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Country/entity	South Sudan
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Agreement on the Roadmap to a Peaceful and Democratic end of the Transitional Period of the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R- ARCSS).
Date	2 Aug 2022
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes

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 Areement (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 -

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Stage Implementation/renegotiation
Conflict nature Government/territory

Peace process	South Sudan post-secession process	
Parties	H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Republic. For The Former Interim Transitional Government of National Unity (ITGoNU)}	
	2. H.E. Dr. Riek Machar Teny, First Vice President of the Republic. For Sudan People's Liberation Movement/ Army in Opposition (SPLM/A-IO)}	
	3. Hon. Gabriel Changson Chang, Minister of High Education, Science and Technology For the South Sudan Opposition Alliance (SSOA)	
	4. Hon. Deng Alor Kuol, Minister of East African Community. For the Former Detainees (FD's)	
	5. Hon. Peter Mayen Majogdit, Minister of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management For the Other Political Parties (OPP)-Representative (1)	
	6. Hon. Wilson Lodiong Sebit, Member of Parliament For the Other Political Parties (OPP)- Representative (2)	
Third parties	-	
Description	The Agreement on the Roadmap to a Peaceful and Democratic End of the Transitional Period of the R-ARCSS, finalized by the High-Level Standing Committee in Juba, South Sudan, on 2nd August 2022, aims to address implementation delays of the original agreement signed on 12th September 2018. This roadmap outlines a revised timeline and key tasks for transitioning to a democratic government, emphasizing the importance of the implementation matrix for detailed task scheduling. Following extensive review, the transitional period was extended by 24 months beyond its initial end date of 22nd February 2023, setting democratic elections for December 2024. Please Note: Only the body of the text is reflected in the coding, but the implementation matrix setting out the dates for tasks to be undertaken is key, and should be referred to.	
Agreement document	SS_220802_Agreement on the Roadmap to a Peaceful and Democratic end of the Transitional Period (opens in new tab) Download PDF	

Groups

Children/youth	Groups→Children/youth→Rhetorical (ii) Article 2.1.10.3 on ceasing recruitment and/or use of child soldiers. Groups→Children/youth→Substantive (i) Article 3.1.2.2 on offering special consideration to conflict-affected persons (children, orphans, women, widows, war wounded, people with special needs, etc.) in the delivery of public services including access to health, education services and granting host communities the same benefit, protection and humanitarian services.
Disabled persons	Groups→Disabled persons→Substantive (i) Article 3.1.2.2 on offering special consideration to conflict-affected persons (children, orphans, women, widows, war wounded, people with special needs, etc.)
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 (ii) Article 1.4.3.1 on dissemination (Annex-3, Items 1 to 7) of the Revitalized ARCSS to South Sudanese people inside the country, in different cities and refugee camps in neighboring countries and generally in the diaspora, so that the people can understand, support and own it. (iii) Article 2.1.10.5 on ceasing all attacks against civilian population, including IDPs, returnees and media personnel; The combination of these processes addresses the legacy of conflict, promoting peace, national reconciliation and healing to create a conducive environment for the return of refugees and preparations for democratic elections.
Social class	No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender	 (ii) Article 2.1.10.2 on ceasing all forms of SGBV, including sexual exploitation and harassment. (i) Article 3.1.2.2 on offering special consideration to conflict-affected persons (children, orphans, women, widows, war wounded, people with special needs, etc.)
Men and boys	No specific mention.
LGBTI	No specific mention.
Family	No specific mention.
State definition	
Nature of state (general)	2.5 Chapter-5 Status of Implementation (Annex-7, Items 1 to 18): The institutions to be established under this chapter have impact on the democratic transformation of South Sudan in that they will build truth, reconciliation and healing, and compensation and reparation.
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 Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→New political institutions **institutions (new or** (indefinite)

reformed)

1.1 The Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) was concluded and signed on the 12h September 2018 and was scheduled to end after a total of forty-four (44) months: eight (8) months of a Pre-Transitional Period and thirty-six (36) months of a Transitional Period.

