

**Country/entity** South Sudan

**Region** Africa (excl MENA)

**Agreement name** Wunlit Dinka Nuer Covenant and Resolutions

**Date** 8 Mar 1999

**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

<b>Peace process</b>	South Sudan: Pre-secession Local Peace Processes
<b>Parties</b>	Dinka and Nuer Chiefs, church, civil and community leaders, elders, women and youth
<b>Third parties</b>	New Sudan Council of Churches (NSCC)
<b>Description</b>	The covenant and resolutions from the Wunlit Peace Conference, proposes past provision mechanisms for abductees, refugees, etc. Agreement continues by proposing a mechanism for peace keeping on the border between Dinka Nuer grazing lands as well as how to continue the peace processes to a regional level.

---

**Agreement document** [SS\\_990308\\_Dinka Nuer West Bank Peace and Reconciliation Conference.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

---

## Groups

### Children/youth

Groups→Children/youth→Substantive

Page 4, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to Abductees

... B. Girls who have been Married in Captivity

... 4. If there are children of the marriage, the natural father may choose to redeem the children according to Dinka/Nuer traditions.

5. If the father refuses to redeem the children, the mother is free to leave with them [the children].

... 6. If a woman is married to or held by a soldier on the SPLA side, a letter should be sent to Commander Salva Kiir Mayardit, Chief of General Staff of SPLA, so that the girl is able to state before her parents/relatives whether she wants to remain with her soldier-husband or return to her family. If a woman is married to or held by a soldier on the UDSF side, a letter should be sent to Commander Elijah Hon Tap, Chief of Staff of SSDF, so that the girl is able to state before her parents/relatives whether she wants to remain with her soldier-husband or return to her family.

... • Whether she has a single child or several the natural father may choose to redeem the children, according to the custom of the Dinka/Nuer.

Page 4, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to Abductees

... C. Married Women Abducted into Captivity

1. As soon as a woman in this category is identified she should be repatriated to her home area with all her children born in captivity.

Page 4, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to Abductees

... D. Boys or Men in Captivity.

1. In all cases boys and men who have been abducted and held in captivity shall be freed and repatriated to their natural parents or guardians as soon as they are discovered.

2. A man who has been provided a wife by his captor must be asked where he himself wants to live. If he chooses to return to live with his parents/relatives, then his family shall pay the bride wealth which was paid by his captor.

3. If his father/relatives pay the bride wealth on his behalf, then he is free to return to his land of origin with his children and wife.

Page 11-12, Resolutions, VI. Resolutions Regarding: Extending the Peace to the East Bank of the Nile and Equatoria

... F. These conferences shall be organised by:

... 6. Youth

### Disabled persons

No specific mention.

### Elderly/age

No specific mention.

### Migrant workers

No specific mention.

**Racial/ethnic/  
national group**

Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Substantive  
Page 11, Resolutions, VI. Resolutions Regarding: Extending the Peace to the East Bank of the Nile and Equatoria  
B. The conflicts to be addressed in the East Bank are:  
• Nuer-Dinka Bor  
• Murle-Nuer and Murle- Dinka Bor  
• Murle-Anyua  
• Nuer-Shilluk  
• Lou Nuer-Gaawar Nuer  
C. The conflicts to be addressed in Equatoria are:  
• Taposa - Didinga  
• Didinga-Displaced Nilotics  
• Taposa-Murle  
• Jee-Murle  
• Mandari-Dinka Bor  
• Boya-Taposa

Page 11, Resolutions, VI. Resolutions Regarding: Extending the Peace to the East Bank of the Nile and Equatoria  
... E. Participants in these conferences will be similar to what was done in Wunlit:  
1. Holding a peace conference on the East Bank among the Nuer, Dinka Bor, Murle, Shilluk, and Anyua.  
2. Holding a mini-peace and reconciliation conference among the Lou and Gaawar Nuer.

**Religious groups** No specific mention.

**Indigenous people** No specific mention.

**Other groups** No specific mention.

**Refugees/displaced persons** Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Substantive  
Page 2, Wunlit Dinka Nuer Covenant, Dinka-Nuer West Bank Peace and Reconciliation Conference, 27 February - 8 March 1999  
... We declare the following:  
... • Displaced communities are encouraged to return to their original homes and rebuild relationships with their neighbours.

Page 5, Resolutions, II. Resolutions Regarding: Reclaiming the Land and Rebuilding Relationships  
(A provisional list was developed of villages and settlements that have been abandoned due to the Dinka-Nuer conflict during the past seven and a half years and should be considered for reconstruction. The Covenant encourages displaced communities to return to their original homes and rebuild relationships with their neighbours. The provisional list includes the names of more than 400 villages and settlements in Appendix A.)

