

Country/entity South Sudan

Region Africa (excl MENA)

Agreement name Agreement between the Wonduruba Community and the SPLA Commando Unit

Date 3 Dec 2015

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: Post-secession Local agreements
Parties	<p>Signatories:</p> <p>Engineer Juma Stephen Lugga Representative of Wounduruba Community</p> <p>Colonel Juma Sanango Kher Alla Representative of SPLA, Commando Unit</p>
Third parties	<p>Bishop Paul Yugusuk, Lead Mediator, Church Leaders Mediation Initiative</p> <p>Witnesses:</p> <p>Hon. Augustino Kiri Gwolo Commissioner of Lainya County & Representative of the Government of Central Equatoria State,</p> <p>Major General Johnson Juma Okot, SPLA Division VI Commander</p> <p>Rt. Rev. Matthew Taban Peter, Diocesan Bishop of Wounduruba</p> <p>Rt. Rev. Bismark Manday Avokaya, Diocesan Bishop of Mundri</p>
Description	Agreement brokers peace between the SPLA unit stationed in Wonduruba represented by Col. Juma Sanango Kher Alla, and the local community following abuses by the SPLA unit and mass displacement. The agreement seeks to promote forgiveness between the two sides, punishment of soldiers who perpetrated crimes, a re-instatement of local government officials/offices and a return of refugees.

Agreement document [SS_151203_Agreement between Wonduruba Community and SPLA Commando Unit.pdf \(opens in new tab\) | Download PDF](#)

Local agreement properties

Process type Formal structured process

Rationale The agreement is the result of a two-day 'peace and Reconciliation dialogue mediated by Church Leader Meditation Initiative'. Church leaders and sub-national government officials signed the agreement and attended an official ceremony to mark the outcome of the mediation initiative. Limited background research does not suggest a history of signing peace agreements in Wonduruba specifically. However, this agreement is part of a mediation initiative of the Church Leaders Mediation team that has led to the signing of another agreement in Equatoria (Mundri agreement, 15 November 2015).

Is there a documented link to a national peace process?	No
Link to national process: articulated rationale	Neither the agreement text nor limited background research suggests a link to the national-level peace process. Boswell (2019, 12; see references) notes that the mediation initiative that led to the signing of the agreement was not officially recognised or supported by the main conflict parties (the Government of South Sudan and the SPLA-IO).
Name of Locale	Wonduruba
Nature of Locale	Region
GPS Lat/Long (DD)	4.319055, 30.982015
Participant type	Local state 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)	Mediators: Bishop Paul Yugusuk, Lead Mediator, Church Leaders Mediation Initiative; Rt. Rev. Matthew Taban Peter, Diocesan Bishop of Wonduruba, Witness; Rt. Rev. Bismark Manday Avokaya, Diocesan Bishop of Mundri, Witness
Type of mediator/facilitator/similar	Domestic religious organisation/leader or other elder

Local issues

Ritual/prayer and process (including use of scripture)	No specific mention.
Grievance List	Page 3, Resolution No. 10, That the Wonduruba Payam administrative area coordinator shall established a committee to investigate loss of live, looted shops, houses, hospitals, Government and non- Governmental institutions etc as a result of the conflict and consequently submit a report to the Governor of Central Equatoria State for appropriate action
Cattle rustling/ banditry	No specific mention.
Social cover	Page 3, Resolutions No. 8, That the leadership of the SPLA shall take appropriate disciplinary measures on officers and NCO's who will commit crime in the community.