1.2. The schedule for the implementation of the provisions of the Agreement was not met due to a number of genuine challenges.

Thus, the 8-month Pre- Transition Period started on 12th September 2018, and ended on 12th May 2019 without the establishment of the R-TGoNU as per article 1.1.2 of the R-ARCSS.

1.3 If the R-TGoNU was established by 12th May 2019, elections would have had to be carried out as from 12th March 2022, two (2) months before the end of the transitional period and the elected government established would have had to be formed by 12th May 2022.

1.4 Unfortunately, the pre-transitional period activities could not be completed according to plan.

A six (6) months extension had to be agreed, pushing the Transitional Period by fourteen (14) months to 12th November 2019.

1.6 Again, the pre-transitional period of fourteen (14) months had to be extended by onehundred (100) days to make seventeen (17) months and ten (10) days, ending on 22nd November 2019.

(i) That one-hundred (100) days extension pushed the establishment of the R-TGoNU to 22nd February 2020, to end by 22nd February, 2023.

(ii) Accordingly, elections are set to be conducted as from 22nd December 2022, just four(4) months from now.

1.7 The purpose of this report is to analyze the status of the R-ARCSS implementation, assess the possibility of starting the process of conducting elections from 22nd December 2022, or propose an alternative timetable, a Road Map, for the parties to the Agreement to consider.

Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→Temporary new institutions (i) The review of the new National Elections Act to conform with the permanent constitution upon its ratification by the constituent assembly by the 30th of August, 2023.

(ii) This review follows six (6) months after the National Constitutional Review
Commission (NCRC) conducts civic education on the permanent constitution from 30th
June, 2024 to 30th December, 2024, and continues for two (2) from 30th June, 2024 to
30th August, 2024.

Elections

1.3 If the R-TGoNU was established by 12th May 2019, elections would have had to be carried out as from 12th March 2022, two (2) months before the end of the transitional period and the elected government established would have had to be formed by 12th May 2022.

1.5 Elections process would start from the 12th September, 2022 i. e. two (2) months before the end of the transitional period and the establishment of the elected government by 12th November, 2022.

(ii) Accordingly, elections are set to be conducted as from 22nd December 2022, just four(4) months from now.

Eighteen (18) on governance structures and bills (Annex-1, Items 1 to 18), six (6) on preelections (Annex-2a, 1 to 6), nine (9) on Elections and Post-Election issues (Annex-2b, Items 1 to 9) and seven (7) on Dissemination (Annex-3, Items 1 to 7)

(iv) Article 1.20 (inclusive of sub-articles/activities 1.20.2 to 1.20.12) on National Elections, Pre-election (Annex-2a Items 1 to 9), Elections and Post-Elections Annex-2b, Items 1 to 5).

The combination of these processes addresses the legacy of conflict, promoting peace, national reconciliation and healing to create a conducive environment for the return of refugees and preparations for democratic elections.

2.6.1 The significance of this chapter is that the election law that will guide elections at the end of the thirty-six (36) months transitional period is to be reviewed based on the permanent constitution of the Republic of South Sudan.

 (i) The Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) does not provide critical timelines neither for the Permanent Constitution Making Process nor the Elections.

(ii) For the purpose of developing this Road Map Chapter-1, Chapter-2, Chapter-3, Chapter-4, Chapters-5 and 6 are considered appropriate for the determination of critical timelines because they contain provisions that are critical for the conduct of elections directly or indirectly.

(v) The objective is to ensure the full and peaceful end of the R-ARCSS with elections held and a democratically elected government for the Republic of South Sudan installed.(i) The review of the new National Elections Act to conform with the permanent constitution upon its ratification by the constituent assembly by the 30th of August, 2023.

(iv) The National Election Commission (NEC) commences the electoral process starting from 30th August, 2022 in order to be fully established (Annex-2a showing 5 Pillars each with a set of strategic objectives/actions).

(vi) The restructured and reconstituted NEC commences its pre-election activities (Annex-2a, Items 1 to 6), from 30th August to 30th December, 2023 ready for electoral and post-elections processes (Annex-2b, Items 9).