**Social class** No specific mention.

**Gender**

**Women, girls and gender**

Page 1, untitled preamble, This event proves , beyond any doubt , that such conferences that directly involve representatives of the concerned tribes from amongst the chiefs , dignitaries, men and women young and old , could establish a solid ground for a genuine dialogue between neighboring people and tribes ,thus, laying the foundation for sustainable peace between them.

Page 2, Wunlit Dinka Nuer Covenant, Dinka-Nuer West Bank Peace and Reconciliation Conference, 27 February - 8 March 1999

Dinka and Nuer Chiefs, church, civil and community leaders, elders, women and youth have met in a peace and reconciliation meeting in Wunlit, Bahr el Ghazal, Sudan under the auspices of the New Sudan Council of Churches (NSCC).

Page 4, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to Abductees

A. Girls who have been abducted but are not yet married.

1. Shall be repatriated to their parents/relatives as soon as they are identified.

Page 4, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to Abductees

... B. Girls who have been Married in Captivity

1. As soon as they are identified they shall be asked by their parents/relatives if they want to remain with their husbands.

2. If a woman declares that she wants to remain with her husband, than the bride wealth must be collected and presented to her parents/relatives.

3. If she desires to return to her parents/relatives she is to be repatriated.

4. If there are children of the marriage, the natural father may choose to redeem the children according to Dinka/Nuer traditions.

5. If the father refuses to redeem the children, the mother is free to leave with them.

6. If a woman is married to or held by a soldier on the SPLA side, a letter should be sent to

Commander Salva Kiir Mayardit, Chief of General Staff of SPLA, so that the girl is able to state before her parents/relatives whether she wants to remain with her soldier-husband or return to her family. If a woman is married to or held by a soldier on the UDSF side, a letter should be sent to Commander Elijah Hon Tap, Chief of Staff of SSDF, so that the girl is able to state before her parents/relatives whether she wants to remain with her soldier-husband or return to her family.

- If she wants to return to her parents, then she must go.

- Whether she has a single child or several the natural father may choose to redeem the children, according to the custom of the Dinka/Nuer.

- If the father refuses to redeem the children, the mother is free to leave with them.

Page 4, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to Abductees

... C. Married Women Abducted into Captivity

1. As soon as a woman in this category is identified she should be repatriated to her home area with all her children born in captivity.

Page 4, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to Abductees

... D. Boys or Men in Captivity.

... 2. A man who has been provided a wife by his captor must be asked where he himself wants to live. If he chooses to return to live with his parents/relatives, then his family shall pay the bride wealth which was paid by his captor.

3. If his father/relatives pay the bride wealth on his behalf, then he is free to return to his land of origin with his children and wife

**Men and boys**

Gender→Men and boys→Gender neutral wording

Page 1, untitled preamble, This event proves , beyond any doubt , that such conferences that directly involve representatives of the concerned tribes from amongst the chiefs , dignitaries, men and women young and old , could establish a solid ground for a genuine dialogue between neighboring people and tribes ,thus, laying the foundation for sustainable peace between them.

Page 4, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to Abductees

... D. Boys or Men in Captivity.

1. In all cases boys and men who have been abducted and held in captivity shall be freed and repatriated to their natural parents or guardians as soon as they are discovered.
2. A man who has been provided a wife by his captor must be asked where he himself wants to live. If he chooses to return to live with his parents/relatives, then his family shall pay the bride wealth which was paid by his captor.
3. If his father/relatives pay the bride wealth on his behalf, then he is free to return to his land of origin with his children and wife.

Page 4, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to Abductees

... E. Boys or Men who were abducted, then freed, and have settled on their own accord.

1. This group shall be left undisturbed wherever they are found. (Cases regarding minors shall be handled according to Dinka/Nuer customary law.)

**LGBTI**

No specific mention.



## Family

Page 4, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to Abductees

A. Girls who have been abducted but are not yet married.

1. Shall be repatriated to their parents/relatives as soon as they are identified.

B. Girls who have been Married in Captivity

1. As soon as they are identified they shall be asked by their parents/relatives if they want to remain with their husbands.

2. If a woman declares that she wants to remain with her husband, than the bride wealth must be collected and presented to her parents/relatives.

3. If she desires to return to her parents/relatives she is to be repatriated.

4. If there are children of the marriage, the natural father may choose to redeem the children according to Dinka/Nuer traditions.

