

<b>Country/entity</b>	Liberia
<b>Region</b>	Africa (excl MENA)
<b>Agreement name</b>	Abuja Peace Agreement to Supplement the Cotonou and Akosombo Agreements as subsequently clarified by the Accra Agreement
<b>Date</b>	19 Aug 1995
<b>Agreement status</b>	Multiparty signed/agreed
<b>Interim arrangement</b>	Yes
<b>Agreement/conflict level</b>	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

**Liberian Civil Wars (1989 - 1997) (1999 - 2005)**

In 1989, the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) attacked border posts as part of a campaign to oust the dictatorship of Samuel Doe. This triggered a violent civil war that by 1995 had killed around 150,000 and displaced an estimated 850,000 people. The outbreak of war is attributed to the domestic socio-economic and political environment in the country of the 1980s, such as poverty, discrimination and repression. However, its sustenance is also related to past discrimination against indigenous Liberians by 'Americo-Liberians', and deep ethnic divisions that resulted.

Peace negotiations began in 1992 and completed by 1997. However, the peace lasted only a short period and in 1999 there was renewed fighting against the elected president, Charles Taylor. The Guinea-backed organisation, Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD), together with the armed Movement for Democracy in Liberia (MODEL) controlled two thirds of the country by 2003 and besieged the capital Monrovia, forcing Charles Taylor into exile in Nigeria. In August that same year, the conflict parties signed the Accra Comprehensive Peace Agreement and in 2005 new general elections were held.

Close

Liberian Civil Wars (1989 - 1997) (1999 - 2005)

<b>Stage</b>	Implementation/renegotiation
<b>Conflict nature</b>	Government
<b>Peace process</b>	Liberia peace process

**Parties**

(Signed) Charles Ghankay TAYLOR  
Leader, National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL)

(Signed) Ltg. Alhaji G. V. KROMAH  
National Chairman, United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy (ULIMO)

(Signed) Dr. G. E. Saigbe BOLEY Sr.  
Leader, Liberia Peace Council (LPC)

(Signed) Ltg. J. Hezekiah BOWEN  
Armed Forces of Liberia

(Signed) Major-General Roosevelt JOHNSON  
United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy (ULIMO-J)

(Signed) François MASSAQUOI  
Lofa Defence Force (LDF)

(Signed) Thomas WOEWIYU  
National Patriotic Front of Liberia  
Central Revolutionary Council (NPFL-CRC)

(Signed) Chea CHEAPOO  
Liberia National Conference (LNC)

**Third parties**

(Signed) Dr. Obed ASAMOAH  
for and on behalf of His Excellency Flt-Lt. Jerry John Rawlings  
President of the Republic of Ghana and Chairman of ECOWAS

(Signed) Chief Tom IKIMI  
for and on behalf of His Excellency General Sani Abacha,  
Head of State, Commander-in-Chief of the Nigerian Armed Forces

(Signed) H.E. President Canaan BANANA  
Organization of African Unity  
Eminent Person in Liberia

(Signed) H.E. Anthony B. NYAKYI  
Special Representative to Liberia of the United Nations Secretary-General

**Description**

This agreement amends and supplements the Cotonou Accord, the Akosombo Agreement and its Accra Clarification. Issues covered include a ceasefire and its modalities, a schedule of implementation, transitional governance arrangements, and election modalities.

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**Agreement document**

[LR\\_950819\\_AbujaAgreement.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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## 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** Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical  
Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election -  
August 1995-August 1996, 9: 01 Dec 1995 - 02 Feb 1996 - Resettlement/repatriation

**Social class** No specific mention.

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## Gender

**Women, girls and  
gender** No specific mention.

**Men and boys** No specific mention.

**LGBTI** No specific mention.

**Family** No specific mention.

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## State definition

**Nature of state  
(general)** No specific mention.

**State configuration** No specific mention.

<b>Self determination</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Referendum</b>	No specific mention.
<b>State symbols</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Independence/ secession</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Accession/ unification</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Border delimitation</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Cross-border provision</b>	No specific mention.