4.1 The extended meeting of the Parties of 21» July 2022, which was attended by the representatives of the parties to the Agreement, endorsed the Roadmap proposal of H.E.President Salva Kiir Mayardit on peaceful transition to democratic elections.That means elections will be held in December 2024.

4.5 The harmonized Roadmap was re-submitted to a second extended meeting of the Presidency in which article 8.4 of the R-ARCSS was evoked to approve the amendment by extending the transition period from 22d February 2023, to 22nd February, 2025, with elections held in December, 2024.

Electoral commission	 (iv) The National Election Commission (NEC) commences the electoral process starting from 30th August, 2022 in order to be fully established (Annex-2a showing 5 Pillars each with a set of strategic objectives/actions). (vi) The restructured and reconstituted NEC commences its pre-election activities (Annex-2a, Items 1 to 6), from 30th August to 30th December, 2023 ready for electoral and post-elections processes (Annex-2b, Items 9).
Political parties reform	Governance→Political parties reform→Other political parties reform (iii) The enactment of the Political Parties Act, 2022, on the establishment of the Political Parties, their registration and the establishment of the Political Parties Council if impacted upon by the permanent constitution.
Civil society	 (ii) Article 1.4.3.1 on dissemination (Annex-3, Items 1 to 7) of the Revitalized ARCSS to South Sudanese people inside the country, in different cities and refugee camps in neighboring countries and generally in the diaspora, so that the people can understand, support and own it. (iii) Article 3.1.2.4 on ensuring issuance of visas for humanitarian personnel are not delayed. (i) Article 2.1.10.1 on refraining from actions that may impede or delay the provision of humanitarian aid, protection of civilians, and free movement of people. international humanitarian organizations' personnel or installations. (ii) Article 3.1.2.5 on reviewing the 2016 NGO Act as per international best practice.
Traditional/ religious leaders	No specific mention.

Public administration	No specific mention.
Constitution	 Governance→Constitution→Constitutional reform/making (iv) Article 1.20.1 on review of the Political Parties Act 2022 have to be reviewed to conform to the permanent constitution of the Republic of South Sudan and adoption by the constituent assembly prior to its dissolution. 2.6.1 The significance of this chapter is that the election law that will guide elections at the end of the thirty-six (36) months transitional period is to be reviewed based on the permanent constitution of the Republic of South Sudan. (i) The legislation to govern the permanent constitution making process was ratified by the RTNLA in July 2022. (i) The Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) does not provide critical timelines neither for the Permanent constitution Making Process nor the Elections. (i) The review of the new National Elections Act to conform with the permanent constitution upon its ratification by the constituent assembly by the 30th of August, 2023. (ii) This review follows six (6) months after the National Constitutional Review Commission (NCRC) conducts civic education on the permanent constitution from 30th June, 2024 to 30th December, 2024, and continues for two (2) from 30th June, 2024 to 30th August, 2024. (iii) The enactment of the Political Parties Act, 2022, on the establishment of the Political Parties, their registration and the establishment of the Political Parties Council if impacted upon by the permanent constitutional Taffing Committee (CDC) shall be after the restructuring and reconstitution of the NCRC. (iii) The CDC then begins its work of drafting the permanent constitutional text and follow the due processes.

Power sharing

Political power sharing	No specific mention.
Territorial power sharing	No specific mention.
Economic power sharing	No specific mention.
Military power sharing	Power sharing→Military power sharing→Joint command structures (i) The unification of the command structure is now completed. Power sharing→Military power sharing→Other The parade of co-trained unified forces has been compiled and graduation is planned during August, 2022.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL(v) The Judicial Reform Committee (JRC) shall study and recommend Judicial reforms for
the Judiciary of South Sudan to be implemented by the Judicial Service Commission to
improve on justice and the rule of law prior to the conduct of elections.

