

Country/entity	Liberia
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	The Final Communiqué of the Fourth Meeting of the Committee of Five of the Economic Community of West African States of the Liberian Crisis (Yamoussoukro IV Accord)
Date	30 Oct 1991
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Interstate/intrastate conflict(s)

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	Implementation/renegotiation
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Liberia peace process
Parties	(Signed) His Excellency Dr. Amos C. SAWYER President of the Interim Government of Liberia (Signed) Mr. Charles TAYLOR Head of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL)

Third parties

Done at Yamoussoukro this 30th day of October 1991.
(Signed) His Excellency Captain Blaise COMPAORE
President of Burkina Faso

(Signed) His Excellency Félix HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY
President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

(Signed) His Excellency General Joao Bernardo VIEIRA
President of the Council of State of the
Republic of Guinea-Bissau

(Signed) His Excellency Lt. Col. Amadou Toumani TOURÉ
Chairman of the People's Redemption Transitional Committee,
Head of State of the Republic of Mali

(Signed) His Excellency Abdou DIOUF
President of the Republic of Senegal

(Signed) The Honourable Kokou Joseph KOFFIGOH
Prime Minister of the Togolese Republic

(Signed) The Honourable Augustus AIKHOMU
Vice-President, representing the Head of State of the
Federal Republic of Nigeria

(Signed) The Honourable J. B. DAUDA
Second Vice-President, Attorney-General and
Minister of Justice, representing the
President of the Republic of Sierra Leone

(Signed) The Honourable Alhaji Omar SEY
Minister of External Affairs, representing
the President of the Republic of the Gambia

(Signed) The Honourable Dr. Obed ASAMOAH
PNDC Secretary for Foreign Affairs, representing
the Head of State of the Republic of Ghana

(Signed) The Honourable Faciné TOURÉ
Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, representing
the Head of State of the Republic of Guinea

Page 1, 3: Also present at the invitation of the Committee were:

...- Dr. Salim Ahmed Salim, Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity;
- Mrs. Dayle E. Spencer, representative of the International Negotiations Network (INN).

Description

This agreement provides a timetable and modalities for the implementation of the 3 previous Yamoussoukro accords. Issues covered in the agreement include DDR, ECOMOG's mandate, the holding of elections within 6 months and the establishment of an Election Commission and an ad hoc Supreme Court.

Agreement document

[LR_911030_Yamoussokro IV Agreement.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 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 Page 2, VISITS TO GUINEA AND SIERRA LEONE, 7: The Meeting received the report of the delegation of the Foreign Ministers of Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau and Nigeria, headed by Senegal, which was requested to visit Guinea and Sierra Leone after the end of the Committee's last meeting. It welcomed the participation of Guinea and Sierra Leone at the meeting and particularly noted with appreciation, the declaration of these countries to continue to cooperate with the Committee in order to achieve the successful implementation of the ECOWAS peace plan and to facilitate the restoration of normalcy in the border areas of Sierra Leone and Liberia. The Committee agreed on the necessity that all hostile foreign forces be withdrawn immediately from the territory of Sierra Leone and that a buffer zone be created with similar dispatch on the Liberian side of the border, to be monitored by ECOMOG.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed) No specific mention.

Elections

Page 1, OUTCOME OF DELIBERATIONS, Developments since the Committee's last meeting, 4: The Committee reviewed developments relating to the Liberian crisis since its last meeting in Yamoussoukro on 16 and 17 September 1991. The Committee noted with appreciation that since that meeting, the Republic of Senegal, in keeping with its promise to contribute troops to ECOMOG, had started deploying its troops to Liberia to join ECOMOG. It also noted with pleasure the fact that the parties, in consonance with the agreement reached in Yamoussoukro during the last meeting of the Committee of Five, had nominated a five-member Elections Commission for the organization and supervision of the elections to be held in Liberia, and a five-member ad hoc Supreme Court to adjudicate disputes that may arise from the electoral process, as provided for by the Liberian Constitution. The Committee urged the parties concerned to take all necessary action to ensure that the Interim Elections Commission begins its work without any further delay.