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**Political  
institutions (new or  
reformed)**

Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→Temporary new institutions

Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive:

i. The Parties agree that during the transitional period leading to the inauguration of an elected government, the executive powers of the Republic of Liberia shall be vested in a six-member Council of State to be composed as follows:

- (a) National Patriotic Front of Liberia Mr. Charles Ghankay Taylor
- (b) United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy (ULIMO) LTG. Alhaji G. V. Kromah
- (c) COALITION Dr. George E. S. Boley Sr.
- (d) Liberian National Conference (LNC) Oscar Jaryee Quiah
- (e) Chief Tamba Tailor
- (f) Mr. Wilton Sankawolo

ii. The Chairman of the Council shall be Mr. Wilton Sankawolo. All other members of the Council shall be Vice-Chairmen of equal status. In case of permanent incapacitation a new Chairman shall be appointed within the framework of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

iii. The Parties hereby agree that the allocation of ministries, public corporations and autonomous agencies agreed by the Parties in Cotonou, Benin, on 3-5 November 1993 shall be maintained. The Parties, however, agree that the allocations for the erstwhile IGNU shall revert to the Liberian Peace Council (LPC)/COALITION. LTG Hezekiah Bowen, François Massaquoi, Thomas Woewiyu, Laveli Supuwood and Samuel Dokie shall be given ministerial or other senior government positions.

General Roosevelt Johnson's wing of ULIMO (ULIMO-J) shall occupy the following positions:

**Ministries**

1. Minister of State for Presidential Affairs
2. Minister of Transport
3. Minister of Rural Development
4. Minister of State Without Portfolio

**Public corporations/autonomous agencies**

1. National Bank
2. Corporative Development Agencies (CDA)
3. Agricultural Industrial Training Board (AIIB)
4. Forestry Development Authority (FDA)

**Deputy ministers**

1. Ministry of Post and Telecommunication
2. Ministry of Justice
3. Ministry of Education
4. Ministry of Information

**Deputy managing directors/deputy directors general**

1. NICOL National Insurance Corporation of Liberia
2. NHA National Housing Authority
3. LWSC Liberia Water and Sewage Corporation
4. NHSB National Housing and Savings Bank
5. FS Fire Service

6. GA General Auditing

7. IPA Institute of Public Administration

8. NEAA National Food Assistance Agency

<b>Elections</b>	<p>Page 2, Section C, Article 15 Elections modalities: 1. The operations of the Elections Commission shall be monitored by ECOWAS, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations.</p> <p>Page 3, Section D, Article 16 Tenure and mandate of the Transitional Government:  ...3. Holders of positions within the Transitional Government as defined by the Cotonou Accord who wish to contest the election provided for under the Schedule of Implementation shall vacate office three months before the date of elections. They shall be replaced by their nominees or by persons nominated by the parties represented in the Council of State.  4. The Chairman of the Council of State shall be ineligible to contest the first Presidential and Parliamentary elections to be held pursuant to this Agreement.</p> <p>Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 10: 01 Mar 1996 - 12 Aug 1996 - Preparation for elections.</p> <p>Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 11: 20 Aug 1996 - Election Day.</p> <p>Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, Notes: 3. Election Day - 14 August 1996</p>
<b>Electoral commission</b>	Page 2, Section C, Article 15 Elections modalities: 1. The operations of the Elections Commission shall be monitored by ECOWAS, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations.
<b>Political parties reform</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Civil society</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Traditional/religious leaders</b>	<p>Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive:  i. The Parties agree that during the transitional period leading to the inauguration of an elected government, the executive powers of the Republic of Liberia shall be vested in a six-member Council of State to be composed as follows:</p> <p>(a) National Patriotic Front of Liberia Mr. Charles Ghankay Taylor  (b) United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy (ULIMO) LTG. Alhaji G. V. Kromah  (c) COALITION Dr. George E. S. Boley Sr.  (d) Liberian National Conference (LNC) Oscar Jaryee Quiah  (e) Chief Tamba Tailor  (f) Mr. Wilton Sankawolo</p>
<b>Public administration</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Constitution</b>	No specific mention.