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	 (iii) The enactment of the Political Parties Act, 2022, on the establishment of the Political Parties, their registration and the establishment of the Political Parties Council if impacted upon by the permanent constitution. (iv) The National Election Commission (NEC) commences the electoral process starting from 30th August, 2022 in order to be fully established (Annex-2a showing 5 Pillars each with a set of strategic objectives/actions). (vi) The restructured and reconstituted NEC commences its pre-election activities (Annex-2a, Items 1 to 6), from 30th August to 30th December, 2023 ready for electoral and post-elections processes (Annex-2b, Items 9).
Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	No specific mention.
Mobility/access	 (iii) Article 3.1.2.4 on ensuring issuance of visas for humanitarian personnel are not delayed. (i) Article 2.1.10.1 on refraining from actions that may impede or delay the provision of humanitarian aid, protection of civilians, and free movement of people.

Protection measures	Rights related issues→Protection measures→Protection of civilians (i) Article 2.1.10.1 on refraining from actions that may impede or delay the provision of humanitarian aid, protection of civilians, and free movement of people. Rights related issues→Protection measures→Protection of groups (iii) Article 2.1.10.5 on ceasing all attacks against civilian population, including IDPs, returnees and media personnel; UNMISS/RPF personnel, installations and equipment; international humanitarian organizations' personnel or installations. (i) Article 3.1.2.2 on offering special consideration to conflict-affected persons (children, orphans, women, widows, war wounded, people with special needs, etc.) in the delivery of public services including access to health, education services and granting host communities the same benefit, protection and humanitarian services.	
Other	No specific mention.	
Rights institutions		
NHRI	No specific mention.	
Regional or international human rights institutions	No specific mention.	
Justice sector refor	m	
Criminal justice and emergency law	I Justice sector reform→Criminal justice and emergency law→Reform to specific laws (ii) Sub-articles 1.18.1.2 on review of security laws, 1.18.3 on enactment of proposed laws, 1.18.6 on NCAC amended laws and their presentation to the MOJ&CA Council of Ministers and the TNLA for ratification and subsequent assent by the President of the Republic.	
State of emergency provisions	No specific mention.	
Judiciary and courts	 (i) Article 1.17 on Judicial Reform and sub-Article 1.17.2 to 1.17.7. (v) The Judicial Reform Committee (JRC) shall study and recommend Judicial reforms for the Judiciary of South Sudan to be implemented by the Judicial Service Commission to improve on justice and the rule of law prior to the conduct of elections. 	
Prisons and detention	No specific mention.	
Traditional Laws	No specific mention.	

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction	 Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development (ii) Article 3.1.2.5 on reviewing the 2016 NGO Act as per international best practice. (iii) Article 3.2.1 on establishing a Special Fund for Reconstruction (SRF) and its Board (BSRF). (iv) Article 3.2.5 on assessing and determining priorities for the Special Reconstruction Fund (SRF). (v) Article 3.2.6 on preparing SRF programme and a detailed action plan for the reconstruction of conflict-affected states and other areas. (vi) Article 3.2.7 on providing SRF with initial funding of not less than USD 100 million per annum. (vii) Article 3.2.8 on convening a South Sudan pledging conference to raise money to resource the SRF. (viii) Article 3.2.9 on developing and submitting reports on the SRF income, expenditure and implemented projects to the RTNLA. Article 4.3.1.1 on Strategic Economic Roadmap (National Development Plan) and Article 4.8.1.14.10 on reviewing and auditing of all revenues due to the National Government and their allocation in the budget since 2011.
National economic plan	No specific mention.
Natural resources	No specific mention.
International funds	(iv) Calls upon RJMEC, IGAD, AU, all the Parties signatory to the R-ARCSS, all Stakeholders, Guarantors and International Partners to support the roadmap morally, politically, diplomatically and financially.
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	No specific mention.
Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	 (iii) Phase-2, on the cantonment, screening, training, re-organization, unification, graduation and redeployment of the forces currently assembled starts from 30th November 2022. (i) The graduation and deployment process of the forces of phase-1 commence in August, 2022. (ii) Phase 2: Cantonment/barracking, screening, reorganization and training of the remaining forces is proposed to commence after the graduation and redeployment of their forces by 30* November, 2022, to continue for 6 Months with their graduation and redeployment by 30** November, 2022.
DDR	 Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions (ii) De-militarization of civilian centers. (i) Collection of long range and medium range heavy weapons. (i) The graduation and deployment process of the forces of phase-1 commence in August, 2022. (ii) Phase 2: Cantonment/barracking, screening, reorganization and training of the remaining forces is proposed to commence after the graduation and redeployment of their forces by 30* November, 2022, to continue for 6 Months with their graduation and redeployment by 30** November, 2022.
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	Transitional justice→Courts→National courts (i) The initiative for the establishment of the HCSS is with the African Union. Although its terms shall conform to the agreement, responsibility for the provision of broad guidelines related to its full establishment lies with the AUC. (ii) Generally, the R-GONU is only called upon to support and facilitate its operation (sub- articles.5.1.4) and to fully cooperate and seek assistance of the AU, UN and AUC on Human Rights (sub-article 5.1.5). (ii) Apart from the HCSS which awaits guidelines from the AU, the CRA which was initiated on 9th May, 2022, should be established by 9th November, 2022.