5. If the father refuses to redeem the children, the mother is free to leave with them.

6. If a woman is married to or held by a soldier on the SPLA side, a letter should be sent to Commander Salva Kiir Mayardit, Chief of General Staff of SPLA, so that the girl is able to state before her parents/relatives whether she wants to remain with her soldier-husband or return to her family. If a woman is married to or held by a soldier on the UDSF side, a letter should be sent to Commander Elijah Hon Tap, Chief of Staff of SSDF, so that the girl is able to state before her parents/relatives whether she wants to remain with her soldier-husband or return to her family.

- If she wants to return to her parents, then she must go.

- Whether she has a single child or several the natural father may choose to redeem the children, according to the custom of the Dinka/Nuer.

- If the father refuses to redeem the children, the mother is free to leave with them.

---

## **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)** No specific mention.

**Elections** No specific mention.

**Electoral commission** No specific mention.

**Political parties reform** No specific mention.

**Civil society** Page 11-12, Resolutions, VI. Resolutions Regarding: Extending the Peace to the East Bank of the Nile and Equatoria  
... F. These conferences shall be organised by:  
... 4. Community Leaders and chiefs

**Traditional/  
religious leaders**

Page 2, Wunlit Dinka Nuer Covenant, Dinka-Nuer West Bank Peace and Reconciliation Conference, 27 February - 8 March 1999

Dinka and Nuer Chiefs, church, civil and community leaders, elders, women and youth have met in a peace and reconciliation meeting in Wunlit, Bahr el Ghazal, Sudan under the auspices of the New Sudan Council of Churches (NSCC).

Page 5, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to Abductees

... F. Creation of Abductee Identification Teams

1. On both Dinka and Nuer sides an Abductee Identification Team shall be formed made up of chiefs. The two teams shall work together, accompanying each other on tours of both Dinka and Nuer territories.

Page 7, Resolutions, III. Resolutions Regarding: Institutional Arrangements

... A. The Border Courts

... 2. Re-affirm the present border chiefs and increase their numbers when necessary.

Page 8, Resolutions, III. Resolutions Regarding: Institutional Arrangements

... A. Dinka-Nuer Peace Council

... 5. The Functions of the Council.

... • Recommend a larger forum or meeting between Dinka/Nuer chiefs, elders and political leaders in the event of serious violations of the Covenant and Resolutions.

Page 10-11, Resolutions, IV. Resolutions Regarding: Monitoring the Borders

... A. Stations will be manned by police and border chiefs.

Page 11, Resolutions, VI. Resolutions Regarding: Extending the Peace to the East Bank of the Nile and Equatoria

... E. Participants in these conferences will be similar to what was done in Wunlit:

... 6. Copies of the Wunlit Dinka-Nuer Covenant and Resolutions should be widely disseminated to all communities and regions of the south as well as the Diaspora.

1. Chiefs

... 3. Church leaders

4. Elders

... 7. Traditional spiritual leaders

Page 11-12, Resolutions, VI. Resolutions Regarding: Extending the Peace to the East Bank of the Nile and Equatoria

... F. These conferences shall be organised by:

1. NSCC

... 4. Community Leaders and chiefs

Page 12, Resolutions, VI. Resolutions Regarding: Extending the Peace to the East Bank of the Nile and Equatoria

F. Roles for each group

1. NSCC

o Fundraising and Co-ordination

o Logistics

o Prayer

o Transport of delegates to the venue

Page 12, Resolutions, VI. Resolutions Regarding: Extending the Peace to the East Bank of the Nile and Equatoria Page 11 of 27

F. Roles for each group

4. Chiefs and Community Leaders

**Public administration** Page 5, Resolutions, II. Resolutions Regarding: Reclaiming the Land and Rebuilding Relationships  
... A. Promotion of Dinka-Nuer Reconciliation and Familial Co-Existence.  
... 4. Produce a unified Re-statement of Dinka and Nuer Customary Law to assist the local courts, law enforcement and administrative officials.

**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** No specific mention.

---

### **Human rights and equality**

**Human rights/RoL general** No specific mention.

**Bill of rights/similar** No specific mention.

**Treaty incorporation** Page 7, Resolutions, III. Resolutions Regarding: Institutional Arrangements  
... A. The Border Courts  
... 5. Convicts on either side shall be imprisoned where the offence was committed and shall be treated in accordance with international human rights norms.