**Power sharing**

**Political power sharing**

Power sharing→Political power sharing→Executive coalition  
State level

Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive:

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- (c) COALITION Dr. George E. S. Boley Sr.
- (d) Liberian National Conference (LNC) Oscar Jaryee Quiah
- (e) Chief Tamba Tailor
- (f) Mr. Wilton Sankawolo

ii. The Chairman of the Council shall be Mr. Wilton Sankawolo. All other members of the Council shall be Vice-Chairmen of equal status. In case of permanent incapacitation a new Chairman shall be appointed within the framework of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

iii. The Parties hereby agree that the allocation of ministries, public corporations and autonomous agencies agreed by the Parties in Cotonou, Benin, on 3-5 November 1993 shall be maintained. The Parties, however, agree that the allocations for the erstwhile IGNU shall revert to the Liberian Peace Council (LPC)/COALITION. LTG Hezekiah Bowen, François Massaquoi, Thomas Woewiyu, Laveli Supuwood and Samuel Dokie shall be given ministerial or other senior government positions.

General Roosevelt Johnson's wing of ULIMO (ULIMO-J) shall occupy the following positions:

**Ministries**

1. Minister of State for Presidential Affairs
2. Minister of Transport
3. Minister of Rural Development
4. Minister of State Without Portfolio

**...Deputy ministers**

1. Ministry of Post and Telecommunication
2. Ministry of Justice
3. Ministry of Education
4. Ministry of Information

Page 2, Section D, Article 16 Tenure and mandate of the Transitional Government:

...3. Holders of positions within the Transitional Government as defined by the Cotonou Accord who wish to contest the election provided for under the Schedule of Implementation shall vacate office three months before the date of elections. They shall be replaced by their nominees or by persons nominated by the parties represented in the Council of State.

**Territorial power sharing** No specific mention.

**Economic power sharing** No specific mention.

**Military power sharing** No specific mention.

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## **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.

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## **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→Governance of media

Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive:

...iii. The Parties hereby agree that the allocation of ministries, public corporations and autonomous agencies agreed by the Parties in Cotonou, Benin, on 3-5 November 1993 shall be maintained. The Parties, however, agree that the allocations for the erstwhile IGNU shall revert to the Liberian Peace Council (LPC)/COALITION. LTG Hezekiah Bowen, François Massaquoi, Thomas Woewiyu, Laveli Supuwood and Samuel Dokie shall be given ministerial or other senior government positions.

General Roosevelt Johnson's wing of ULIMO (ULIMO-J) shall occupy the following positions:

...Deputy ministers

...1. Ministry of Post and Telecommunication

...4. Ministry of Information

**Mobility/access**

No specific mention.

**Protection measures**

No specific mention.

**Other**

No specific mention.

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**Rights institutions**

**NHRI**

No specific mention.

**Regional or international human rights institutions**

No specific mention.

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## 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.

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## Socio-economic reconstruction

**Development or socio-economic reconstruction** Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development  
Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive:  
...iii. The Parties hereby agree that the allocation of ministries, public corporations and autonomous agencies agreed by the Parties in Cotonou, Benin, on 3-5 November 1993 shall be maintained. The Parties, however, agree that the allocations for the erstwhile IGNU shall revert to the Liberian Peace Council (LPC)/COALITION. LTG Hezekiah Bowen, François Massaquoi, Thomas Woewiyu, Laveli Supuwood and Samuel Dokie shall be given ministerial or other senior government positions.

