

Country/entity	Liberia
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Decision A/DEC.1/8/90 on the Ceasefire and Establishment of an ECOWAS Ceasefire Monitoring Group for Liberia (ECOWAS Peace Plan)
Date	7 Aug 1990
Agreement status	Unilateral document
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	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Liberia peace process
Parties	H. E. DAWDA KAIRABA JAWARA CHAIRMAN ECOWAS STANDING MEDIATION COMMITTEE FOR THE AUTHORITY

Third parties

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Description

A short agreement from the ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee designating the committee as an appropriate mechanism for resolving the Liberian Conflict, calling on the warring parties to observe a ceasefire, and setting up a ceasefire monitoring group.

Agreement document

[LR_900807_ECOWAS Decision 1-8-90.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

Groups→Other groups→Rhetorical
Page 1, Untitled Preamble, para 6: DEEPLY CONCERNED about the plight of foreign nationals, particularly citizens of the Community who are seriously affected by the conflict;

Refugees/displaced persons

Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical
Page 1, Untitled Preamble, para 4: GRAVELY CONCERNED about the armed conflict existing in Liberia and the wanton destruction of human life and property and the displacement of persons occasioned by the said conflict;

Page 2, ARTICLE 1 CEASEFIRE, 3. The Interim Government shall unban all political parties and facilitate the 'return of all refugees and political exiles'.

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) Page 1, Untitled Preamble, para 5: CONSIDERING the massive damage in various forms being caused by the armed conflict to the stability and survival of the entire Liberian nation;

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 CEASEFIRE, 2: The parties to the conflict shall:
...d) refrain, pending the establishment of an Interim Government for the governance of Liberia until a new government is set up as a result of democratically conducted elections, from any activity which might prejudice the establishment of such Interim Government or the holding of general and presidential elections;
...f) respect, unless otherwise suspended to facilitate the administration of the country by the Interim Government, the Constitution of the Republic of Liberia adopted on 6th January 1986;

Page 2, ARTICLE 1 CEASEFIRE, 3. The Interim Government shall unban all political parties and facilitate the 'return of all refugees and political exiles'.

Page 2, ARTICLE II: CEASEFIRE MONITORING GROUP, 4: The Ceasefire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) shall remain in Liberia, if necessary, until the successful holding of general elections and the installation of an elected government.

Elections Page 1, ARTICLE 1 CEASEFIRE, 2: The parties to the conflict shall:
...d) refrain, pending the establishment of an Interim Government for the governance of Liberia until a new government is set up as a result of democratically conducted elections, from any activity which might prejudice the establishment of such Interim Government or the holding of general and presidential elections;

Page 2, ARTICLE II: CEASEFIRE MONITORING GROUP, 2: The Ceasefire Monitoring Group shall be under the command of a Force Commander appointed by the Committee. He shall be entrusted with powers to conduct military operations for the purpose of Monitoring the ceasefire, restoring law and order to create the necessary conditions for free and fair elections to be held In Liberia.

Page 2, ARTICLE II: CEASEFIRE MONITORING GROUP, 4: The Ceasefire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) shall remain in Liberia, if necessary, until the successful holding of general elections and the installation of an elected government.

Page 3, ARTICLE V: APPEAL TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY: The Committee appeals to all members of the international Community not to assist any of the warring parties in any manner prejudicial to the maintenance of the ceasefire and the holding of general and presidential elections.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform Governance→Political parties reform→Other political parties reform
Page 2: Article I
3. The Interim Government shall unban all political parties and facilitate the 'return of all refugees and political exiles

Civil society No specific mention.

Traditional/ religious leaders	No specific mention.
Public administration	No specific mention.
Constitution	Governance→Constitution→Constitution affirmation/renewal Page 1, ARTICLE 1 CEASEFIRE, 2: The parties to the conflict shall: ...f) respect, unless otherwise suspended to facilitate the administration of the country by the Interim Government, the Constitution of the Republic of Liberia adopted on 6th January 1986;

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	Page 1, Untitled Preamble, para 1: MINDFUL of Article 5 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Government and defining its composition and functions; Page 1, Untitled Preamble, para 3: RECALLING the Protocol relating to Mutual Assistance on Defence signed by the Heads of State and Government at Freetown on 29th May 1981;
Civil and political rights	No specific mention.
Socio-economic rights	No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship	Rights related issues→Citizenship→Citizen, general Page 1, Untitled Preamble, para 6: DEEPLY CONCERNED about the plight of foreign nationals, particularly citizens of the Community who are seriously affected by the conflict; Page 1, Untitled Preamble, para 8: DETERMINED to find a peaceful and lasting solution to the conflict and to put an end to the situation which is seriously disrupting the normal life of innocent citizens in Liberia;
Democracy	Page 1, ARTICLE 1 CEASEFIRE, 2: The parties to the conflict shall: ...d) refrain, pending the establishment of an Interim Government for the governance of Liberia until a new government is set up as a result of democratically conducted elections, from any activity which might prejudice the establishment of such Interim Government or the holding of general and presidential elections;
Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	No specific mention.
Mobility/access	No specific mention.
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 Page 2, ARTICLE III: FINANCE OF THE OPERATIONS: All expenses relating to the operations of the Ceasefire Monitoring Group shall be drawn from the Special Emergency Fund created by Decision A/DEC.3/8/90 of the ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee.

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: The entire agreement provides for a ceasefire and its modalities. The ceasefire is effective immediately from 07/08/1990. It is unclear whether the ceasefire is temporary or permanent.]

