1995 - 07 Feb 1995 - Reconnaissance mission/build-up of logistics - ECOMOG/UNOMIL/LNTG.

Page 4, Schedule of implementation of the Akosombo Agreement from cease-fire to elections (28 December 1994-14 November 1995), 5: 08 Feb 1995 - 21 Apr 1995 - Deployment of ECOMOG/UNOMIL to safe havens throughout the country.

Enforcement mechanism

Article 9- Demobilisation: the Council of State to establish appropriate committees charged with determining the criteria for recruitment to the armed forces, police, immigration and other security agencies of Liberia, taking advantage of the relevant expertise of ECOMOG and UNOMIL; Art.12 Schedule of Implementation