Page 2, OUTCOME OF DELIBERATIONS, Timetable for encampment and disarmament, 6: Recalling the earlier Yamoussoukro Accord of the parties to implement, under ECOMOG supervision, the encampment of their troops in designated locations and their disarmament, and the mandate given to ECOMOG, in liaison with the parties concerned, to work out the practical modalities for the implementation of that Accord, the Meeting considered and agreed a programme of implementation of these important elements of the cease-fire, which is annexed hereto (see enclosure below). This programme envisages the implementation within 60 days of all the modalities for the establishment of the necessary conditions of peace and security on the ground in order to reinforce the confidence of the parties as well as create a proper atmosphere conducive to the holding of free, fair and democratic elections in Liberia not later than six months from the date of this Meeting. The Committee therefore renewed its mandate to ECOMOG to ensure that the programme is smoothly and speedily implemented, in order to make it possible for democratic elections to be held in Liberia within the stipulated period. To this end, it appealed to all the parties concerned to continue to repose trust and confidence in ECOMOG and to cooperate fully with ECOMOG, the Interim Elections Commission, the INN and all other international observers who may wish to observe and monitor the electoral process.

Electoral commission	Page 1, OUTCOME OF DELIBERATIONS, Developments since the Committee's last meeting, 4: The Committee reviewed developments relating to the Liberian crisis since its last meeting in Yamoussoukro on 16 and 17 September 1991. The Committee noted with appreciation that since that meeting, the Republic of Senegal, in keeping with its promise to contribute troops to ECOMOG, had started deploying its troops to Liberia to join ECOMOG. It also noted with pleasure the fact that the parties, in consonance with the agreement reached in Yamoussoukro during the last meeting of the Committee of Five, had nominated a five-member Elections Commission for the organization and supervision of the elections to be held in Liberia, and a five-member ad hoc Supreme Court to adjudicate disputes that may arise from the electoral process, as provided for by the Liberian Constitution. The Committee urged the parties concerned to take all necessary action to ensure that the Interim Elections Commission begins its work without any further delay.
Political parties reform	No specific mention.
Civil society	No specific mention.
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 2, OUTCOME OF DELIBERATIONS, Timetable for encampment and disarmament, 6: Recalling the earlier Yamoussoukro Accord of the parties to implement, under ECOMOG supervision, the encampment of their troops in designated locations and their disarmament, and the mandate given to ECOMOG, in liaison with the parties concerned, to work out the practical modalities for the implementation of that Accord, the Meeting considered and agreed a programme of implementation of these important elements of the cease-fire, which is annexed hereto (see enclosure below). This programme envisages the implementation within 60 days of all the modalities for the establishment of the necessary conditions of peace and security on the ground in order to reinforce the confidence of the parties as well as create a proper atmosphere conducive to the holding of free, fair and democratic elections in Liberia not later than six months from the date of this Meeting. The Committee therefore renewed its mandate to ECOMOG to ensure that the programme is smoothly and speedily implemented, in order to make it possible for democratic elections to be held in Liberia within the stipulated period. To this end, it appealed to all the parties concerned to continue to repose trust and confidence in ECOMOG and to cooperate fully with ECOMOG, the Interim Elections Commission, the INN and all other international observers who may wish to observe and monitor the electoral process.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication No specific mention.

Mobility/access Page 4, Enclosure, Programme of implementation, Preliminary accepted conditions:
 - ECOMOG shall enjoy freedom of movement throughout the territory of Liberia.
 ...- All entry points into Liberia will be monitored by ECOMOG troops.

Page 4, Enclosure, Programme of implementation, Tasks:
 ...- Security will be provided to all VIPs and where freedom of movement is established such security will not be necessary for local dignitaries.

Page 4, Enclosure, Programme of implementation: It is envisaged that the ECOMOG military programme can be completed within 60 days as follows:
 ...D-Day + 7
 ...- Robertsfield International Airport reactivated.
 ...- Permanent presence and supervision of all airports and seaports.
 - International flights into Robertsfield commence.

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

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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 Page 4, Enclosure, Programme of implementation: It is envisaged that the ECOMOG military programme can be completed within 60 days as follows:
...D-Day + 7
...- Permanent presence and supervision of all airports and seaports.

