

**Country/entity** South Sudan

**Region** Africa (excl MENA)

**Agreement name** Dinka Nuer West Bank Peace Council Communication

**Date** 30 Sep 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** Implementation/renegotiation

**Conflict nature** Inter-group

<b>Peace process</b>	South Sudan: Pre-secession Local Peace Processes
<b>Parties</b>	<p>Twenty-three Council Members from the eleven counties and provinces along the border areas of Bahr el Ghazal and Western Upper Nile regions; Sudan Telar Deng, Peace Council Chairman</p> <p>Working Group 1: Return of Missing Persons, Abductees and Cattle</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mrs. Awut Deng Acuil, Chairperson</li> <li>2. Mr. George Mut Nyang, Co-Chairman</li> <li>3. Mr. Gabriel Anyar Madut, Secretary</li> <li>4. Mr. Ambrose Akec Rong, Member</li> <li>5. Chief Malony Kulang, Member</li> <li>6. Chief Bahon Mabior Deng, Member</li> <li>7. Chief Gabriel Kuol Buth, Member</li> <li>8. Chief Manyiel Liany Wol, Member</li> <li>9. Chief Mathew Riek Toal, Member</li> <li>10. Chief Mangol Matet Dhieu, Member</li> <li>11. Judge Akec Ajuong Tokmac, Member</li> <li>12. Mrs. Elizabeth Nyamac Chan, Member</li> <li>13. Mrs. Rebeka Atet Makuei, Member</li> <li>14. Mrs. Elizabeth Nyankuer, Member</li> <li>15. Mrs. Sarah Nyiebol Kai, Member</li> </ol> <p>Working Group II. Members</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mario Muor Muor, Co-chairman</li> <li>2. Michael Thoat Jany, Co-chairman</li> <li>3. Andrew A. Yaak, Secretary</li> <li>4. Isaiah Alier Mashinkok, Member</li> <li>5. Ayan Maguat Ruai, Member</li> <li>6. Yar Malek Malual, Member</li> <li>7. James Gatwak Tap, Member</li> <li>8. James Ruai Keat, Member</li> <li>9. Marco Pam Kap, Member</li> <li>10. Gideon Beding Jakgei, Member</li> <li>11. Aggostino Agany Dut, Member</li> <li>12. Peter Ring Patai, Member</li> <li>13. Joseph Riak Gatkek, Member</li> <li>14. Daniel Ayual Makoi, Member</li> <li>15. Dabora Yar Jany, Member</li> <li>16. Juol Macok Lieny, Member</li> <li>17. Susana Ayen Macok, Member</li> </ol>
<b>Third parties</b>	New Sudan Council of Churches
<b>Description</b>	Agreement is an implementation agreement from the Wunlit Conference that deals with past provisions for missing people, abductees, and cattle rustling. The agreement catalogs and deals with the specifics of these agenda items in detail.

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**Agreement document** [SS\\_990930\\_Dinka Nuer West Bank Peace Council Communication.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#)  
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### Local agreement properties

**Process type** Formal structured process

**Rationale** This agreement is the part of a wider 'People-to-People process' led by the New Sudan Council of Churches (NSCC) that led to the signing of other accords prior to and after this agreement.

**Is there a documented link to a national peace process?** No

**Link to national process: articulated rationale** This agreement is not technically linked to the national process between the government in Khartoum and South Sudanese opposition forces, but it is worth noting that this agreement builds on the Wunlit agreement of 8 March 1999 which helped to pave the way for a rapprochement between John Garang and Riek Machar's factions (e.g. see Machakos Protocol, 2002).

**Name of Locale** Border areas of Bahr el Ghazal and Western Upper Nile

**Nature of Locale** Region

**GPS Lat/Long (DD)** 7.828790, 29.699208

**Participant type** Local state actor  
International or transnational actor  
Domestic religious organisation/leader or other elder  
Local community/civilian group(s)/civil society organisations

**Mediator, facilitator or similar** Mediator or similar referred to

**Mediator (references)** Mediator and facilitator: New Sudan Council of Churches (NSCC) Funders and facilitators: Christian Aid UK and DanChurch Aid of Denmark Facilitators: Paul McDermott of USAID; Rev. Marc Nikkel of CMS; SRRA; the County Commissioner; and the Executive Secretary of Yirol

**Type of mediator/facilitator/similar** Local state actor Domestic religious organisation/leader or other elder International or transnational actor

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## Local issues

**Ritual/prayer and process (including use of scripture)** No specific mention.

**Grievance List** Page 1, Benefits of the Peace, Breaking the 'Culture of Silence': "Since Wunlit we are free to discuss all issues, debate anything freely, and talk with anyone without raising suspicions."  
Security in Unity: "We have moved from being enemies to brothers and sisters. Now our unity strengthens the security for both Dinka and Nuer."

