

Country/entity	South Sudan
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Annual Pre-Seasonal Cattle Movement Conference, Western Bahr el Ghazal, Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Warrap States
Date	15 Dec 2022
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/local 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 Agreement (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 Framework/substantive - partial

Conflict nature Inter-group

Peace process	South Sudan: Post-secession Local agreements
Parties	<p>Western Bahr el Ghazal State (Delegates): William Deng Kuol, Chief, WBEGS; Madut Lual, Farmer, WBEGS; Josephine Stephen, Women Rep, WBEGS;</p> <p>Warrap State (Delegates): Agol Adim Adim, Chief, Warrap; Akeen Aleu Ngor, Mijak-Wut, Warrap; Awal Akek Aguer, Women Rep., Warrap;</p> <p>Northern Bahr el Ghazal State (Observers): Ajieber Malong Deng, Chief, NBEGS; Garang Agiu Majok, Youth, NBEGS; Abuk Azeber, Women Rep., NBEGS.</p>
Third parties	Hon. Ibrahim Surur Ibrahim, State Minister of Local Government, Western Nahr el Ghazal State; Hon. William Deng Koor, State Minister of Local Government, Warrap State; Hon. Deng Liai Bak, State Minister of Local Government, Law Enforcement, Northern Bahr El Ghazal State; Mr. Sam K. Muhumure, UNMISS Head of Field Office, Western Bahr el Ghazal State; Ms. Lucia Bassa, UNDP Representative, Warrap State; Mr. Stephen Robo Musa, Co-Coordinator, Peace Building and Reconciliation Working Group (PRWG); Mr Andrea Mawien Akok, Chairman, ICCCSM.
Description	Cattle owners, farmers, and members of the Inter-State Coordinating Committee for Cattle Seasonal Movement met in Wau, Bahr el Ghazal, to discuss cattle-related issues in the area.

Agreement document	SS_221215_Annual Pre-Seasonal Cattle Movement Conference, Western Bahr el Ghazal (opens in new tab) Download PDF
---------------------------	--

Local agreement properties

Process type	Formal structured process
Rationale	The annual conference is a structured process intended to address the conflicts emerging from the annual movement of cattle between the concerned states in South Sudan. The Marial Bai Agreement in 2016 sought to bring an end to these clashes, and subsequent conferences such as the present one have sought to maintain the peace and address grievances related to cattle movement between the states.
Is there a documented link to a national peace process?	No

Link to national process: articulated rationale Neither the text of the agreement nor the list of parties indicate any link to a national peace process.

Name of Locale Western Bahr el Ghazal State, Warrap State and Northern Bahr el Ghazal State.

Nature of Locale Region

GPS Lat/Long (DD) 7.699340, 28.002800

Participant type Local state actor
Local community/civilian group(s)/civil society organisations

Mediator, facilitator or similar Mediator or similar referred to

Mediator (references)

Type of mediator/facilitator/similar Regional state actor Local state actor International or transnational actor

Local issues

Ritual/prayer and process (including use of scripture)

Preamble:

...

Considered the concern of delegates from Jur River County in areas of opposition (SPLA-IO) that all cattle keepers planning to move to their areas must ensure that all requirements by the Revised Marial Bai agreement are adhered to in letter and spirit and call upon chiefs of Warrap to visit areas of IO (Wadhelelo) to initiate blood rituals;

Grievance List

Preamble:

...

Acknowledged the opinion of the delegates from Wau County on non-acceptance of the seasonal cattle movement in their area and committed to respect this opinion.

...

Noting with concerns all the reported continuous violations during the grassroots consultations in both WBeG and Warrap States and calling upon the Inter State Coordination Committee on Cattle Seasonal Movement (ICCCSM) and other mechanisms to ensure violators are held accountable in accordance with Marial Bai Agreement resolutions;

Alarmed by the continuous report of unauthorized persons (cattle keepers & farmers) carrying firearms in total violation of the Marial Bai Agreement and bringing about mistrust among communities;

...

Concern with interference into community peace and security by the current situation and urging the Revitalized Government of National Unity to speed up implementation of the security arrangement by speedy development of the recent graduated unification of forces and commence the second phase of training;

...

Aware of the ICCCSM acknowledgement of the support given by partners in the year 2021/2022 and noted the financial constraints experienced by the Inter-State Coordination Committee for Cattle Seasonal Movement (ICCCSM), the delegates appealed to the states authorities to provide support to the mechanisms to enable them to effectively carryout their mandates;

Concern with presence of local cattle within Wau Municipality causing destruction of farms around Wau town and beyond, the delegates further call upon the Wau Municipal Council to regulate these cattle under the provisions of the revised MBA and issue local order to complement the provisions of Revised MBA;

Cattle rustling/ banditry

No specific mention.

Social cover

No specific mention.