**Civil and political rights** Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Freedom of movement  
Page 2, Wunlit Dinka Nuer Covenant, Dinka-Nuer West Bank Peace and Reconciliation Conference, 27 February - 8 March 1999  
... We declare the following:  
... • Freedom of movement is affirmed and inter-communal commerce, trade, development and services are encouraged.

**Socio-economic rights** No specific mention.

---

## Rights related issues

<b>Citizenship</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Democracy</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Detention procedures</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Media and communication</b>	<p>Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles</p> <p>Page 8, Resolutions, IV. Resolutions Regarding: Monitoring the Borders</p> <p>... B. Each district is to have a radio, totalling 9 radios</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 5 of these are for Bahr el Ghazal</li><li>• 4 are for Western Upper Nile. (This does not include the Bul section since they were not present. Additional radios may be needed in the future.)</li></ul> <p>Page 11, Resolutions, V. Resolutions Regarding: People Outside the Peace Process</p> <p>A. The concerned authorities of the Conference, Dinka and Nuer, are to disseminate the Covenant and Resolutions of the Conference in their areas with the assistance of the local authorities and the New Sudan Council of Churches.</p>
<b>Mobility/access</b>	<p>Page 2, Wunlit Dinka Nuer Covenant, Dinka-Nuer West Bank Peace and Reconciliation Conference, 27 February - 8 March 1999</p> <p>... We declare the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local cross-border agreements and arrangements are encouraged and shall be respected.</li></ul>
<b>Protection measures</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Other</b>	No specific mention.

---

## Rights institutions

<b>NHRI</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Regional or international human rights institutions</b>	No specific mention.

---

## Justice sector reform

**Criminal justice and emergency law** No specific mention.

**State of emergency provisions** No specific mention.

**Judiciary and courts**

Page 7, Resolutions, III. Resolutions Regarding: Institutional Arrangements

... A. The Border Courts

1. We recommend the revival and strengthening of existing border courts as well as training of para-legals to man the courts.

2. Re-affirm the present border chiefs and increase their numbers when necessary.

3. Border courts constituted in Bahr el Ghazal and Unity states shall consist of 5 to 7 members each.

4. Pending further arrangements the law applicable in both courts shall be customary law.

5. Convicts on either side shall be imprisoned where the offence was committed and shall be treated in accordance with international human rights norms.

C. Appeal Processes

1. Border courts shall be courts of original jurisdiction except in capital offences. (Capital offences go directly to the county or province judge.)

2. Appeals from border courts shall lie to the relevant peoples' regional court.

3. Appeals from the peoples' regional court shall lie to the county judge or province judge as the case may be.

**Prisons and detention**

No specific mention.

**Traditional Laws**

Page 4, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to Abductees

... B. Girls who have been Married in Captivity

... 4. If there are children of the marriage, the natural father may choose to redeem the children according to Dinka/Nuer traditions.

... 6. If a woman is married to or held by a soldier on the SPLA side, a letter should be sent to

Commander Salva Kiir Mayardit, Chief of General Staff of SPLA, so that the girl is able to state before her parents/relatives whether she wants to remain with her soldier-husband or return to her family. If a woman is married to or held by a soldier on the UDSF side, a letter should be sent to Commander Elijah Hon Tap, Chief of Staff of SSDF, so that the girl is able to state before her parents/relatives whether she wants to remain with her soldier-husband or return to her family.

... • Whether she has a single child or several the natural father may choose to redeem the children, according to the custom of the Dinka/Nuer.

Page 4, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to Abductees

... E. Boys or Men who were abducted, then freed, and have settled on their own accord.

1. This group shall be left undisturbed wherever they are found. (Cases regarding minors shall be handled according to Dinka/Nuer customary law.)

Page 5, Resolutions, II. Resolutions Regarding: Reclaiming the Land and Rebuilding Relationships

... A. Promotion of Dinka-Nuer Reconciliation and Familial Co-Existence.

... 4. Produce a unified Re-statement of Dinka and Nuer Customary Law to assist the local courts, law enforcement and administrative officials.

Page 7, Resolutions, III. Resolutions Regarding: Institutional Arrangements

... A. The Border Courts

... 4. Pending further arrangements the law applicable in both courts shall be customary law.

5. Convicts on either side shall be imprisoned where the offence was committed and shall be treated in accordance with international human rights norms.