Page 1, ARTICLE 1 CEASEFIRE, 1: The Standing Mediation Committee acting on behalf of the Authority of Heads of State and Government, hereby calls on all the parties to the conflict to observe an immediate ceasefire as a contribution to the restoration and maintenance of peace and security throughout Liberia.

Page 1, ARTICLE 1 CEASEFIRE, 2: The parties to the conflict shall:

- a) cease all activities of a military or para-military nature, as well as all acts of violence;
- b) surrender all arms and ammunition to the custody of the ECOWAS Ceasefire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG);
- c) refrain from importing or acquiring or assisting or encouraging the importation and acquisition of weapons or war materials;
- d) refrain, pending the establishment of an Interim Government for the governance of Liberia until a new government is set up as a result of democratically conducted elections, from any activity which might prejudice the establishment of such Interim Government or the holding of general and presidential elections;
- e) release all political prisoners and prisoners of war;
- f) respect, unless otherwise suspended to facilitate the administration of the country by the Interim Government, the Constitution of the Republic of Liberia adopted on 6th January 1986;
- g) fully cooperate with the ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee, the ECOWAS Executive Secretary and the ECOWAS Ceasefire Monitoring Group for the effective maintenance of the ceasefire and the restoration of law and order.

Page 2, ARTICLE 1 CEASEFIRE, 3. The Interim Government shall unban all political parties and facilitate the 'return of all refugees and political exiles'.

Page 2, ARTICLE II: CEASEFIRE MONITORING GROUP, 1: In order to arrive at a peaceful and lasting settlement of the dispute, ECOWAS shall establish, under the authority of the Chairman of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS and under the command of an ECOWAS Member State, a Ceasefire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) to be composed of military contingents drawn from the Member States of the ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee as well as from Guinea and Sierra Leone.

Page 2, ARTICLE II: CEASEFIRE MONITORING GROUP, 2: The Ceasefire Monitoring Group shall be under the command of a Force Commander appointed by the Committee. He shall be entrusted with powers to conduct military operations for the purpose of Monitoring the ceasefire, restoring law and order to create the necessary conditions for free and fair elections to be held in Liberia.

Page 2, ARTICLE II: CEASEFIRE MONITORING GROUP, 3: The Ceasefire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) shall be assigned the function of assisting the ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee in supervising the implementation and in ensuring the strict compliance by the parties with the provisions of the ceasefire throughout the territory of Liberia.

Page 2, ARTICLE II: CEASEFIRE MONITORING GROUP, 4: The Ceasefire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) shall remain in Liberia, if necessary, until the successful holding of general elections and the installation of an elected government.

Page 2, ARTICLE II: CEASEFIRE MONITORING GROUP, 5: The Executive Secretary shall establish rules and regulations for the Ceasefire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) after

Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	Page 1, Untitled Preamble, para 3: RECALLING the Protocol relating to Mutual Assistance on Defence signed by the Heads of State and Government at Freetown on 29th May 1981; Page 1, ARTICLE 1 CEASEFIRE, 2: The parties to the conflict shall: a) cease all activities of a military or para-military nature, as well as all acts of violence;
DDR	Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions Page 1, ARTICLE 1 CEASEFIRE, 2: The parties to the conflict shall: ...b) surrender all arms and ammunition to the custody of the ECOWAS Ceasefire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG);
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	Page 1, ARTICLE 1 CEASEFIRE, 2: The parties to the conflict shall: a) cease all activities of a military or para-military nature, as well as all acts of violence;
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	Page 1, ARTICLE 1 CEASEFIRE, 2: The parties to the conflict shall: ...e) release all political prisoners and prisoners of war;

Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	<p>Page 1, Untitled Preamble, para 4: GRAVELY CONCERNED about the armed conflict existing in Liberia and the wanton destruction of human life and property and the displacement of persons occasioned by the said conflict;</p> <p>Page 1, Untitled Preamble, para 8: DETERMINED to find a peaceful and lasting solution to the conflict and to put an end to the situation which is seriously disrupting the normal life of innocent citizens in Liberia;</p>
Missing persons	No specific mention.
Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory	No specific mention.
Other international signatory	<p>H. E. DAWDA KAIRABA JAWARA CHAIRMAN ECOWAS STANDING MEDIATION COMMITTEE FOR THE AUTHORITY</p>
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar

Page 2, ARTICLE II: CEASEFIRE MONITORING GROUP, 1: In order to arrive at a peaceful and lasting settlement of the dispute, ECOWAS shall establish, under the authority of the Chairman of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS and under the command of an ECOWAS Member State, a Ceasefire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) to be composed of military contingents drawn from the Member States of the ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee as well as from Guinea and Sierra Leone.

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Page 2, ARTICLE II: CEASEFIRE MONITORING GROUP, 5: The Executive Secretary shall establish rules and regulations for the Ceasefire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) after consultation with the Chairman of the Authority.

Page 2, ARTICLE II: CEASEFIRE MONITORING GROUP, 6: The Executive Secretary is hereby authorised to appoint a Special Representative and other supporting staff for the operations in Liberia. The Special Representative shall work in close collaboration with the Forces Commander and assist in carrying out the ECOWAS operations in Liberia.

Page 3, ARTICLE IV: COMMENCEMENT OF OPERATIONS: The operations of the ECOWAS Monitoring Group in Liberia shall commence forthwith,

Enforcement mechanism

Page 3, ARTICLE VI FINAL PROVISIONS: The ECOWAS Executive Secretary shall be responsible for the proper implementation and application of this Decision which shall enter into force upon signature and shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community and in the National Gazette of each Member State.

Related cases

No specific mention.

Source

Official Journal of the ECOWAS, Vol. 21, Nov. 1991