

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

Region Africa (excl MENA)

Agreement name Joint Final Communique and Resolutions: Dinka Malual and Misseriyya Grassroots Peace Conference

Date 14 Nov 2008

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	Kordofan - Blue Nile - Abyei process
Parties	<p>Dinka Malual and Messiriya Al Humus of Al Fiyareen and Awlad Kamil</p> <p>Signatories:</p> <p>Dinka:</p> <p>Chief Acien Acien Yor</p> <p>Chief Makuac Makuac Kuol</p> <p>Misseriya:</p> <p>Amir Harika Osman</p> <p>Amir Ismail M. Yousif</p>
Third parties	<p>Witnesses:</p> <p>H.E. Maj. Gen. Paul Malong Awan, Governor NBGS</p> <p>Mr Aldo Ajou Deng, Chair DMMPC</p> <p>Mr Marko Ujomo, Adviser WBGS</p> <p>Hon El Taher El Rigig El Haj</p> <p>Mr. Omer Sulieman Adam, Governor SKS</p> <p>Mr. Alkhair A. El Makki, D/Chair DMMPC</p> <p>John Marks, USAID</p> <p>Hon Garang Jal Akuer</p>
Description	Peace conference resolution and joint statement between Dinka and Misseriya, seeking to protect herders and establish mechanisms for grazing rights and water access, protect women and children, implement joint development and the control of small arms as stipulated in the CPA.

Agreement document [SS_081114_Joint Communique and Resolutions Dinka Malual and Messiriya Grassroots Peace Conference .pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Local agreement properties

Process type Formal structured process

Rationale The agreement indicates that multiple state actors have been involved in the planning of the 'Grassroot Peace Conference' that led to the signing of this agreement (page 3). The conference was funded by USAID and flights were provided by the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement (SPLM). A secondary source corroborates that several months of preparation at the grassroots and higher levels preceded the event (see references, Skye Wheeler 2008a). It does not appear to be an isolated example; the NGO Policy Advocacy and Strategic Studies (PASS) that facilitated this agreement was involved in another 'Grassroot Peace Conference' in Aweil about two years later (see Communiqué: Dinka Malual & Rezeigat Grassroots Peace Conference; 25/01/2010).

Is there a documented link to a national peace process? Yes

Link to national process: articulated rationale The agreement references the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) three times (pp. 2 & 7), refers to the 'wisdom and good leadership of the Presidency, H.E. President Omar El Bashir, First Vice President Salve Kiir Mayardit and Vice President Ali Osman Taha; (p. 3). There was high-level involvement at the conference and the agreement contains provisions on the Centre for the Eradication of the Abduction of Women and Children (CEWAC) (p. 6) which was formed by President El Bashir. A secondary source states that preparatory work took place at the levels of the Government of National Unity (GONU) and the Government of Southern Sudan (GOSS)(see references, Skye Wheeler 2008a). This suggests that the agreement is (indirectly) linked to post-CPA national-level processes.

Name of Locale Southern Kordofan (Sudan) - Northern Bahr al Ghazal (South Sudan) border area

Nature of Locale Region

GPS Lat/Long (DD) 9.482665, 27.970404

Participant type Local armed group
International or transnational actor
Domestic religious organisation/leader or other elder
Local community/civilian group(s)/civil society organisations
Regional state actor

Mediator, facilitator or similar Mediator or similar referred to

Mediator (references) Facilitators: Leadership of the Joint Committee led by Mr Aldo Ajou Deng and Hon Alkhair Al Faheim El Makki, Lt. Gen. (RT) Abdel Rahman and Dr. Dhieu Mathok Diing, planning and supervision; Policy Advocacy and Strategic Studies (PASS) [NGO] Funders: USAID, RACDO/AEM, Government of NBGS and Southern Kordofan State Logistical supporter: supported by Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement (SPLM) with flights

Type of mediator/facilitator/similar Regional state actor Local armed group Local community/civilian group(s)/civil society organisations International or transnational actor

Local issues

Ritual/prayer and process (including use of scripture)

No specific mention.

Grievance List

Page 2, ... 3. Recalling the long history of suffering as a result of the just ended North/South war that destroyed the lives and loving youth from our communities and looting of livestock that has further caused profound grievances to our convictions and continued to by the cause of mischief to our mutual trust;

...

5. Mindful of our shared desire to return of the innocent abducted children and women as

documented by Committee for Eradication of Abduction of Women and Children (CEAWC);

...

7. Recalling that this conference shall signal lasting end of long history of marginalization and exploitation of our natural resources and neglect to our local interest and needs;

Page 3, ... 9. We the conferees deplore war and we are committed to end the instability and mutual destruction to our resources and resulting unjustified impediment of development and therefore the two parties on the following recommendations that emerged from our conference as per attached to be immediately implemented upon the date of signature;

Cattle rustling/ banditry

Page 2, ... 3. Recalling the long history of suffering as a result of the just ended North/South war that destroyed the lives and loving youth from our communities and looting of livestock that has further caused profound grievances to our convictions and continued to by the cause of mischief to our mutual trust;

Page 5, SECTION I RECOMMENDATIONS ON EQUITABLE SHARING OF GRAZING LANDS AND WATER POINTS, 1. The conference recommends, the Dinka Malual to allow the Messiriya pastoralists or nomads to enter Northern Bahr El Ghazal without carrying firearms.

...

3. Formation/establishment of joint native courts with wide powers to look into common customary laws and prevent stealing of livestock and properties.

Social cover

No specific mention.