## **Socio-economic reconstruction**

<b>Development or socio-economic reconstruction</b>	<p>Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development</p> <p>Page 5, Resolutions, II. Resolutions Regarding: Reclaiming the Land and Rebuilding Relationships</p> <p>... A. Formation of a Technical and Planning Committee on Land Settlement and Reclamation responsible for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Advising on consolidation and relocation of villages and stations.</li><li>2. Advising on linking villages and settlements to productive areas, introduction of ox ploughing, provision of bore wells, medical care, and veterinary services. Promotion of joint Dinka-Nuer cattle and commodity markets.</li></ol> <p>Page 5, Resolutions, II. Resolutions Regarding: Reclaiming the Land and Rebuilding Relationships</p> <p>... A. Promotion of Dinka-Nuer Reconciliation and Familial Co-Existence.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Establishment of a Dinka-Nuer Veterinary Centre to be jointly shared by Dinka and Nuer. This is to encourage a common concern for animal health as a vested interest which needs to be protected.</li><li>2. Establishment of Dinka-Nuer co-operatives in agricultural and commercial fields.</li><li>3. Establishment of a model Dinka-Nuer Primary School near the border, with both Dinka and Nuer students enrolled.</li></ol>
<b>National economic plan</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Natural resources</b>	No specific mention.
<b>International funds</b>	<p>Page 2, Wunlit Dinka Nuer Covenant, Dinka-Nuer West Bank Peace and Reconciliation Conference, 27 February - 8 March 1999</p> <p>... We declare the following:</p> <p>... We appeal to the International Community to endorse, embrace and assist in implementation of this Covenant and its Resolutions.</p> <p>Page 8, Resolutions, III. Resolutions Regarding: Institutional Arrangements</p> <p>... A. Dinka-Nuer Peace Council</p> <p>... 5. The Functions of the Council.</p> <p>... • The council is also authorised to raise funds through appeals to international and indigenous NGOs.</p>

<b>Business</b>	<p>Page 2, Wunlit Dinka Nuer Covenant, Dinka-Nuer West Bank Peace and Reconciliation Conference, 27 February - 8 March 1999</p> <p>... We declare the following:</p> <p>... • Freedom of movement is affirmed and inter-communal commerce, trade, development and services are encouraged.</p> <p>Page 5, Resolutions, II. Resolutions Regarding: Reclaiming the Land and Rebuilding Relationships</p> <p>... A. Affirm Freedom of Movement in Peace and Security</p> <p>1. We propose a market based near the border where Dinka and Nuer can trade together, with all benefiting from the diversity of items and wealth we will be able to share together.</p>
<b>Taxation</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Banks</b>	No specific mention.

## Land, property and environment

**Land reform/rights** No specific mention.

**Pastoralist/nomadism rights**

Page 2, Wunlit Dinka Nuer Covenant, Dinka-Nuer West Bank Peace and Reconciliation Conference, 27 February - 8 March 1999

... We declare the following:

... • Local cross-border agreements and arrangements are encouraged and shall be respected.

Page 2, Wunlit Dinka Nuer Covenant, Dinka-Nuer West Bank Peace and Reconciliation Conference, 27 February - 8 March 1999

... We declare the following:

... • It is hereby declared that border grazing lands and fishing grounds shall be available immediately as shared resources.

Page 7, Resolutions, III. Resolutions Regarding: Institutional Arrangements

A. Police\*

... 1. Joint police forces shall be formed during the dry season in the areas of contact. This will assist in areas where conflict has arisen over grazing lands. A Joint Police force from both Unity State and Bahr el Ghazal will work together in the grazing and fishing areas during the dry season.

**Cultural heritage** Land, property and environment→Cultural heritage→Promotion

Page 5, Resolutions, II. Resolutions Regarding: Reclaiming the Land and Rebuilding Relationships

... A. Promotion of Dinka-Nuer Reconciliation and Familial Co-Existence.

... 5. Establish an annual award that shall be conferred by the Council upon those who are proficient in both Dinka and Nuer languages.

**Environment** No specific mention.

**Water or riparian rights or access** No specific mention.

---

## **Security sector**

**Security Guarantees** Page 8, Resolutions, III. Resolutions Regarding: Institutional Arrangements  
... A. Dinka-Nuer Peace Council  
... 4. The venue for the meetings shall alternate dependent on the security situation.

Page 11, Resolutions, V. Resolutions Regarding: People Outside the Peace Process  
... D. The Conference makes the following recommendations:  
... 3. The Conference extends its gratitude to the NSCC for facilitating this important conference, and to the SPLM/SPLA for allowing this conference in Tonj County and for providing adequate security. Our gratitude also goes to the UDSF for having confidence in the security arrangements made by SPLA and for allowing delegates from UDSF controlled areas.

