

Country/entity	Ethiopia Somalia Ogaden Puntland
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Decisions by the Elders Chairing the Burtinle Conference
Date	7 May 2007
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/local conflict

Somali Civil War (1991 -)

Originally spurred by centre-peripheral tensions, fighting broke out in 1981 between the regime of President Said Barre and the Somali National Movement, a militia primarily consisting of members from the northern Ishaq clan. Fighting intensified in the late 1980s as more clan-based militias arose. President Barre's regime collapsed in late 1991 and as a result the UN intervened. However persistent attacks on the UN's forces forced a withdrawal in 1994. From the mid- to late 1990s, the character of the conflict shifted as warlords fought for access to rents. Also during this period, two different peace agreements arose; the Soderre Declaration, which was mediated by Ethiopia and supported by IGAD, and the Cairo Accord, which was brokered by Egypt. Fighting, already noticeably lessened compared to the early 1990s, decreased and the more amicable environment paved the way for the Transitional Government to be formed in 2000 (replaced in 2004 by the Transitional Federal Government).

Nonetheless, opposition to the TFG arose in the form of the Islamic Courts Union (ICU), which by early 2006 had taken control of most of southern Somalia until they were ousted by an armed intervention by Ethiopia in December 2006. As a result, the ICU splintered. Hard-line ICU members formed the Takfiri organization, Harakat al-Shabaab al-Mujahideen, and launched a guerrilla campaign against the TFG. Another faction of the ICU fled to Djibouti and formed the Alliance for the Re-liberation of Somalia, which was absorbed into the ruling TFG after successful negotiations in 2007.

To deal with the new round of fighting, the UN-mandated AMISOM force was deployed in 2007. Since then, insecurity has fluctuated between the urban and rural areas as the al-Shabaab's territorial gains waver. Local militia leaders maintain de facto governance over communities. From 2009 to 2012, insecurity spilled over into the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean when Somali pirates seized, looted and ransomed ships. In 2014, 'Operation Indian Ocean' was launched and in parallel with infighting among al-Shabaab, the organisation's position in Somalia has diminished slightly. However, as evidenced by large-scale attacks by al-Shabaab in northern Kenya throughout 2013-2015, the lack of security continues to destabilize the region. Al-Shabaab continues to launch surprise attacks with the aim of forcing out foreign military presence in Somalia. Targets include both military forces and civilians. The devastating attack in October 2017 in Mogadishu saw 587 fatalities and resulted in a renewed military offensive by the Somali government and African Union allies. Since 2017, the U.S. has increased its air strikes targeting al-Shabaab militants, and in December 2018 they announced to re-establish a permanent diplomatic mission in the country. Al-Shabaab has been characterized as a spoiler in the Somali peace process and have therefore been placed outside of any negotiations.

Close

Somali Civil War (1991 -)

Stage Framework/substantive - comprehensive

Conflict nature Inter-group

Peace process

Somali Local Peace Processes

Parties

Islan Iise
Islan Mohamed
Islan Bashir
Islan Abdulle
Garad Abdullahi
Garad Sofe
Ugas Abdullahi Iise
Garad Abshir Salah
Garad Mahamoud Osman Mashqare
Garad Saleban Burale
Ugas Farah Mahamoud Ali

Bah Ararsame Committee

1. Aw-Daahir Haji Hassan Abdille
2. Abdirahman Mohamed Ali
3. Mohamud Abdi Haabsade
4. Yusuf Haji Mohamud Ali
5. Abdirahman Saleeban Mursal
6. Abdullahi Hassan Ali
7. Jama Yacqub Osman
8. Mohamud Guure Ali
9. Haji Mahad Haji Yusuf aw-Abdi
10. Ali Abdi Galayr
11. Abdi Aden Ali
12. Ali Mohamed Kaarshe
13. Ahmed Mohamed [Dheganalow]
14. Ibrahim Bulhan Mohamed
15. Mohamed Abdulqadir Ileeeye
16. Mohamed Ahmed Dheere
17. Mohamud Ahmed Ibyan

Omar Mohamud Committee

1. Abdullahi Hasan Baalee
2. Nuur Mohamed Ahmed 'Sandheere'
3. Abdirashid Ahmed Jama
4. Abdullahi Kooreeye Elmi
5. Abdi Budeeye Hassan
6. Jama Omar Dhagad
7. Mohamed Hassan Samatar
8. Abdul Dalmar Ali
9. Jama Bihi Nuur
10. Isse Haji Jama
11. Mohamud Abdi Daahir
12. Muuse Haaji Jama
13. Mohamud Khalif Hersi
14. Osman Ahmed Omar
15. Mohamud Isse Ahmed
16. Bashir Mohamud Dalmar
17. Ahmed Osman Warsame

