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| Country/entity | South Sudan Sudan |
| Region | Africa (excl MENA) |
| Agreement name | Agreement on Security Arrangements during the Interim Period |
| Date | 25 Sep 2003 |
| Agreement status | Multiparty signed/agreed |
| Interim arrangement | Yes |

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/intrastate 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 Government/territory

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Peace process | Sudanese (North-South) peace process |
| Parties | Hon. Idris Mohamed Abdelgadir for: The Government of the Sudan; Cdr. Pa'gan Amum Okiech, for: The Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army |
| Third parties | Witnessed by: Lt Gen. Lazaro K. Sumbeiywo (Rtd) Special Envoy IGAD Sudan Peace Process and on behalf of the IGAD Envoys |
| Description | An agreement by the Parties that provides the current status of the two forces and their future redeployment, as well as a program for the interim-period, if the Referendum does establish National Unity, that includes military power-sharing programme to create Joint/Integrated Units founded on a common military doctrine. The Parties agreed that this would only include their forces, and that they would in the future address the status of other armed groups to realize inclusivity in the transition process. |

Agreement document [SD_030925_Agmt on Security Arrangements in Interim Period.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 | No specific mention. |
| Refugees/displaced persons | No specific mention. |
| 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 3, 4.1 Elaboration on Joint/Integrated Units:
b. Their Functions:
I. They will be a symbol of national unity during the Interim Period.
II. They will be a symbol of sovereignty during the Interim Period.
III. They will participate in the defence of the country together with the two forces.
IV. They will provide a nucleus of a post Interim Period future army of the Sudan should the vote of referendum confirm unity.
V. They shall be involved in the reconstruction of the country.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination Page 1, 1. Status Of The Two Armed Forces:
a. In the context of a united Sudan, and should the result of the referendum on self-determination confirm unity, the Parties (the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan People's liberation Movement and Army) agree to the formation of the future army of Sudan that shall be composed from the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

Referendum

Page 1, 1. Status Of The Two Armed Forces:

a. In the context of a united Sudan, and should the result of the referendum on self-determination confirm unity, the Parties (the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan People's liberation Movement and Army) agree to the formation of the future army of Sudan that shall be composed from the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

Page 2, 4. Joint/Integrated Units: There shall be formed Joint/ Integrated Units consisting of equal numbers from the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) during the Interim Period. The Joint/ Integrated Units shall constitute a nucleus of a post referendum army of Sudan, should the result of the referendum confirm unity, otherwise they would be dissolved and the component parts integrated into their respective forces.

Page 4, 6. Common Military Doctrine: The parties shall develop a common military doctrine as a basis for the Joint/Integrated Units, as well as a basis for a post Interim Period army of the Sudan, if the referendum vote is in favour of unity. The parties shall develop this common doctrine within one year from the beginning of the Interim Period. During the Interim Period, the training of the SPLA (in the South), the SAF (in the North) and the joint units (in both North and South) will be based on this common doctrine.

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)→Temporary new institutions Page 2, 3. Redeployment: d. The SPLM/A undertakes that the demobilized Southern Sudanese from those currently serving in SAF in Southern Sudan shall be absorbed into various institutions of the Government of Southern Sudan along with demobilized SPLA soldiers. Page 4, 8. National Security Organs and Police forces: Structures and arrangements affecting all law enforcement organs, especially the Police, and National Security Organs shall be dealt with as part of the power sharing arrangements, and tied where is necessary to the appropriate level of the executive. |
| Elections | No specific mention. |
| Electoral commission | No specific mention. |
| Political parties reform | No specific mention. |
| Civil society | Page 4, 7. Status of Other Armed Groups In The Country: b. The Parties agree that those mentioned in 7(a) who have the desire and qualify shall be incorporated into the organized forces of either Party (Army, Police, Prisons and Wildlife forces), while the rest shall be reintegrated into the civil service and civil society institutions. |
| Traditional/religious leaders | No specific mention. |
| 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

Power sharing→Military power sharing→Merger of forces

Page 1, 1. Status Of The Two Armed Forces:

a. In the context of a united Sudan, and should the result of the referendum on self-determination confirm unity, the Parties (the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan People's liberation Movement and Army) agree to the formation of the future army of Sudan that shall be composed from the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

Page 2, 1. Status Of The Two Armed Forces:

b. As part of a peace agreement and in order to end the war, the Parties agree that the two forces, the SAF and the SPLA shall remain separate during the Interim Period, and further agree that both forces shall be considered and treated equally as Sudan's National Armed Forces during the Interim Period taking into consideration 1(c) below.