Page 12, Resolutions, VI. Resolutions Regarding: Extending the Peace to the East Bank of the Nile and Equatoria  
F. Roles for each group  
... 2. UDSF will ensure the security of the East Bank Conference  
3. SPLA will co-ordinate with the NSCC and UDSF concerning security and transport of delegates from its area to the Conference site.

**Ceasefire** Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision  
Page 2, Wunlit Dinka Nuer Covenant, Dinka-Nuer West Bank Peace and Reconciliation Conference, 27 February - 8 March 1999  
... We declare the following:  
• All hostile acts shall cease between Dinka and Nuer whether between their respective military forces or armed civilians. A permanent cease-fire is hereby declared between the Dinka and Nuer people with immediate effect.

## Police

Page 5, Resolutions, II. Resolutions Regarding: Reclaiming the Land and Rebuilding Relationships

... A. Promotion of Dinka-Nuer Reconciliation and Familial Co-Existence.

... 4. Produce a unified Re-statement of Dinka and Nuer Customary Law to assist the local courts, law enforcement and administrative officials.

Page 6-7, Resolutions, III. Resolutions Regarding: Institutional Arrangements

A. Police\*

(\*The list of border stations or police posts found in this section and the list in section IV will be finalised in a meeting of the Peace Council in Ganyliel in November 1999. Between March and November 1999 the counties and provinces will work to harmonise the two lists.)

1. Bahr el Ghazal Region shall have the following police posts: 1. Adior

1. Pagrau

1. Luel

1. Madol

1. Makuac

1. Meshra Acol 1. Majak Juer

1. Mayen Jur

1. Mayom Adony 1. Mathiang

2. Unity State shall have corresponding posts as follows: 1. Dhiau Rid

1. Jerweng

1. Mayom

1. Kaikon

1. Tar

1. Madol

1. Lony

1. Porjuer

1. Luel

1. Majok

1. Rialthiang 1. Tangyier 1. Riak

3. The composition of the force command and other provisions shall include:

- arms & ammunitions
- uniforms
- stationery
- transport
- radio communication sets
- medicines
- rations
- training

1. Joint police forces shall be formed during the dry season in the areas of contact. This will assist in areas where conflict has arisen over grazing lands. A Joint Police force from both Unity State and Bahr el Ghazal will work together in the grazing and fishing areas during the dry season.

Page 10-11, Resolutions, IV. Resolutions Regarding: Monitoring the Borders

... A. Stations will be manned by police and border chiefs.

**Armed forces**

Page 10-11, Resolutions, IV. Resolutions Regarding: Monitoring the Borders  
... B. Disarmament: As peace comes to an area, all citizens holding firearms are either to be disarmed or join the army. ...

**DDR**

Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions

Page 10-11, Resolutions, IV. Resolutions Regarding: Monitoring the Borders  
... B. Disarmament: As peace comes to an area, all citizens holding firearms are either to be disarmed or join the army. The local civilian militia are called Jiec-nin-bor in Nuer, or Gelweng in Dinka. The unanimous decision was that once peace is established there would be no need for these. Both Dinka and Nuer agree that these are a source of insecurity at the border, and a source of insecurity internally. The disarmament process is to be done in three stages:

- o All armed civilian forces are to immediately come under the discipline of the military forces in each area;
- o Firearms held by civilians shall be registered according to chieftainships;
- o As peace comes to an area, arms are to be stored in local armouries under the control of the local authorities.

**Intelligence services**

No specific mention.

**Parastatal/rebel  
and opposition  
group forces**

Page 2, Wunlit Dinka Nuer Covenant, Dinka-Nuer West Bank Peace and Reconciliation Conference, 27 February - 8 March 1999

... We declare the following:

... We appeal to the SPLM/A and the UDSF/SSDF to endorse, embrace and assist in implementation of this Covenant and its Resolutions.

Page 4, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to Abductees

B. Girls who have been Married in Captivity

... 6. If a woman is married to or held by a soldier on the SPLA side, a letter should be sent to Commander Salva Kiir Mayardit, Chief of General Staff of SPLA, so that the girl is able to state before her parents/relatives whether she wants to remain with her soldier-husband or return to her family. If a woman is married to or held by a soldier on the UDSF side, a letter should be sent to Commander Elijah Hon Tap, Chief of Staff of SSDF, so that the girl is able to state before her parents/relatives whether she wants to remain with her soldier-husband or return to her family.