Mechanism	 (iii) Article 1.19 on Transitional Institutions and Mechanisms, which are the subject of restructuring and reconstitution. 2.5 Chapter-5 Status of Implementation (Annex-7, Items 1 to 18): The institutions to be established under this chapter have impact on the democratic transformation of South Sudan in that they will build truth, reconciliation and healing, and compensation and reparation. 2.5.1 Commission for Truth, Reconciliation, and Healing (CTRH-Annex-5, Items 2 to 6): The process for its establishment commenced on 24th January, 2022. (i) The legal framework is due to be passed by the RTNLA by September 2022 at the latest. Once established, the CTRH will then implement all the eleven (11) outstanding subarticle/activities. (ii) The technical Committee formed to engage in the process of establishing the CTRH was launched on 10th May 2021. It has submitted the report on the Public Consultation to the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs. The Minister will upon consideration of the report direct further action. (iii) The eligible members of the taskforce have been trained and the President launched public consultation on 5th April 2022. (iv) The Taskforce has completed internal consultations and planned to carry out consultation with South Sudanese in refugee camps in the neighboring countries and in the diaspora. (v) The Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs (MOJ&CA) and partners have planned a two (2) weeks study tour to gather experiences of the Commission of truth, reconciliation and healing in South African and the Gambia. (i) The Max Plank Foundation provided comparative material to assist the (MOJ&CA) to
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Prisoner release	No specific mention.
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	No specific mention.
Missing persons	No specific mention.

Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	(iii) Article 1.4.3.3 on National Healing and Reconciliation Process.
	2.5 Chapter-5 Status of Implementation (Annex-7, Items 1 to 18): The institutions to be
	established under this chapter have impact on the democratic transformation of South
	Sudan in that they will build truth, reconciliation and healing, and compensation and
	reparation.
	The combination of these processes addresses the legacy of conflict, promoting peace,
	national reconciliation and healing to create a conducive environment for the return of
	refugees and preparations for democratic elections.

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	 4.2 The meeting resolved to extend the transitional period of the R-ARCSS and directed the High-Level Standing Committee to receive the contributions of the other parties to the Agreement and incorporate them into the President's Roadmap proposal. 4.4 After lengthy deliberations, the committee agreed to extend the transitional period by twenty-four months from the end of the transitional period on the 22nd February 2023, to 22rd February 2025. (i) Directed the High-Level Standing Committee of the Parties to present the harmonized Roadmap to the Council of Ministers, then to an extra-ordinary meeting of RJMEC and subsequently to the RTNL for ratification as per the operational requirement of article 8.4. (ii) Directed the High-Level Standing Committee to engage the concerned Ministries, Institutions and other stakeholders to ensure the timely implementation of the roadmap and report progress on a monthly basis to the Presidency. (iii) Directed the Ministry of Finance and Planning to release funds regularly from the FY 2022/2023 budget allocated for peace implementation of the roadmap.
Related cases	No specific mention.
Source	No specific mention.