

Country/entity	Liberia
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities and Peaceful Settlement of Conflict in Liberia (Banjul III Agreement)
Date	24 Oct 1990
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

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	Done at Banjul, Republic of Gambia, this 24th day of October, 1990 (Signed): Lieutenant-General John Hezekiah Bowen, For and on behalf of The Armed Forces of Liberia (Signed): For and on behalf of The National Patriotic Front of Liberia [Not signed by an NPFL representative] (Signed): Dr. Peter Lorkula Naigow For and on behalf of The Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia

Third parties Witnessed by: [signature illegible]
Chairman, Ministerial Meeting of the ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee
[presumed to be H.E Alhaji Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara, President of The Gambia]

Description This agreement establishes the ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee as an appropriate mechanism for conducting the Liberian Peace Negotiations on behalf of ECOWAS and provides for a ceasefire and its modalities between the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL), and the Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia (INPFL). The agreement was also originally meant to include the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) but no NPFL representative attended the negotiations or signed the agreement.

Agreement document [LR_901024_Banjul Ceasefire.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 Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical
Page 1, Untitled Preamble, para 2: Recognising the wanton destruction of human life and property and the displacement of persons occasioned by the said conflict;

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 No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed) Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→General references
Page 1, Article 1 Cease-fire: 1. Each Party hereby agrees to take immediately and as a contribution to the restoration and maintenance of peace and security throughout Liberia, the following measures:
...c) refrain from any activity which might prejudice the functioning of the Interim Government or the holding of democratically conducted general and presidential elections for a new government for the governance of Liberia;
...h) respect, unless otherwise suspended to facilitate the administration of the country by the Interim Government, the Constitution of the Republic of Liberia adopted on 6 January 1986;

Elections Page 1, Article 1 Cease-fire: 1. Each Party hereby agrees to take immediately and as a contribution to the restoration and maintenance of peace and security throughout Liberia, the following measures:
...c) refrain from any activity which might prejudice the functioning of the Interim Government or the holding of democratically conducted general and presidential elections for a new government for the governance of Liberia;

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society No specific mention.

Traditional/religious leaders No specific mention.

Public administration No specific mention.

Constitution Governance→Constitution→Constitution affirmation/renewal
Page 2, Article 1 Cease-fire: 1. Each Party hereby agrees to take immediately and as a contribution to the restoration and maintenance of peace and security throughout Liberia, the following measures:
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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 Page 2, Article 1 Cease-fire: 1. Each Party hereby agrees to take immediately and as a contribution to the restoration and maintenance of peace and security throughout Liberia, the following measures:
...i) fully co-operate with the ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee, the ECOWAS Executive Secretary and the ECOWAS Cease-fire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) for the effective maintenance of the cease-fire and for the restoration of law and order.

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 Page 1, Article 1 Cease-fire: 1. Each Party hereby agrees to take immediately and as a contribution to the restoration and maintenance of peace and security throughout Liberia, the following measures:
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Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication No specific mention.

Mobility/access Page 2, Article 1 Cease-fire: 1. Each Party hereby agrees to take immediately and as a contribution to the restoration and maintenance of peace and security throughout Liberia, the following measures:
...f) agree that ECOMOG may inspect all ships calling at any Liberian port and all vehicles and aircraft entering through the land borders, airfields and other entry points of Liberia to ensure that the provisions of this Cease-fire Agreement are being respected and observed;

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 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 No specific mention.

Water or riparian rights or access Page 2, Article 1 Cease-fire: 1. Each Party hereby agrees to take immediately and as a contribution to the restoration and maintenance of peace and security throughout Liberia, the following measures:
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Security sector

**Security
Guarantees**

Page 1, Untitled Preamble, para 1: Aware of the armed conflict existing between the parties to the conflict;

Page 1, Article 1 Cease-fire: 1. Each Party hereby agrees to take immediately and as a contribution to the restoration and maintenance of peace and security throughout Liberia, the following measures:

...e) assist ECOMOG in the drawing up of a buffer zone of at least thirty (30) km wide to separate the opposing forces, and of standard operating procedures (SOPs) for check-point operations;

Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision

[Summary: The entire agreement provides for a ceasefire and its modalities. The ceasefire commences at 0600 on the seventh day from signature of the agreement (31/10/1990) it is unclear whether it is a temporary or permanent ceasefire].