Third parties

The mediation committee

1. Dahir Mohamed Farah-Sanwaylod (chairman)
2. Aqil Mohamoud Haji Omar (vice- chairman)
3. Nabadon Kaliif Aw Ali
4. Nabadon Abdulahi Jama Areef
5. Nabadon Abdiasiis Jama Warsame
6. Abas Ali Dhere
7. Mohomed Abshir Nur
8. Ali Yusuf Ali Hoosh
9. Amiir Jama Mohamed Mire
10. Yusuf Jama Alas
11. Dalmar Haji Mohamoud
12. Haji Ahmed Adan Haad
13. Bihi Hirsi Farah
14. Ibrahim Abade Burale
15. Awil Ismail
16. Ahmed Barre Siad Muse (secretary)

The witnessing Elders

1. Ugaas Hassan Ugaas Yaasiin
2. Ugaas Abdullaahi Ugaas Soofe
3. Garaad Abdullahi Ali Ciid
4. Garaad Abdisalam Hassan
5. Suldan Said Mohamed Garaase
6. Suldan Abdisalan Suldan Mohamed
7. Suldan Bashir Muuse Keente
8. Ugaas Faradh Haji Mohamud
9. Ugaas Omar Geelle Mohamed
10. Suldan Ali Ismail

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Representatives of the authorities

1. Abdirizaq Yasin Abdille 'Geessod' Puntland Minister of Justice and Religious Affairs
2. Abdirahman Jama Boorre [Mayor of Laas 'Aanood]
3. Hussein Guuled Hanaf [Mayor of Burtinle]
4. Bedel Khalaf Jaama [representative of Federal Government of Ethiopia, Bookh District]

Description

Local agreement between the Ba Ahararsame and Omar Mohamoud in regards to water resources that provides for land to be shared, relocation of forces, communication of the terms of the agreement by Elders to their respective communities and for all water catchments and reservoirs to be demolished.

Agreement document

[SO_070507_Decisions by the Elders Chairing the Burtinle Conference.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)** No specific mention.

Elections No specific mention.

**Electoral
commission** No specific mention.

**Political parties
reform** No specific mention.

Civil society [Summary] Involves the Bah Arasame and Omar Mahamoud Communities.

**Traditional/
religious leaders** Page 1, 7. The elders of Puntland and the mediation committee jointly monitor the implementation of the agreement.

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The witnessing Elders

1. Ugaas Hassan Ugaas Yaasiin

2. Ugaas Abdullaahi Ugaas Soofe

3. Garaad Abdullahi Ali Ciid

4. Garaad Abdisalam Hassan

5. Suldan Said Mohamed Garaase

6. Suldan Abdisalan Suldan Mohamed 7. Suldan Bashir Muuse Keente

8. Ugaas Faradh Haji Mohamud

9. Ugaas Omar Geelle Mohamed

10. Suldan Ali Ismail

Public administration No specific mention.

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 No specific mention.

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication Rights related issues→Media and communication→Other
Page 1, 5. Intellectuals from both communities communicate the signed peace agreement to their communities in the conflict area

Mobility/access No specific mention.

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 Land, property and environment→Land reform/rights→Other land rights
Page 1, 3. The land be shared among all with no one not able to claim it particularly as their own

**Pastoralist/
nomadism rights** No specific mention.

Cultural heritage No specific mention.

Environment Page 1,
- Considering how important it is to bring a lasting peace between the related communities and how imperative it is to protect the environment from deforestation and erosion.

**Water or riparian
rights or access** Page 1,
2. The Puntland government settles all expenses charged regarding the water reservoir and water catchments to be demolished

Security sector

**Security
Guarantees** No specific mention.

Ceasefire No specific mention.

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces No specific mention.

DDR Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions
Page 1, 6. Relocation of the forces should happen as soon as possible

Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	No specific mention.
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	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 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 1, 7. The elders of Puntland and the mediation committee jointly monitor the implementation of the agreement

Related cases No specific mention.

Source Source: Hassan Adan Mohamed and Amina Abdulkadir M. Nur, The Puntland Experience: A Bottom-up Approach to Peace and State Building - Peace Initiatives in Puntland 1991-2007 (ed.) Pat Johnson (Garowe, Puntland, Somalia: Interpeace, 2008), p. 89-90