Page 2, 1. Status Of The Two Armed Forces:

c. The parties agree to the principles of proportional downsizing of the forces on both sides, at a suitable time, following the completion of the comprehensive ceasefire arrangements.

Page 2, 3. Redeployment:

b. Except for those deployed in the Joint/Integrated Units, the rest of the forces of SAF currently deployed in the south shall be redeployed North of the South/North border of 1/1/1956 under international monitoring and assistance within and up to two and one half years (2 1/2) from the beginning of the pre-Interim Period.

Page 2, 3. Redeployment:

c. Except for those deployed in the Joint/Integrated Units, the rest of SPLA forces currently deployed in Nuba Mountains and Southern Blue Nile shall be redeployed South of the South/North border of 1/1/1956 as soon as the Joint/Integrated Units are formed and deployed under international monitoring and assistance.

Page 2, 4. Joint/Integrated Units: There shall be formed Joint/ Integrated Units consisting of equal numbers from the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) during the Interim Period. The Joint/ Integrated Units shall constitute a nucleus of a post referendum army of Sudan, should the result of the referendum confirm unity, otherwise they would be dissolved and the component parts integrated into their respective forces.

Page 3, 4.1 Elaboration on Joint/Integrated Unites:

a. They should have a new character based on a common doctrine.

Page 3, 4.1 Elaboration on Joint/Integrated Units:

b. Their Functions:

I. They will be a symbol of national unity during the Interim Period.

II. They will be a symbol of sovereignty during the Interim Period.

III. They will participate in the defence of the country together with the two forces.

IV. They will provide a nucleus of a post Interim Period future army of the Sudan should the vote of referendum confirm unity.

V. They shall be involved in the reconstruction of the country.

Page 3, 4.1 Elaboration on Joint/Integrated Units:

c. Size and Deployment: The size and deployment of the Joint/Integrated Units throughout the Interim Period shall be as indicated below:

I. Southern Sudan: twenty four thousands (24,000)

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 No specific mention.

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 Justice sector reform→Criminal justice and emergency law→Reform to specific laws
Page 2, 1. Status Of The Two Armed Forces:
d. The national Armed Forces shall have no internal law and order mandate except in constitutionally specified emergencies.

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 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 No specific mention.

Cultural heritage No specific mention.

Environment Page 4, 7. Status of Other Armed Groups In The Country:
b. The Parties agree that those mentioned in 7(a) who have the desire and qualify shall be incorporated into the organized forces of either Party (Army, Police, Prisons and Wildlife forces), while the rest shall be reintegrated into the civil service and civil society institutions.

Water or riparian rights or access No specific mention.

Security sector

Security Guarantees No specific mention.

Ceasefire Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision
Page 1, Untitled Preamble
IT IS AGREED AND CONFIRMED THAT the Parties shall immediately resume negotiations on the remaining outstanding issues and subsequently negotiate a comprehensive ceasefire agreement in order to achieve a final, comprehensive Peace Agreement in the Sudan.

Page 2, 2. Ceasefire: The parties agree to an internationally monitored ceasefire which shall come into effect from the date of signature of a Comprehensive Peace Agreement. Details of the Ceasefire Agreement shall be worked out by the two parties together with the IGAD mediators and international experts.

Page 2, 3. Redeployment:
a. The two forces shall be disengaged, separated, encamped and redeployed as will be detailed in the Comprehensive Ceasefire Agreement.

Police Page 4, 7. Status of Other Armed Groups In The Country:
b. The Parties agree that those mentioned in 7(a) who have the desire and qualify shall be incorporated into the organized forces of either Party (Army, Police, Prisons and Wildlife forces), while the rest shall be reintegrated into the civil service and civil society institutions.

Page 4, 8. National Security Organs and Police forces:
Structures and arrangements affecting all law enforcement organs, especially the Police, and National Security Organs shall be dealt with as part of the power sharing arrangements, and tied where is necessary to the appropriate level of the executive.