Page 1, Article 1 Cease-fire: 1. Each Party hereby agrees to take immediately and as a contribution to the restoration and maintenance of peace and security throughout Liberia, the following measures:

- a) cease all activities of a military and paramilitary nature, as well as all acts of violence as at 0600 hours on the seventh day from signature of this Agreement;
- b) refrain from importing or acquiring or assisting or encouraging the importation and acquisition of weapons or war materials;
- c) refrain from any activity which might prejudice the functioning of the Interim Government or the holding of democratically conducted general and presidential elections for a new government for the governance of Liberia;
- d) confine its troops to positions to be determined by ECOMOG in consultation with the parties; ECOMOG shall disarm all troops and other armed residents, immediately all the three parties sign this Agreement;
- e) assist ECOMOG in the drawing up of a buffer zone of at least thirty (30) km wide to separate the opposing forces, and of standard operating procedures (SOPs) for check-point operations;
- f) agree that ECOMOG may inspect all ships calling at any Liberian port and all vehicles and aircraft entering through the land borders, airfields and other entry points of Liberia to ensure that the provisions of this Cease-fire Agreement are being respected and observed;
- g) release all hostages, political prisoners and prisoners of war;
- h) respect, unless otherwise suspended to facilitate the administration of the country by the Interim Government, the Constitution of the Republic of Liberia adopted on 6 January 1986;
- i) fully co-operate with the ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee, the ECOWAS Executive Secretary and the ECOWAS Cease-fire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) for the effective maintenance of the cease-fire and for the restoration of law and order.

Page 2, Article 1 Cease-fire: 2. In order to arrive at a peaceful and lasting settlement of the dispute, the parties hereby accept the ECOWAS Cease-fire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) established 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.

Page 2, Article 1 Cease-fire: 3. ECOMOG shall be as presently constituted and may include military contingents from Member States of ECOWAS able and willing to contribute.

Page 2, Article 1 Cease-fire: 4. ECOMOG shall assist the ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee in supervising the implementation and in ensuring the strict compliance by the parties with the provisions of this Cease-fire Agreement throughout the territory of Liberia.

Page 2, Article 2 Compliance with this Agreement: The parties undertake to observe strictly the terms of this Agreement and to abstain from any action likely to impede the mediation process or the return of Liberia to peace and stability.

Page 2, Article 3 Entry Into Force: This Agreement shall enter into force upon signature by the duly mandated representatives of the parties hereto.

Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	Page 1, Article 1 Cease-fire: 1. Each Party hereby agrees to take immediately and as a contribution to the restoration and maintenance of peace and security throughout Liberia, the following measures: a) cease all activities of a military and paramilitary nature, as well as all acts of violence as at 0600 hours on the seventh day from signature of this Agreement;
DDR	Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions Page 1, Article 1 Cease-fire: 1. Each Party hereby agrees to take immediately and as a contribution to the restoration and maintenance of peace and security throughout Liberia, the following measures: ...d) confine its troops to positions to be determined by ECOMOG in consultation with the parties; ECOMOG shall disarm all troops and other armed residents, immediately all the three parties sign this Agreement;
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	Page 1, Article 1 Cease-fire: 1. Each Party hereby agrees to take immediately and as a contribution to the restoration and maintenance of peace and security throughout Liberia, the following measures: a) cease all activities of a military and paramilitary nature, as well as all acts of violence as at 0600 hours on the seventh day from signature of this Agreement;
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 2, Article 1 Cease-fire: 1. Each Party hereby agrees to take immediately and as a contribution to the restoration and maintenance of peace and security throughout Liberia, the following measures: ...g) release all hostages, political prisoners and prisoners of war;
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	Witnessed by: [signature illegible] Chairman, Ministerial Meeting of the ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee [presumed to be H.E Alhaji Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara, President of The Gambia]
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar

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Enforcement mechanism

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Related cases

No specific mention.

Source

UN Peacemaker: <http://peacemaker.un.org/>