

Country/entity	Guinea-Bissau
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Ceasefire Agreement in Guinea-Bissau
Date	26 Aug 1998
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Guinea-Bissau Civil War (1998 - 1999)

An attempted coup d'etat by Brigadier General Mane against the government of President Vieira in June 1998 led to a conflict that killed thousands as Vieira - backed by neighbouring states - attempted to re-take the country. A national unity government was established in an agreement signed in November 1998, but fighting continued until Vieira was deposed in May 1999. Only months before the coup attempt, Brig. Gen. Mane was suspended on grounds of a dereliction of duty following the discovery of a weapons cache and the arrest of several army officers on charges of arming Casamance insurgents in neighbouring Senegal. Following the deposal of Vieira, it was agreed that he would stand trial on the same charges. His deposal was condemned by ECOMOG, but ECOMOG troops were nonetheless withdrawn from Guinea-Bissau. The constitution was amended to limit presidential terms to a maximum of two and the death penalty was abolished. The opposition party won the parliamentary elections held in November 1999 by a large majority.

Close
Guinea-Bissau Civil War (1998 - 1999)

Stage	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Guinea Bissau peace process
Parties	Unsigned transcript of the agreement but parties are as follows: For the Government of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau (Signed) For the self-proclaimed military junta (Signed)

Third parties Unsigned transcript of the agreement but parties are as follows:
For the ECOWAS Group of Seven: (Signed) [Summary: the ECOWAS Group of Seven is comprised of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs from the following member states: Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Nigeria and Senegal.]

For the CPLP Contact Group (Signed) [Summary: the Ministerial Contact Group of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries is comprised of the following member states: Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, (Guinea-Bissau), Mozambique, Portugal, and São Tomé and Príncipe].

Description This agreement transforms the truce declared under the memorandum of understanding of 26 July 1998 into a ceasefire. The agreement lists the Annexes to the memorandum of understanding of 26 July 1998 as integral parts of this ceasefire agreement. Coding for these annexes has been done under the Memorandum of Understanding of 26/07/1998 and is not replicated here.

Agreement document [GW_980826_CeasefireAgreementGuineaBissau.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→Substantive
Page 1, Article 1: The Government of Guinea-Bissau and the Self-denominated Military Junta agree to an immediate ceasefire based on the principles indicated below:
...(c) Reopening the Osvaldo Vieira Airport in order to facilitate the viability of humanitarian aid, the logistic support to the ceasefire observation mission and the return of refugees;
...(f) Creation of conditions which may facilitate the return of refugees and resettlement of 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) 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) Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→General references
Page 1, Article 1: The Government of Guinea-Bissau and the Self-denominated Military Junta agree to an immediate ceasefire based on the principles indicated below:
(a) Reaffirmation of the public recognition of democratic institutions and legality;

Elections No specific mention.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society Page 1, Article 1: The Government of Guinea-Bissau and the Self-denominated Military Junta agree to an immediate ceasefire based on the principles indicated below:
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...(e) Strengthening of the opening of humanitarian corridors;

**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 Page 1, Article 1: The Government of Guinea-Bissau and the Self-denominated Military Junta agree to an immediate ceasefire based on the principles indicated below:
(a) Reaffirmation of the public recognition of democratic institutions and legality;

Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	No specific mention.
Mobility/access	Page 1, Article 1: The Government of Guinea-Bissau and the Self-denominated Military Junta agree to an immediate ceasefire based on the principles indicated below: ... (c) Reopening the Osvaldo Vieira Airport in order to facilitate the viability of humanitarian aid, the logistic support to the ceasefire observation mission and the return of refugees; ... (e) Strengthening of the opening of humanitarian corridors;
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

[Summary: Ceasefire commences on 26/08/1998. It's expected duration is unclear]

Page 1, Article 1: The Government of Guinea-Bissau and the Self-denominated Military Junta agree to an immediate ceasefire based on the principles indicated below:

- (a) Reaffirmation of the public recognition of democratic institutions and legality;
- (b) Freezing of their respective military positions held at the time of the entry into force of the Memorandum of Understanding of 26 July 1998;
- (c) Reopening the Osvaldo Vieira Airport in order to facilitate the viability of humanitarian aid, the logistic support to the ceasefire observation mission and the return of refugees;
- (d) Deployment of observation and interposition forces, to be defined through negotiations;
- (e) Strengthening of the opening of humanitarian corridors;
- (f) Creation of conditions which may facilitate the return of refugees and resettlement of displaced persons.

Page 1, Article 3: This Agreement will enter into force on 26 August 1998, at 2 a.m.

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 For the ECOWAS Group of Seven: (Signed)

For the CPLP Contact Group (Signed)

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar Page 1, Article 1: The Government of Guinea-Bissau and the Self-denominated Military Junta agree to an immediate ceasefire based on the principles indicated below:
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(d) Deployment of observation and interposition forces, to be defined through negotiations;

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.