

Country/entity South Sudan
Sudan
Southern Kordofan - Blue Nile - Abyei

Region Africa (excl MENA)

Agreement name Convention for fraternity and peaceful co-existence between Messiriya Tribes, (Ajaira) and the Denka of Abyei: 3 – 11 October 2001

Date 11 Oct 2001

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: Pre-secession Local Peace Processes
Parties	Messeriya tribes (Ajaira) and the Dinka of Abyei
Third parties	-
Description	The Convention for Fraternity and Peaceful Coexistence between the Messiriya Tribes (Ajaira) and the Denka of Abyei, held from October 3-11, 2001, was a local peace agreement in the Abyei area of South Sudan. The agreement aimed to restore peaceful coexistence between the two tribes, who had previously coexisted peacefully for many years, but had experienced friction due to rebellion. The recommendations of the agreement included denouncing differences and factors of conflict, twinning between the tribes on pasture, agriculture, and other resources, ensuring the rights of citizenship for both tribes, and forming joint committees to tour states where displaced persons from Abyei currently live, among others.

Agreement document [SS_SD_011011_Convention for fraternity and peaceful co-existence between Messiriya Tribes, \(Ajaira\) and the Denka of Abyei.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 Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Rhetorical
Page 1, Recommendations;
The [Muglad] conference recommends the following;
...
3.Tribal leaders, each in his areas of jurisdiction, to ensure the rights of citizenship for the two tribes.
4.To communicate with the sons of Abyei with the rebel movement in and outside the country so that they contribute to development and stability]
Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Substantive
Page 1, Recommendations;
The [Muglad] conference recommends the following;
...
8.Formation of a committee from both tribes and to let them understand the contents of the Convention for Fraternal and Peaceful Coexistence.

Religious groups No specific mention.

Indigenous people No specific mention.

Other groups No specific mention.

Refugees/displaced persons Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Substantive Page 1, Recommendations;
The [Muglad] conference recommends the following;
...
6. Formation of a joint committee, which will tour all states where people from Abyei Dinka currently live so that they return home immediately to participate in development, stability and production.
...
9. Give priority for the return of displaced persons to their respective areas, particularly the villages around Abyei, availing adequate circumstances.

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) 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** Page 1, Recommendations;
The [Muglad] conference recommends the following;
...
4.To communicate with the sons of Abyei with the rebel movement in and outside the
country so that they contribute to development and stability

Governance

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

Elections No specific mention.

**Electoral
commission** No specific mention.

**Political parties
reform** No specific mention.

Civil society No specific mention.

**Traditional/
religious leaders** Page 1, Recommendations;
The [Muglad] conference recommends the following;
...
3.Tribal leaders, each in his areas of jurisdiction, to ensure the rights of citizenship for the
two tribes.
...
5.To give a chance to the Emirs and section leaders, (the Abyei Peace Committee) to
continue their contacts with their sons with the rebel movement for the a total peace in
the area

**Public
administration** No specific mention.

Constitution No specific mention.

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 No specific mention.

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, Recommendations;
The [Muglad] conference recommends the following;
...
3.Tribal leaders, each in his areas of jurisdiction, to ensure the rights of citizenship for the two tribes.

Democracy No specific mention.

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 Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development
Page 1, Recommendations;
The [Muglad] conference recommends the following;
...
6. Formation of a joint committee, which will tour all states where people from Abyei Dinka currently live so that they return home immediately to participate in development, stability and production.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources Page 1, Recommendations;
The [Muglad] conference recommends the following;
...
2.Twinning between Dinka and Messiriya tribes on pasture, agriculture and other resources.
...
7.Encourage and insure safety of agricultural production around Abyei by establishing model villages in Naam of Deng Majok, Urn Balayil, Banton, Tajalei

International funds No specific mention.

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** Page 1, Recommendations;
The [Muglad] conference recommends the following;
...
2.Twinning between Dinka and Messiriya tribes on pasture, agriculture and other resources.

Cultural heritage No specific mention.

Environment No specific mention.

**Water or riparian
rights or access** No specific mention.

Security sector

**Security
Guarantees** Page 1, Recommendations;
The [Muglad] conference recommends the following;
...
7.Encourage and insure safety of agricultural production around Abyei by establishing model villages in Naam of Deng Majok, Urn Balayil, Banton, Tajalei

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	Page 1, Recommendations; The [Muglad] conference recommends the following; ... 4.To communicate with the sons of Abyei with the rebel movement in and outside the country so that they contribute to development and stability
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	No specific mention.
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	No specific mention.

Missing persons No specific mention.

Reparations No specific mention.

Reconciliation No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source Rift Valley Institute, 2002. Conflict Transformation in Abyei [presentation at Joint Donors Meeting hosted by Netherlands Embassy], 4 June 2002. SLPD_20020604_01, p. 6. Sudan Open Archive. Available at: <https://www.sudanarchive.net/>