Armed forces

Page 1, 1. Status Of The Two Armed Forces:

a. In the context of a united Sudan, and should the result of the referendum on self-determination confirm unity, the Parties (the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan People's liberation Movement and Army) agree to the formation of the future army of Sudan that shall be composed from the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

Page 2, 1. Status Of The Two Armed Forces:

b. As part of a peace agreement and in order to end the war, the Parties agree that the two forces, the SAF and the SPLA shall remain separate during the Interim Period, and further agree that both forces shall be considered and treated equally as Sudan's National Armed Forces during the Interim Period taking into consideration 1(c) below.

Page 2, 1. Status Of The Two Armed Forces:

c. The parties agree to the principles of proportional downsizing of the forces on both sides, at a suitable time, following the completion of the comprehensive ceasefire arrangements.

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Page 2, 3. Redeployment:

b. Except for those deployed in the Joint/Integrated Units, the rest of the forces of SAF currently deployed in the south shall be redeployed North of the South/North border of 1/1/1956 under international monitoring and assistance within and up to two and one half years (2 1/2) from the beginning of the pre-Interim Period.

Page 2, 3. Redeployment:

d. The SPLM/A undertakes that the demobilized Southern Sudanese from those currently serving in SAF in Southern Sudan shall be absorbed into various institutions of the Government of Southern Sudan along with demobilized SPLA soldiers.

Page 2, 4. Joint/Integrated Units: There shall be formed Joint/ Integrated Units consisting of equal numbers from the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) during the Interim Period. The Joint/ Integrated Units shall constitute a nucleus of a post referendum army of Sudan, should the result of the referendum confirm unity, otherwise they would be dissolved and the component parts integrated into their respective forces.

Page 3, 4.1 Elaboration on Joint/Integrated Units:

b. Their Functions: [...]

III. They will participate in the defence of the country together with the two forces.

Page 3, 5. Command and Control of The Two Forces:

1. The Parties agree to establish a Joint Defence Board (JDB) under the Presidency, and shall be comprised of the chiefs of staff of the two forces, their deputies and any number of senior officers to be agreed to by the parties. It shall take its decisions by consensus and it shall be chaired alternately by the respective Chiefs of Staff.

DDR

Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes

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Page 2, 3. Redeployment:

c. Except for those deployed in the Joint/Integrated Units, the rest of SPLA forces currently deployed in Nuba Mountains and Southern Blue Nile shall be redeployed South of the South/North border of 1/1/1956 as soon as the Joint/Integrated Units are formed and deployed under international monitoring and assistance.

Page 2, 3. Redeployment:

d. The SPLM/A undertakes that the demobilized Southern Sudanese from those currently serving in SAF in Southern Sudan shall be absorbed into various institutions of the Government of Southern Sudan along with demobilized SPLA soldiers.

Page 2, 3. Redeployment:

e. The parties agree to implement with the assistance of the international community DDR programmes for the benefit of all those who will be affected by the reduction, demobilization and downsizing of the forces as agreed in 1(c) , 3(d) and 7(B).

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b. Their Functions: [...]

III. They will participate in the defence of the country together with the two forces.

IV. They will provide a nucleus of a post referendum army of the Sudan should the vote of referendum confirm unity.

V. They shall be involved in the reconstruction of the country.

Intelligence services

No specific mention.

**Parastatal/rebel
and opposition
group forces**

Page 4, 7. Status of Other Armed Groups In The Country:

a. No armed group allied to either party shall be allowed to operate outside the two forces.

Page 4, 7. Status of Other Armed Groups In The Country:

b. The Parties agree that those mentioned in 7(a) who have the desire and qualify shall be incorporated into the organized forces of either Party (Army, Police, Prisons and Wildlife forces), while the rest shall be reintegrated into the civil service and civil society institutions.

Page 4, 7. Status of Other Armed Groups In The Country:

c. The parties agree to address the status of other armed groups in the country with the view of achieving comprehensive peace and stability in the country and to realize full inclusiveness in the transition process.

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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 | Page 2, 2. Ceasefire: The parties agree to an internationally monitored ceasefire which shall come into effect from the date of signature of a Comprehensive Peace Agreement. Details of the Ceasefire Agreement shall be worked out by the two parties together with the IGAD mediators and international experts. |
| Enforcement mechanism | No specific mention. |
| Related cases | No specific mention. |
| Source | Peacemaker.un.org,. 2015. 'UN Peacemaker'. http://peacemaker.un.org . Unmis.unmissions.org,. 2015. 'United Nations Missions In Sudan (UNMIS)'. http://unmis.unmissions.org/ . |