Page 10-11, Resolutions, IV. Resolutions Regarding: Monitoring the Borders

... B. Disarmament: As peace comes to an area, all citizens holding firearms are either to be disarmed or join the army. The local civilian militia are called Jiec-nin-bor in Nuer, or Gelweng in Dinka. The unanimous decision was that once peace is established there would be no need for these. Both Dinka and Nuer agree that these are a source of insecurity at the border, and a source of insecurity internally. The disarmament process is to be done in three stages:

- o All armed civilian forces are to immediately come under the discipline of the military forces in each area;
- o Firearms held by civilians shall be registered according to chieftainships;
- o As peace comes to an area, arms are to be stored in local armouries under the control of the local authorities.

Page 11, Resolutions, V. Resolutions Regarding: People Outside the Peace Process

... B. The Conference calls on Kerubino Kuanyin Bol and Paulino Matip Nhial to join the peace and reconciliation process and embrace the Wunlit Dinka-Nuer Covenant and Resolutions.

Page 11, Resolutions, V. Resolutions Regarding: People Outside the Peace Process

... C. The Conference calls on Dr. Riek Machar and the peace-loving people of Upper Nile to use their influence to bring Kerubino Kuanyin Bol and Paulino Matip Nhial to the peace process.

Page 11, Resolutions, V. Resolutions Regarding: People Outside the Peace Process

... D. The Conference makes the following recommendations:

1. A letter shall be written to Dr. John Garang and Riek Machar urging them to resolve their differences and embrace and promote the peace and reconciliation process.
- ... 3. The Conference extends its gratitude to the NSCC for facilitating this important conference, and to the SPLM/SPLA for allowing this conference in Tonj County and for providing adequate security. Our gratitude also goes to the UDSF for having confidence in the security arrangements made by SPLA and for allowing delegates from UDSF controlled areas.

Page 11, Resolutions, VI. Resolutions Regarding: Extending the Peace to the East Bank of the Nile and Equatoria

... E. Participants in these conferences will be similar to what was done in Wunlit:

... 6. Copies of the Wunlit Dinka-Nuer Covenant and Resolutions should be widely disseminated to all communities and regions of the south as well as the Diaspora

**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** Transitional justice→Amnesty/pardon→Amnesty/pardon proper  
Page 2, Wunlit Dinka Nuer Covenant, Dinka-Nuer West Bank Peace and Reconciliation Conference, 27 February - 8 March 1999  
... We declare the following:  
... • Amnesty is hereby declared for all offences against people and property committed prior to 1/1/99 involving Dinka and Nuer on the West Bank of the Nile River.

**Courts** No specific mention.

**Mechanism** No specific mention.

**Prisoner release** No specific mention.

**Vetting** No specific mention.

**Victims** No specific mention.

## Missing persons

Page 2, Wunlit Dinka Nuer Covenant, Dinka-Nuer West Bank Peace and Reconciliation Conference, 27 February - 8 March 1999

... We the participants hereby make and adopt the following Covenant and pledge ourselves to observe and implement it scrupulously and conscientiously in keeping with the solemn vows of peace, reconciliation and familial co-existence. We initiated our Conference with the sacrifice of the White Bull (Mabior Thon / Tu-bor) and have sealed the Covenant in Christian worship and traditional sacrifice.

Page 4, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to Abductees

A. Girls who have been abducted but are not yet married.

1. Shall be repatriated to their parents/relatives as soon as they are identified.

Page 4, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to Abductees

... B. Girls who have been Married in Captivity

1. As soon as they are identified they shall be asked by their parents/relatives if they want to remain with their husbands.

2. If a woman declares that she wants to remain with her husband, than the bride wealth must be collected and presented to her parents/relatives.

3. If she desires to return to her parents/relatives she is to be repatriated.

4. If there are children of the marriage, the natural father may choose to redeem the children according to Dinka/Nuer traditions.

5. If the father refuses to redeem the children, the mother is free to leave with them.

6. If a woman is married to or held by a soldier on the SPLA side, a letter should be sent to

Commander Salva Kiir Mayardit, Chief of General Staff of SPLA, so that the girl is able to state before her parents/relatives whether she wants to remain with her soldier-husband or return to her family. If a woman is married to or held by a soldier on the UDSF side, a letter should be sent to Commander Elijah Hon Tap, Chief of Staff of SSSF, so that the girl is able to state before her parents/relatives whether she wants to remain with her soldier-husband or return to her family.

- If she wants to return to her parents, then she must go.

- Whether she has a single child or several the natural father may choose to redeem the children, according to the custom of the Dinka/Nuer.

