

Country/entity	Guinea-Bissau
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Agreement between the Government of Guinea Bissau and the Self-proclaimed military junta ('Abuja Accord')
Date	1 Nov 1998
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Guinea-Bissau Civil War (1998 - 1999)

An attempted coup d'etat by Brigadier General Mane against the government of President Vieira in June 1998 led to a conflict that killed thousands as Vieira - backed by neighbouring states - attempted to re-take the country. A national unity government was established in an agreement signed in November 1998, but fighting continued until Vieira was deposed in May 1999. Only months before the coup attempt, Brig. Gen. Mane was suspended on grounds of a dereliction of duty following the discovery of a weapons cache and the arrest of several army officers on charges of arming Casamance insurgents in neighbouring Senegal. Following the deposal of Vieira, it was agreed that he would stand trial on the same charges. His deposal was condemned by ECOMOG, but ECOMOG troops were nonetheless withdrawn from Guinea-Bissau. The constitution was amended to limit presidential terms to a maximum of two and the death penalty was abolished. The opposition party won the parliamentary elections held in November 1999 by a large majority.

Close
Guinea-Bissau Civil War (1998 - 1999)

Stage	Framework/substantive - partial
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Guinea Bissau peace process
Parties	(Signed) President, João Bernardo VIEIRA for the Government of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau (Signed) General Ansumane MANE for the self-proclaimed military junta

Third parties

WITNESSED BY:

(Signed) His Excellency, General Abdulsalami ABUBAKAR
Head of State, Commander-in-Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
for and on behalf of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS

(Signed) His Excellency, Yahya A. J. J. JAMMEH
President of the Republic of the Gambia

(Signed) Honourable Koffi PANOU
Minister of Communications of the Togolese Republic
for and on behalf of the President of the Togolese Republic and the Chairman of ECOWAS

(Signed) H.E. Lansana KOUYATE
ECOWAS Executive Secretary

(Signed) Professor Ibrahima FALL
Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs
for and on behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations

(Signed) Ms. Adwoa COLEMAN
Organization of African Unity Representative
for and on behalf of the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU)

Description

A short agreement between the government of Guinea-Bissau and the Military Junta. The agreement reaffirms the ceasefire and provides for the withdrawal of foreign forces, the deployment of an ECOWAS interposition force, the establishment of a government of national unity and a deadline for the holding of general and presidential elections.

Agreement document

[GW_981101_AbujaAccord.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 No specific mention.

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)→Temporary new institutions
Page 1, 4: To immediately put in place a government of national unity, which will include, among other things, representatives of the self-proclaimed junta, in line with the agreement already reached by the parties;

Elections Page 1, 5: That general and presidential elections shall be held not later than the end of March 1999. These elections will be observed by ECOWAS, the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries and the international community.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society Page 1, 3: That the interposition force will guarantee security along the Guinea- Bissau/ Senegal border, keep the warring parties apart and guarantee free access to humanitarian organizations and agencies to reach the affected civilian population. In this regard, the Oswaldo Vieira international airport and the seaport shall be opened immediately;

Traditional/ religious leaders	No specific mention.
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Public administration	No specific mention.
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Constitution	No specific mention.
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Power sharing

Political power sharing	Power sharing→Political power sharing→General State level Page 1, 4: To immediately put in place a government of national unity, which will include, among other things, representatives of the self-proclaimed junta, in line with the agreement already reached by the parties;
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Territorial power sharing	No specific mention.
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Economic power sharing	No specific mention.
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Military power sharing	No specific mention.
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Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general	No specific mention.
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Bill of rights/similar	No specific mention.
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Treaty incorporation	No specific mention.
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Civil and political rights	No specific mention.
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Socio-economic rights	No specific mention.
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Rights related issues

Citizenship	No specific mention.
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Democracy	No specific mention.
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Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	No specific mention.
Mobility/access	Page 1, 3: That the interposition force will guarantee security along the Guinea- Bissau/ Senegal border, keep the warring parties apart and guarantee free access to humanitarian organizations and agencies to reach the affected civilian population. In this regard, the Oswaldo Vieira international airport and the seaport shall be opened immediately;
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 No specific mention.

Security sector

Security Guarantees No specific mention.

Ceasefire Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision
Page 1, 1: To reaffirm the ceasefire agreement signed in Praia on 26 August 1998;

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces	No specific mention.
DDR	No specific mention.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	Page 1, 4: To immediately put in place a government of national unity, which will include, among other things, representatives of the self-proclaimed junta, in line with the agreement already reached by the parties;
Withdrawal of foreign forces	Page 1, 2: To the total withdrawal from Guinea-Bissau of all foreign troops. This withdrawal shall be done simultaneously with the deployment of an ECOWAS Military Observer Group interposition force, which will take over from the withdrawn forces;
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	No specific mention.
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	No specific mention.
Missing persons	No specific mention.

Reparations No specific mention.

Reconciliation No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory WITNESSED BY:
...(Signed) Professor Ibrahima FALL
Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs
for and on behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations

Other international signatory WITNESSED BY:

(Signed) His Excellency, General Abdulsalami ABUBAKAR
Head of State, Commander-in-Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
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ECOWAS Executive Secretary

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Organization of African Unity Representative
for and on behalf of the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU)

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar

Page 1, 2: To the total withdrawal from Guinea-Bissau of all foreign troops. This withdrawal shall be done simultaneously with the deployment of an ECOWAS Military Observer Group interposition force, which will take over from the withdrawn forces;

Page 1, 3: That the interposition force will guarantee security along the Guinea- Bissau/ Senegal border, keep the warring parties apart and guarantee free access to humanitarian organizations and agencies to reach the affected civilian population. In this regard, the Oswaldo Vieira international airport and the seaport shall be opened immediately;

Page 1, 5: That general and presidential elections shall be held not later than the end of March 1999. These elections will be observed by ECOWAS, the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries and the international community.

Enforcement mechanism 2. ECOMOG interposition force to take over from withdrawn foreign troops, and 3. to guarantee security along border with Senegal; 5. elections to be observed by ECOWAS, Community of Portuguese-speaking countries, and the intl community

Related cases No specific mention.

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