Security sector

**Security
Guarantees**

Page 2, VISITS TO GUINEA AND SIERRA LEONE, 7: The Meeting received the report of the delegation of the Foreign Ministers of Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau and Nigeria, headed by Senegal, which was requested to visit Guinea and Sierra Leone after the end of the Committee's last meeting. It welcomed the participation of Guinea and Sierra Leone at the meeting and particularly noted with appreciation, the declaration of these countries to continue to cooperate with the Committee in order to achieve the successful implementation of the ECOWAS peace plan and to facilitate the restoration of normalcy in the border areas of Sierra Leone and Liberia. The Committee agreed on the necessity that all hostile foreign forces be withdrawn immediately from the territory of Sierra Leone and that a buffer zone be created with similar dispatch on the Liberian side of the border, to be monitored by ECOMOG.

Page 4, Enclosure, Programme of implementation, Preliminary accepted conditions
...- Some weapons inadvertently lost would therefore need to be located and recovered.
- There would be some obstacles and possible minefields that would need to be neutralized.

Page 4, Enclosure, Programme of implementation, Tasks:
...- Monitoring of all possible avenues of approach into Liberia by patrols and static guards.
- Search, in conjunction with administrative authorities, to recover hidden or lost weapons.
- Strategic installations will need static guards.
- Security will be provided to all VIPs and where freedom of movement is established such security will not be necessary for local dignitaries.

Page 4, Enclosure, Programme of implementation: It is envisaged that the ECOMOG military programme can be completed within 60 days as follows:
...D-Day + 7
...- Border guards in place including buffer zones along Sierra Leone/Liberia border.
- Roadblocks and checkpoints removed in collaboration with administrative authorities.
...- Appropriate light Air Detachments deployed in Liberia (including helicopters).

Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision

Page 2, OUTCOME OF DELIBERATIONS, Timetable for encampment and disarmament, 6: Recalling the earlier Yamoussoukro Accord of the parties to implement, under ECOMOG supervision, the encampment of their troops in designated locations and their disarmament, and the mandate given to ECOMOG, in liaison with the parties concerned, to work out the practical modalities for the implementation of that Accord, the Meeting considered and agreed a programme of implementation of these important elements of the cease-fire, which is annexed hereto (see enclosure below). This programme envisages the implementation within 60 days of all the modalities for the establishment of the necessary conditions of peace and security on the ground in order to reinforce the confidence of the parties as well as create a proper atmosphere conducive to the holding of free, fair and democratic elections in Liberia not later than six months from the date of this Meeting. The Committee therefore renewed its mandate to ECOMOG to ensure that the programme is smoothly and speedily implemented, in order to make it possible for democratic elections to be held in Liberia within the stipulated period. To this end, it appealed to all the parties concerned to continue to repose trust and confidence in ECOMOG and to cooperate fully with ECOMOG, the Interim Elections Commission, the INN and all other international observers who may wish to observe and monitor the electoral process.

Police

No specific mention.

Armed forces

No specific mention.

DDR

Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes

Page 2, OUTCOME OF DELIBERATIONS, Timetable for encampment and disarmament, 6: Recalling the earlier Yamoussoukro Accord of the parties to implement, under ECOMOG supervision, the encampment of their troops in designated locations and their disarmament, and the mandate given to ECOMOG, in liaison with the parties concerned, to work out the practical modalities for the implementation of that Accord, the Meeting considered and agreed a programme of implementation of these important elements of the cease-fire, which is annexed hereto (see enclosure below). This programme envisages the implementation within 60 days of all the modalities for the establishment of the necessary conditions of peace and security on the ground in order to reinforce the confidence of the parties as well as create a proper atmosphere conducive to the holding of free, fair and democratic elections in Liberia not later than six months from the date of this Meeting. The Committee therefore renewed its mandate to ECOMOG to ensure that the programme is smoothly and speedily implemented, in order to make it possible for democratic elections to be held in Liberia within the stipulated period. To this end, it appealed to all the parties concerned to continue to repose trust and confidence in ECOMOG and to cooperate fully with ECOMOG, the Interim Elections Commission, the INN and all other international observers who may wish to observe and monitor the electoral process.

Page 4, Enclosure, Programme of implementation, ECOMOG mission:

...- Supervise the encampment and disarmament of all warring factions.

Page 4, Enclosure, Programme of implementation, Preliminary accepted conditions

...- All warring factions will willingly abandon their fighting positions and move into designated camps.

- During the period of encampment and disarmament, eminent persons of the INN will visit Liberia in order to reinforce the confidence of the parties.

Page 4, Enclosure, Programme of implementation, Tasks:

- Eliminate external threat to allow the encampment and disarmament programme to be smoothly and effectively carried out.

