

Country/entity	South Sudan
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Communique: Inter Communal Dialogue on the Cessation of Hostilities Declaration Meeting Between Defunct Tonj and Wau States
Date	18 Jun 2020
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>Defunct Tonj State Representatives: Chikom Ayei Chikom, Paramount Chief, Tonj South - Yar; Aguek Anyoun Pal, Women Representative, Tonj South - Tonj center; Peter Mading Akec, Youth Representative, Tonj South - Tonj center;</p> <p>Defunct Wau state Representatives: Kon Aleu Yak, Paramount Chief, Jur River - Kuajiena; Akella Akot Ngor, Women Representative, Jur River - Alur; Elario Deng Aken, Youth Representative, Jur River - Kuajiena.</p>
Third parties	<p>Defunct Wau State: Remijo Hassan Severio, Secretary General - Acting Governor, General Secretariat; Edward Wade Ubul, Director General - Acting Minister, Ministry of Local Government.</p> <p>Defunct Tonj State: Acting Secretary General, General Secretariat; Augustino Akoch Agoth, Director General - Acting Minister, Ministry of Local Government.</p> <p>UNMISS Civil Affairs Division, Human Rights and Partners of Peace Building and Reconciliation Working Group - PRWG (IOM, CEPO, CARDO, HARD and AYADA).</p>
Description	Community representatives from Tonj South and Alur and Kuajiena met to resolve the conflict between their communities and discuss measures to bring about peace.

Agreement document	SS_200618_Communique Inter Communal Dialogue on the Cessation of Hostilities... (opens in new tab) Download PDF
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Local agreement properties

Process type	Formal structured process
Rationale	The agreement is clearly part of an ongoing structured local effort, with references to other related peace conferences and agreements in 2019. There is also a dedicated supporting structure provided by the presence of UNMISS and the relevant state authorities.
Is there a documented link to a national peace process?	No
Link to national process: articulated rationale	Although connecting to a well documented and larger scale ongoing local cattle and pastoralist linked process, known as the Marial Bai process, this dialogue, similarly to the Marial Bai structure, is also supported and resourced by UNMISS but does not show a clear connection to the national process. There is no clear reference in the text of the agreement or from further research.

Name of Locale	Tonj South and Alur and Kuajiena Counties
Nature of Locale	Region
GPS Lat/Long (DD)	7.265130, 28.549070
Participant type	Local state actor Local community/civilian group(s)/civil society organisations
Mediator, facilitator or similar	Mediator or similar referred to
Mediator (references)	UNMISS Civil Affairs Division, Human Rights and Partners of Peace Building and Reconciliation Working Group - PRWG (IOM, CEPO, CARDO, HARD and AYADA).
Type of mediator/facilitator/similar	Local community/civilian group(s)/civil society organisations International or transnational actor

Local issues

Ritual/prayer and process (including use of scripture) No specific mention.

Grievance List

5. Noted with concern all the atrocities committed on both sides including loss of many lives, properties and livestock and call for the immediate formation of the fact finding committee by the governments of Wau (WBeG) and Tonj (Warrap) states to facilitate effective and meaningful compensation of loses.

6. Further noted with concern the apparent lack of collegiality and harmony in the implementation and respect of the provisions of revised Marial-Bai agreement on cattle seasonal movement.

7. Alarmed by the continued carry of guns by an authorized person which is in violation of the provisions of Marial-Bai agreement and tri-state peace conference resolutions that is breeding mistrust and mutual suspicion among the communities, urges the authorities from both states to find an alternative mechanisms of removing guns out in the hands of civilians.

Cattle rustling/ banditry No specific mention.

Social cover No specific mention.