General Roosevelt Johnson's wing of ULIMO (ULIMO-J) shall occupy the following positions:

Ministries

...2. Minister of Transport

3. Minister of Rural Development

...Deputy ministers

...3. Ministry of Education

...Deputy managing directors/deputy directors general

...2. NHA National Housing Authority

...5. FS Fire Service

...8. NFAA National Food Assistance Agency

**National economic plan** No specific mention.

**Natural resources** No specific mention.

**International funds** No specific mention.

**Business** Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive:  
...iii. The Parties hereby agree that the allocation of ministries, public corporations and autonomous agencies agreed by the Parties in Cotonou, Benin, on 3-5 November 1993 shall be maintained. The Parties, however, agree that the allocations for the erstwhile IGNU shall revert to the Liberian Peace Council (LPC)/COALITION. LTG Hezekiah Bowen, François Massaquoi, Thomas Woewiyu, Laveli Supuwood and Samuel Dokie shall be given ministerial or other senior government positions.

General Roosevelt Johnson's wing of ULIMO (ULIMO-J) shall occupy the following positions:

...Public corporations/autonomous agencies  
...2. Corporative Development Agencies (CDA)  
3. Agricultural Industrial Training Board (AIIB)

...Deputy managing directors/deputy directors general  
1. NICOL National Insurance Corporation of Liberia  
...3. LWSC Liberia Water and Sewage Corporation

**Taxation** No specific mention.

**Banks** No specific mention.

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## **Land, property and environment**

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

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

**Cultural heritage** No specific mention.

**Environment**

Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive:

...iii. The Parties hereby agree that the allocation of ministries, public corporations and autonomous agencies agreed by the Parties in Cotonou, Benin, on 3-5 November 1993 shall be maintained. The Parties, however, agree that the allocations for the erstwhile IGNU shall revert to the Liberian Peace Council (LPC)/COALITION. LTG Hezekiah Bowen, François Massaquoi, Thomas Woewiyu, Laveli Supuwood and Samuel Dokie shall be given ministerial or other senior government positions.

General Roosevelt Johnson's wing of ULIMO (ULIMO-J) shall occupy the following positions:

...Public corporations/autonomous agencies

...4. Forestry Development Authority (FDA)

**Water or riparian  
rights or access**

Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive:

...iii. The Parties hereby agree that the allocation of ministries, public corporations and autonomous agencies agreed by the Parties in Cotonou, Benin, on 3-5 November 1993 shall be maintained. The Parties, however, agree that the allocations for the erstwhile IGNU shall revert to the Liberian Peace Council (LPC)/COALITION. LTG Hezekiah Bowen, François Massaquoi, Thomas Woewiyu, Laveli Supuwood and Samuel Dokie shall be given ministerial or other senior government positions.

General Roosevelt Johnson's wing of ULIMO (ULIMO-J) shall occupy the following positions:

...Deputy managing directors/deputy directors general

...3. LWSC Liberia Water and Sewage Corporation

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## **Security sector**

### **Security Guarantees**

Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 5: 02 Oct 95 - 14 Dec 95 - Deployment of ECOMOG/UNOMIL to safe havens throughout the country.

### **Ceasefire**

Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision  
Ceasefire commences at midnight on 26/08/1995 and is presumed to be permanent.

Page 1, Section A, Article I Cease-fire: The Parties to this Agreement hereby declare a cease-fire and the cessation of hostilities effective at 12 o'clock midnight 26 August 1995.

Page 3, Section G, Article 8 Peace enforcement powers: 1. Enforcement of violations of cease-fire shall be in accordance with the terms of the Cotonou Accord.

Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 1: 22 Aug 95 - 4 Sep 95 - Factions inform combatants of ceasefire.

Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, Notes: 1. Cease-fire - 2359 hours 22 August 1995 (Midnight 22/23 August 1995)

### **Police**

No specific mention.

### **Armed forces**

No specific mention.

### **DDR**

Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes

Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 2: 5-26 Sep 1995 - Factions disengage from check points/ present combat positions to areas under own arrangements.

Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 6: 08 Oct 1995 - 08 Nov 1995 - Completion/preparation for new assembly/encampment sites.

Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 7: 09 Nov 1995 - 31 Dec 1995 - Combatants in assembly/ encampment sites.

Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 8: 01 Dec 1995 - 30 Jan 1996 - Disarmament/demobilization

Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 9: 01 Dec 1995 - 02 Feb 1996 - Resettlement/repatriation

### **Intelligence services**

No specific mention.

<b>Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces</b>	<p>Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive:</p> <p>i. The Parties agree that during the transitional period leading to the inauguration of an elected government, the executive powers of the Republic of Liberia shall be vested in a six-member Council of State to be composed as follows:</p> <p>(a) National Patriotic Front of Liberia Mr. Charles Ghankay Taylor  (b) United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy (ULIMO) LTG. Alhaji G. V. Kromah  (c) COALITION Dr. George E. S. Boley Sr.  (d) Liberian National Conference (LNC) Oscar Jaryee Quiah  (e) Chief Tamba Tailor  (f) Mr. Wilton Sankawolo</p>
<b>Withdrawal of foreign forces</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Corruption</b>	<p>Page 1, Part II Political issues, Section A Executive:</p> <p>...iii. The Parties hereby agree that the allocation of ministries, public corporations and autonomous agencies agreed by the Parties in Cotonou, Benin, on 3-5 November 1993 shall be maintained. The Parties, however, agree that the allocations for the erstwhile IGNU shall revert to the Liberian Peace Council (LPC)/COALITION. LTG Hezekiah Bowen, François Massaquoi, Thomas Woewiyu, Laveli Supuwood and Samuel Dokie shall be given ministerial or other senior government positions.</p> <p>General Roosevelt Johnson's wing of ULIMO (ULIMO-J) shall occupy the following positions:</p> <p>...Deputy managing directors/deputy directors general  ...6. GA General Auditing</p>
<b>Crime/organised crime</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Drugs</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Terrorism</b>	No specific mention.

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## Transitional justice

<b>Transitional justice general</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Amnesty/pardon</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Courts</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Mechanism</b>	No specific mention.

<b>Prisoner release</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Vetting</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Victims</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Missing persons</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Reparations</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Reconciliation</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Implementation**

<b>UN signatory</b>	(Signed) H.E. Anthony B. NYAKYI Special Representative to Liberia of the United Nations Secretary-General
<b>Other international signatory</b>	(Signed) Dr. Obed ASAMOAH for and on behalf of His Excellency Flt-Lt. Jerry John Rawlings President of the Republic of Ghana and Chairman of ECOWAS  (Signed) Chief Tom IKIMI for and on behalf of His Excellency General Sani Abacha, Head of State, Commander-in-Chief of the Nigerian Armed Forces  (Signed) H.E. President Canaan BANANA Organization of African Unity Eminent Person in Liberia
<b>Referendum for agreement</b>	No specific mention.

**International mission/force/similar**

Page 2, Section C, Article 15 Elections modalities: 1. The operations of the Elections Commission shall be monitored by ECOWAS, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations.

Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 3: 5-26 Sep 95 - Verification by ECOMOG/UNOMIL/LNTG/ warring factions.

Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 4: 15-30 Sep 95 - Reconnaissance mission/build-up of logistics - ECOMOG/UNOMIL/LNTG.

Page 5, Schedule of implementation of the agreement from cease-fire to election - August 1995-August 1996, 5: 02 Oct 95 - 14 Dec 95 - Deployment of ECOMOG/UNOMIL to safe havens throughout the country.

**Enforcement mechanism**

Page 3, Section G, Article 8 Peace enforcement powers: 1. Enforcement of violations of cease-fire shall be in accordance with the terms of the Cotonou Accord.

**Related cases**

No specific mention.

**Source**

USIP: <http://www.usip.org/publications/peace-agreements-digital-collection>

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