...- Search, in conjunction with administrative authorities, to recover hidden or lost weapons.

Page 4, Enclosure, Programme of implementation: It is envisaged that the ECOMOG military programme can be completed within 60 days as follows:

...D-Day + 7

- Confirmatory reconnaissance completed of all encampment areas and forward patrol bases.

...- Reception centres for encampment opened.

...- NPFL encampment and documentation.

- Receiving, crating and storage of weapons at designated points completed.

- Resettlement programme commences.

Intelligence services

No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	Page 4, Enclosure, Programme of implementation: It is envisaged that the ECOMOG military programme can be completed within 60 days as follows: ...D-Day + 7 ...- NPFL encampment and documentation.
Withdrawal of foreign forces	Page 2, VISITS TO GUINEA AND SIERRA LEONE, 7: The Meeting received the report of the delegation of the Foreign Ministers of Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau and Nigeria, headed by Senegal, which was requested to visit Guinea and Sierra Leone after the end of the Committee's last meeting. It welcomed the participation of Guinea and Sierra Leone at the meeting and particularly noted with appreciation, the declaration of these countries to continue to cooperate with the Committee in order to achieve the successful implementation of the ECOWAS peace plan and to facilitate the restoration of normalcy in the border areas of Sierra Leone and Liberia. The Committee agreed on the necessity that all hostile foreign forces be withdrawn immediately from the territory of Sierra Leone and that a buffer zone be created with similar dispatch on the Liberian side of the border, to be monitored by ECOMOG.
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 Done at Yamoussoukro this 30th day of October 1991.
(Signed) His Excellency Captain Blaise COMPAORE
President of Burkina Faso

(Signed) His Excellency Félix HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY
President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

(Signed) His Excellency General Joao Bernardo VIEIRA
President of the Council of State of the
Republic of Guinea-Bissau

(Signed) His Excellency Lt. Col. Amadou Toumani TOURÉ
Chairman of the People's Redemption Transitional Committee,
Head of State of the Republic of Mali

(Signed) His Excellency Abdou DIOUF
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(Signed) The Honourable Kokou Joseph KOFFIGOH
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(Signed) The Honourable Augustus AIKHOMU
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Second Vice-President, Attorney-General and
Minister of Justice, representing the
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Minister of External Affairs, representing
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PNDC Secretary for Foreign Affairs, representing
the Head of State of the Republic of Ghana

(Signed) The Honourable Faciné TOURÉ
Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, representing
the Head of State of the Republic of Guinea

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

**International
mission/force/
similar**

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Page 2, OUTCOME OF DELIBERATIONS, ECOMOG, 5: Recalling its earlier appeal to other ECOWAS member States to contribute contingents to ECOMOG, the Committee welcomed with appreciation the announcement by Guinea-Bissau of its readiness to contribute troops to ECOMOG in order to enhance its capacity to discharge its peace-keeping role in Liberia.

Page 2, OUTCOME OF DELIBERATIONS, Timetable for encampment and disarmament, 6: Recalling the earlier Yamoussoukro Accord of the parties to implement, under ECOMOG supervision, the encampment of their troops in designated locations and their disarmament, and the mandate given to ECOMOG, in liaison with the parties concerned, to work out the practical modalities for the implementation of that Accord, the Meeting considered and agreed a programme of implementation of these important elements of the cease-fire, which is annexed hereto (see enclosure below). This programme envisages the implementation within 60 days of all the modalities for the establishment of the necessary conditions of peace and security on the ground in order to reinforce the confidence of the parties as well as create a proper atmosphere conducive to the holding of free, fair and democratic elections in Liberia not later than six months from the date of this Meeting. The Committee therefore renewed its mandate to ECOMOG to ensure that the programme is smoothly and speedily implemented, in order to make it possible for democratic elections to be held in Liberia within the stipulated period. To this end, it appealed to all the parties concerned to continue to repose trust and confidence in ECOMOG and to cooperate fully with ECOMOG, the Interim Elections Commission, the INN and all other international observers who may wish to observe and monitor the electoral process.

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Page 4, Enclosure, Programme of implementation, ECOMOG mission:

- Cover the whole of Liberia. Page 18 of 19
- Supervise the encampment and disarmament of all warring factions.

**Enforcement
mechanism**

No specific mention.
