

Country/entity	South Sudan
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Final Report of the Inter Church Committee on Peace and Reconciliation Mission to Magwi County
Date	15 Dec 2011
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 Pre-negotiation/process

Conflict nature Inter-group

Peace process	South Sudan: Post-secession Local agreements
Parties	The document is not signed, but it does address the violence between the Acholi and Madi.
Third parties	Page 1: Sudan Council of Churches, Government of Eastern Equatoria State Inter Church Committee Page 2: UNMIS, UNHCR ad the NCA attended as observers
Description	After a violent clash between Acholi and Madi in Magwi County, leaving six dead and many displaced the Sudan Council for Churches toured the area to request calm, and were requested by local communities to take a role in facilitating an end to the conflict. As a result they consulted with all parties and toured the area, and made a series of findings, and a set of recommendations to all parties for steps towards peace which reflected the positions articulated to them. As such, this is a document classified as relating to pre-negotiation and process stage.

Agreement document [SS_111215_Final Report of the Inter Church Committee on Peace and Reconciliation Mission to Magwi County.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Local agreement properties

Process type	Formal structured process Isolated example
Rationale	The process for resolving the conflict between the Acholi and Madi in Magwi County was formal and structured, with the Inter Church Committee tasked with conducting consultations. This was followed up on in the form of a UNMISS-supported meeting in April 2012. However, there is no record of further formal agreements made, hence the combination of a formal structured process which also yields this report/agreement as an isolated example of formalized peacemaking.
Is there a documented link to a national peace process?	No
Link to national process: articulated rationale	The link to the national process is tenuous, and could be said to exist as the Acholi-Madi violence is partly related to the legacy of conflict. However, the core of the issue is the demarcation between the local government units in Magwi County.
Name of Locale	Magwi County
Nature of Locale	Region

GPS Lat/Long (DD) 3.991413, 32.175568

Participant type Domestic religious organisation/leader or other elder
Local community/civilian group(s)/civil society organisations

Mediator, facilitator or similar Mediator or similar referred to

Mediator (references) The agreement notes the following actors as supporting the talks: Page 1: Sudan Council of Churches, Government of Eastern Equatoria State Inter Church Committee Page 2: UNMIS, UNHCR ad the NCA attended as observers

Type of mediator/facilitator/similar Local state actor Domestic religious organisation/leader or other elder International or transnational actor

Local issues

**Ritual/prayer and
process (including
use of scripture)**

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1. Background

The government also gave its blessings to the Committee and provided it with material and financial support.

Grievance List

Page 1:

1. Background

In October and November this year 2011, violent clashes erupted in several localities of Magwi County, involving mostly Acholi and Madi. These' Clashes resulted in:

- Five (05) known deaths (one Acholi and four Madi).
- One (01) person missing and presumed
- Several houses and property were destroyed from both sides,
- Displacement of significant sections of the population both sides.
- A deepening feeling of mistrust, bigotry bitter recriminations and deep-rooted animosities among the sisterly Acholi and Madi Communities Magwi County and elsewhere

Page 2:

1. After intense brainstorming and deliberations, the meeting identified four (04) issues as being the triggers of the October/November 2011 clashes. The issues are:

Border Demarcation.

- Demand for creation for new Local Government Units (Counties and Payams).
- The demarcation of Ame(e) Junction.
- Some Politicians and some elders from both communities Inciting Violence.

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2.3 On the Issue of the Demarcation of Ame(e) Junction

With regard to the demarcation of Ame(e) junction the ICC team found the following:

- That one of root causes of the October/November 2011 clashes was Government's decision to relocate the Check Point from Pageri to Ame(e) Junction and subsequent attempts by the Government and some individuals or group of individuals to demarcate land to accommodate the new Check Point without prior consultations with the local stakeholder communities.
- That this lack of consultation created mistrust and suspicion between the Acholi and Madi communities especially as they viewed the demarcation as a ploy by the Acholi to appropriate their land.
- As a result of this mistrust and suspicion violence broke out resulting in the beating, burning of houses and the looting of the property (including goats) by Acholi youth belonging to a Madi community elder, Remigio Lado Apollo; the blocking of the Juba-Nimule highway in Moli Tukuro by Madi youths; the intervention of the SPLA and the subsequent shooting and killing two (2) civilians and wounding of one other

2.4 On the Issue of politicians inciting violence among both communities

The team found the following:

- There is a pervasive feeling within both communities that some politicians, elders and military officers are inciting hatred, divisions and problems among and between their communities. In both the Acholi and Madi area, specific names of such persons were cited. A written list of some of the names had earlier been handed over to SCC team that visited the area in the first week of November 2011.

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3. Other Related Issues

While on the ground the ICC Team was presented with other issues not within the four (4) core issues but relevant to both its terms of reference and the conflict in general. These were:

**Cattle rustling/
banditry**

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- Based on these scenarios both communities called for the immediate apprehension and prosecution of the perpetrators of the violent acts (murder, arson, destruction, physical assault, looting etc) that were perpetrated during the October/November 2011 clashes,

Social cover

No specific mention.
