

<b>Country/entity</b>	Nigeria
<b>Region</b>	Africa (excl MENA)
<b>Agreement name</b>	Agreement Reached this Day 7th of January, 2017 Between Agatu People of Benue State and Fulani Herdsmen of Nasarawa State of Nigeria
<b>Date</b>	6 Jan 2017
<b>Agreement status</b>	Multiparty signed/agreed
<b>Interim arrangement</b>	Yes

**Agreement/conflict level** Intrastate/local conflict

**Nigerian Civil War (1967), Delta Unrest (1990 - ), Communal Conflicts (1978 - ), and Boko Haram Insurgency (2009 - )**

Since 1960 when Nigeria became independent, it has seen a number of coup d'états and instability. In 1967, after confederation plans for the Nigerian regions to gain more independence failed, the Eastern region seceded as the Republic of Biafra and this caused the Nigerian Civil War. The conflict resulted from political, economic, ethnic and religious tensions which had existed since before Britain drew new borders when colonising the area. The discovery of oil in the Niger Delta heightened the intensity of the conflict. With the aid of British forces, the Nigerian military managed to take back the territory in 1970. Since then, ethnic violence has persisted.

**Nigerian Delta Unrest (1990 - )**

Conflict in the Niger Delta arose in the 1990s between foreign oil companies and ethnic groups which felt exploited after being forced to abandon their land. The Nigerian military caused international consternation in 1995 when members of the Ogoni tribe of the Niger Delta were found hanged without due process. The proliferation of arms in the region has encouraged the rise of armed groups which have targeted oil companies and pipelines. This came to a head in 2004 when Shell withdrew personnel from two oil fields in response to attacks on wells and pipelines by rebels. The military have attempted to clamp down on militant groups in the Niger Delta but it was not until the establishment of the Presidential amnesty program in 2009 which required the surrender of weapons by militants in exchange for amnesty. In 2016 a new militant group called the Niger Delta Avengers has announced its existence in the Niger Delta illustrating the continued instability in that region.

**Boko Haram Insurgency (2009 - )**

Sectarian violence has also been rife in Nigeria and since 2002, the radical Islamist group Boko Haram have been violently seeking to establish sharia law throughout Nigeria and an Islamic caliphate in the Northern part of the country. In 2009 they began an official insurgency which spread to Cameroon, Chad and Niger. In 2014 the group kidnapped 276 girls from a college in Chibok and bombed the town of Jos. The insurgency is the result of Muslim – Christian tensions in the country which is a constant source of instability and violence. In 2015 the military led a regional coalition of forces on a counter-offensive against Boko Haram and they were successful in taking ground. There are also conflicts between Fulani herdsman and Christian peasants in the Middle belt. Widespread corruption and lack of state authority exacerbate these many complex tensions.

**Central Nigerian communal conflicts (1978 - )**

Unrest in Nigeria is a product of socio-economic pressures between migrating herdsman and settled agriculturists, exacerbated by firearms proliferation, ethnic conflict, sectarianism and banditry. Since 2001, attacks have adopted a more sectarian character involving suicide bombings and shooting at churches by the jihadist group, Boko Haram. Peaks of violence occurred in 2004 and 2011, pastoral/farmer conflict has resulted in the deaths of thousands since the Fourth Nigerian Republic was founded in 1999. The Land Use Act of 1978, exacerbated conflict by allowing longtime occupants 'indigeneship' and the ability to apply for a certificate of occupancy, putting migrating communities at a disadvantage.

Close

Nigerian Civil War (1967), Delta Unrest (1990 - ), Communal Conflicts (1978 - ), and Boko

<b>Stage</b>	Framework/substantive - comprehensive
<b>Conflict nature</b>	Inter-group
<b>Peace process</b>	Nigeria - local agreements
<b>Parties</b>	Agatu People of Benue State Fulani Herdsmen of Nasartawa State
<b>Third parties</b>	-
<b>Description</b>	An agreement between two groups dealing with inter-communal conflict and providing for mutual access to Adepati Island, with provisions on access to grazing and fishing, and providing that the agreement may from time to time be monitored by the military.

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**Agreement document** [NG\\_170106\\_Agreement between Agatu people and Fulani Herdsmen.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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### Groups

<b>Children/youth</b>	Groups→Children/youth→Other Page 1, Article 9 That soldier shall invade the Island on hearing of any gun shot by either Agatu youth or Fulanu herdsmen.  Page 2, Article 10 That both Agatu youth and Fulanu herdsmen should not deploy any armed group to any location except directed by the military.
<b>Disabled persons</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Elderly/age</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Migrant workers</b>	No specific mention.

**Racial/ethnic/  
national group**

Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Rhetorical

Page 1, Untitled preamble

An agreement reached on this day 6th of January, 2017 between Agatu people of Benue state and Fulani Herdsmen of Nasartawa State.

Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Substantive

Page 1, Article 1

That Adepati Island is by this agreement opened to Fulani herdsmen for the purpose of grazing only and not for resident.

Page 1, Article 3

That the Island is opened to both Agatu and Fulani herdsmen for the purpose of their economic practices. Hitherto, the Island is also opened to Agatu for fishing without threat.

Page 1, Article 5

That Fulani herdsmen shall be held accountable for any destruction.

Page 1, Article 7

That only the indigenous Fulani that their identity are known that should be allowed to graze on Adapati Island.

Page 1, Article 8

That Neither Agatu nor Fulani herdsmen are allowed to carry about any dangerous Arm.

Page 1, Article 9

That soldier shall invade the Island on hearing of any gun shot by either Agatu youth or Fulanu herdsmen.

Page 2, Article 10

That both Agatu youth and Fulanu herdsmen should not deploy any armed group to any location except directed by the military.

**Religious groups**

No specific mention.

**Indigenous people** Groups→Indigenous people→Rhetorical  
Untitled preamble  
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Groups→Indigenous people→Substantive  
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**Other groups** No specific mention.

**Refugees/displaced persons** No specific mention.

**Social class** No specific mention.

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## **Gender**

**Women, girls and gender** No specific mention.

**Men and boys** No specific mention.

**LGBTI** No specific mention.

**Family** No specific mention.

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## **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** No specific mention.

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## **Governance**

**Political institutions (new or reformed)** No specific mention.

**Elections** No specific mention.

<b>Electoral commission</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Political parties reform</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Civil society</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Traditional/religious leaders</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Public administration</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Constitution</b>	No specific mention.

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**Power sharing**

<b>Political power sharing</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Territorial power sharing</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Economic power sharing</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Military power sharing</b>	No specific mention.

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**Human rights and equality**

<b>Human rights/RoL general</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Bill of rights/similar</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Treaty incorporation</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Civil and political rights</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Socio-economic rights</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Rights related issues**

<b>Citizenship</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Democracy</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Detention procedures</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Media and communication</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Mobility/access</b>	Page 1, Article 1 That Adepati Island is by this agreement be opened to Fulani herdsmen for the purpose of grazing only and not for residence.  Page 1, Article 3 That the Island is opened to both Agatu and Fulani herdsmen for the purpose of their economic practices.
<b>Protection measures</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Other</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Rights institutions**

<b>NHRI</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Regional or international human rights institutions</b>	No specific mention.

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## **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.

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## **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.

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## **Land, property and environment**

**Land reform/rights** No specific mention.

**Pastoralist/  
nomadism rights** Page 1, Article 1  
That Adepati Island is by this agreement opened to Fulani herdsmen for the purpose of grazing only and not for residence.

Page 1, Article 3  
That the Island is opened to both Agatu and Fulani herdsmen for the purpose of their economic practices.

Page 1, Article 4  
That No herdsmen is allowed to grazing beyond the said Island.

Page 1, Article 7  
That only the indigenous Fulani that their identity are known that should be allowed to graze on Adapati Island.

**Cultural heritage** No specific mention.

**Environment** No specific mention.

**Water or riparian  
rights or access** Page 1, Article 3  
Hitherto, the Island is also opened to Agatu for fishing without threat.

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## **Security sector**

### **Security Guarantees**

Page 1, Article 8

That Neither Agatu nor Fulani herdsmen are allowed to carry about any dangerous Arm such as Gun, Matchet and Explosives.

Page 1, Article 9

That soldier shall invade the Island on hearing of any gun shot by either Agatu youth or Fulani herdsmen.

Page 2, Article 10

That both Agatu youth and Fulani herdsmen should not deploy any armed group to any location except directed by the military.

Page 2, Article 11

That any armed group from either side that cross over illegally will be engaged by 72 SFBN and 177 BN.

Page 2, Article 12

That this agreement shall be monitored by the military from time to time.

Page 2, Article 13

Any breach of this agreement shall lead to the withdrawal of this agreement and the military shall take over the occupation of the Island.

### **Ceasefire**

No specific mention.

### **Police**

No specific mention.

### **Armed forces**

No specific mention.

### **DDR**

No specific mention.

### **Intelligence services**

No specific mention.

### **Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces**

No specific mention.

### **Withdrawal of foreign forces**

No specific mention.

<b>Corruption</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Crime/organised crime</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Drugs</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Terrorism</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Transitional justice**

<b>Transitional justice general</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Amnesty/pardon</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Courts</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Mechanism</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Prisoner release</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Vetting</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Victims</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Missing persons</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Reparations</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Reconciliation</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Implementation**

<b>UN signatory</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Other international signatory</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Referendum for agreement</b>	No specific mention.

<b>International mission/force/similar</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Enforcement mechanism</b>	Page 2, Article 13 Any breach of this agreement shall lead to the withdrawal of this agreement and the military shall take over the occupation of the Island.
<b>Related cases</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Source</b>	On file with author.

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