

Country/entity	South Sudan Sudan Southern Kordofan - Blue Nile - Abyei
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Agok Declaration
Date	2 Jun 2003
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/local conflict
Stage	Framework/substantive - partial
Conflict nature	Inter-group
Peace process	South Sudan: Pre-secession Local Peace Processes
Parties	<p>Agreement not signed due to nature, but the declaration notes the following:</p> <p>Page 1, Preamble:</p> <p>...</p> <p>The contribution of the local people of Abyei was central to the success of the Conference, which brought together over 700 participants in a democratic and popular forum that addressed fundamental issues facing the area and the country.</p> <p>Page 4,</p> <p>...</p> <p>We, the Ngok of Abyei, resoundingly endorse these resolutions and call upon our friends everywhere to exercise their good will and actively promote efforts towards a just and lasting peace in Sudan.</p> <p>This communique was presented to the full plenary on the closing day of the Ngok of Abyei People's Conference where it was unanimously endorsed and popularly adopted at 8:30 in the evening on June 7th, 2003, after 6 days of deliberation.</p>

Third parties	Sudan Peace Fund of the United States Government Official Italian Observer to the IGAD Peace Forum
Description	The Agok Declaration was a set of resolutions adopted by the Ngok Dinka people of Abyei County, Bahr el Ghazal Region, Southern Sudan during a conference held from June 2 to June 7, 2003. The conference was sponsored by the Sudan Peace Fund of the United States Government and attended by over 700 participants. The resolutions adopted by the conference addressed issues facing the Abyei area and the country as a whole. The declaration asserted that the Ngok Dinka are part of Southern Sudan and demanded the immediate restoration of their land and people to Bahr el Ghazal. It also fully mandated the SPLM/A as the legitimate representative of their cause and called for a just and lasting peace in Sudan. The declaration also welcomed efforts to facilitate the process of repatriation and return of their displaced people and expressed concern over aggression and violations of human rights committed against them.

Agreement document	SS_SD_030602_Agok Declaration.pdf (opens in new tab) Download PDF
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Local agreement properties

Process type	Formal structured process
Rationale	This conference was part of a series of Conferences centered around Abyei County and surrounding area. It was supported by the US Sudan Peace Fund and convened more than 700 delegates.
Is there a documented link to a national peace process?	Yes
Link to national process: articulated rationale	Based on the introduction/preamble, the participants understood the conference to be part of broader efforts in peacemaking for the entire Abyei area.
Name of Locale	Abyei County
Nature of Locale	Region
GPS Lat/Long (DD)	9.592400, 28.440200
Participant type	International or transnational actor Local community/civilian group(s)/civil society organisations Regional state actor
Mediator, facilitator or similar	Mediator or similar referred to

Mediator (references)	Page 1, I. Preamble: ...was sponsored by the Sudan Peace Fund of the United States Government, which is implemented through a consortium of international and indigenous non-governmental organizations.
Type of mediator/ facilitator/similar	International or transnational actor

Local issues

Ritual/prayer and process (including use of scripture)

Page 2, II. On the Peace Process,

A. The Ngok Dinka of Abyei assert that we are part and parcel of Southern Sudan, and demand the immediate restoration of the land and people to Bahr el Ghazal in accordance with the historic ceremony of reunification that was conducted by the spiritual leaders of Bahr el Ghazal during the course of the Conference.

Grievance List

Page 2, II. On the Peace Process,

A. The Ngok Dinka of Abyei assert that we are part and parcel of Southern Sudan, and demand the immediate restoration of the land and people to Bahr el Ghazal in accordance with the historic ceremony of reunification that was conducted by the spiritual leaders of Bahr el Ghazal during the course of the Conference.

B. Fully mandate the SPLM/A as the legitimate representative of our just cause in all national, regional, and international fora and to negotiate on our behalf with the government of the day in Khartoum.

C. Assert that we will continue to defend our land, identity and cultural values, which link us unequivocally to our African kith and kin in the Southern Sudan.

D. Affirm that we are united in the common cause for a just and lasting peace in the Sudan and will not be separated from this struggle until a comprehensive solution to the conflict is found.

Page 2-3, III. On Repatriation and Return,

...

B. Express concern over our lack of involvement to date in these noble efforts, and over the continued exposure of our people to insecurity and restrictions on their free movement in the process of repatriation and return by the GOS.

C. Call for consultation and active participation in the process of repatriation and return through representative bodies chosen by the Ngok people of Abyei.

D. Express outrage at the sub-human conditions under which our displaced people in the North are living as refugees in their own country, and demand recognition of their full citizenship and dignity irrespective of where they happen to reside.

E. Call upon the SPLM/A, the GOS and the International Community to develop a normative agreement framing the peaceful return of our displaced people, including necessary elements of monitoring and evaluation.

F. Call upon the international community to guarantee free movement, adequate protection and security for the repatriation and return of our people in the face of aggression by the Sudan Defense Forces and the militias they sponsor.

G. Call upon the Operation Lifeline Sudan and the wider international humanitarian community to provide much needed services to ensure the successful repatriation and return of our people.

H. Request support in reinforcing our local capacities to receive and reintegrate our people upon their return.

Cattle rustling/ banditry

No specific mention.

Social cover

No specific mention.