- If the father refuses to redeem the children, the mother is free to leave with them.

Page 4, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to Abductees

... D. Boys or Men in Captivity.

1. In all cases boys and men who have been abducted and held in captivity shall be freed and repatriated to their natural parents or guardians as soon as they are discovered.

2. A man who has been provided a wife by his captor must be asked where he himself wants to live. If he chooses to return to live with his parents/relatives, then his family shall pay the bride wealth which was paid by his captor.

3. If his father/relatives pay the bride wealth on his behalf, then he is free to return to his land of origin with his children and wife.

Page 4, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to Abductees

... E. Boys or Men who were abducted, then freed, and have settled on their own accord.

1. This group shall be left undisturbed wherever they are found. (Cases regarding minors shall be handled according to Dinka/Nuer customary law.)

Page 5, Resolutions, I. Resolutions Regarding: Missing Persons and Marriages to



**Reparations** No specific mention.

**Reconciliation** Page 2, Wunlit Dinka Nuer Covenant, Dinka-Nuer West Bank Peace and Reconciliation Conference, 27 February - 8 March 1999  
... We declare the following:  
... • The spirit of peace and reconciliation this Covenant represents must be extended to all of southern Sudan.

---

## **Implementation**

**UN signatory** No specific mention.

**Other international signatory** No specific mention.

**Referendum for agreement** No specific mention.

**International mission/force/similar** No specific mention.

**Enforcement  
mechanism**

Page 8, Resolutions, III. Resolutions Regarding: Institutional Arrangements

... A. Dinka-Nuer Peace Council

1. Composition: Three members, one of whom shall be a woman, shall be chosen by each county/province.
2. The Council shall meet twice a year and may meet upon the emergency call of the chairperson.
3. The Council shall elect its chairperson at its first meeting and this person shall serve in this office for a period of one year with effect from the date of his/her election.
4. The venue for the meetings shall alternate dependent on the security situation.
5. The Functions of the Council.
  - To oversee the implementation of the Wunlit Dinka-Nuer Covenant and Resolutions.
  - A budget shall be considered and prepared by each of the respective administrations. In addition the council is urged to consider ways to involve the local communities in supporting these structures ourselves.
  - The council is also authorised to raise funds through appeals to international and indigenous NGOs.
  - Review annual performance and recommend future plans.
  - Recommend a larger forum or meeting between Dinka/Nuer chiefs, elders and political leaders in the event of serious violations of the Covenant and Resolutions.
  - The Council shall maintain contacts with the political leadership on security issues.

Page 8, Resolutions, III. Resolutions Regarding: Institutional Arrangements

... A. Dinka-Nuer Peace Council

... 5. The Functions of the Council.

- To oversee the implementation of the Wunlit Dinka-Nuer Covenant and Resolutions.
- A budget shall be considered and prepared by each of the respective administrations. In addition the council is urged to consider ways to involve the local communities in supporting these structures ourselves.
- The council is also authorised to raise funds through appeals to international and indigenous NGOs.
- Review annual performance and recommend future plans.
- Recommend a larger forum or meeting between Dinka/Nuer chiefs, elders and political leaders in the event of serious violations of the Covenant and Resolutions.
- The Council shall maintain contacts with the political leadership on security issues.

Page 8, Resolutions, IV. Resolutions Regarding: Monitoring the Borders

A. Border stations or posts for the purpose of monitoring the peace shall be established at the following locations. \*

(\*The list of border stations or police posts found in this section and the list in section IV will be finalised in a meeting of the Peace Council in Ganyiel in November 1999. Between March and November 1999 the counties and provinces will work to harmonised the two lists.)

NUER DISTRICTS: Nyal District

Luony Madub Pabwong Kau Akon Ador District

Papui Pakam Alothai Yian Manyiel

Page 9, Jagei District

Bilnyang Dol

DINKA Districts: Yirol District

Adhel Muoth Nyibor Karer

Gogrial District:

Majok Mading

Matiel Ayan

Wathtong Atemrot Rumbek County: Anopkiny Apac

Malek Madol

Toni County:

**Related cases** No specific mention.

**Source** Sudan for All.org; [www.sudan-forall.org/sections/ihitiram/pages/ihitiram\\_issue9/pdf\\_files/Dinka-Nuer-Peace-and-Reconciliation-Conference.pdf](http://www.sudan-forall.org/sections/ihitiram/pages/ihitiram_issue9/pdf_files/Dinka-Nuer-Peace-and-Reconciliation-Conference.pdf)

---