Page 2, Immediate and Longer Term Plans:, Designation of two sites for emergency response and resettlement of Nuer people who have been displaced by the Government of Sudan sponsored fighting in Western Upper Nile.

Designation of six high priority locations for rebuilding communities and resettlement of Dinka and Nuer people displaced by the seven and a half years of conflict between the communities. Priorities were set for services needed such as provision of bore holes, health, schools, and initial humanitarian assistance for relocation.

...

Establishment of a process for final resolution in the tracing missing persons, the return of abducted people, and in retrieving of cattle which did not fall under the amnesty provisions.

Page 3-4, Working Group I. Return of Missing Persons, Abductees & Cattle, A. Returned and Missing Abductees. The Chairperson, Mrs. Awut, opened the discussion aimed at determining the number of persons returned and those who have gone missing between the Wunlit Peace Conference of February and March, 1999, and the present.

...

B. Retrieved & Missing Cattle. The second point of agenda concerned cattle that have been retrieved and those still missing. It was found that Nuer had not raided any Dinka cattle after the Wunlit Peace and Reconciliation Conference, but Dinka raided a total of 700 head of cattle from Nuer since the Wunlit Conference amnesty date of the 1st of January, 1999. These raids occurred prior to Wunlit but were not covered by the amnesty. The Conference determined that the two raids of February, 1999, were designed to disrupt the peace process and one was held during the exchange visits between Dinka and Nuer chiefs.

...

The Dinka who went to raid Nuer were provoked by Nuer who came to raid cattle from Agar and which were then retrieved by SPLA soldiers who then returned to abduct the girl named Ayiep Manyiel Atembai which had caused the raid of Nuer cattle by Dinka.

Page 6, Working Group II. Resettlement of People & Border Administration (Refer to Wunlit Resolutions II, III & IV), 1. Pabuong with population of 4,350 displaced people and more being expected. This location will receive displaced persons from Adok, Jagei, Jekany, Leek and Bul 2. Mayom, currently with a population of 5,750 displaced people

**Cattle rustling/  
banditry**

Page 1, Specific Achievements, Return of 141 cattle not covered in the amnesty

Page 2, Immediate and Longer Term Plans, Establishment of process for final resolution in the tracing missing persons, the return of abducted people, and in retrieving of cattle which did not fall under the amnesty provisions.

Page 3, Working Group I. Return of Missing Persons, Abductees & Cattle (Refer to Wunlit Resolution I),

- A. Returned persons and missing persons from Dinka and Nuer
- B. Retrieving cattle and missing cattle from Dinka and Nuer
- C. Marriages
- D. Strategies

Pages 3-4, Working Group I. Return of Missing Persons, Abductees & Cattle (Refer to Wunlit Resolution I), B. Retrieved & Missing Cattle. The second point of agenda concerned cattle that have been retrieved and those still missing. It was found that Nuer had not raided any Dinka cattle after the Wunlit Peace and Reconciliation Conference, but Dinka raided a total of 700 head of cattle from Nuer since the Wunlit Conference amnesty date of the 1st of January, 1999. These raids occurred prior to Wunlit but were not covered by the amnesty. The Conference determined that the two raids of February, 1999, were designed to disrupt the peace process and one was held during the exchange visits between Dinka and Nuer chiefs.

Retrieved	Missing	Retrieved	Missing
Dinka Cattle	Dinka Cattle	Nuer Cattle	Nuer Cattle
Nil	Nil	141	559

The raid was executed by individuals from four areas, with number of cattle already returned, as follows:

1. Luacjang of Chief Madut Aguer of Tonj County: (no cattle returned)
2. Gok of Rumbek County, including:
  - a. Chief Chol Madol (no cattle returned)
  - b. Juom Maciek (no cattle returned)
  - c. Mador Koc (no cattle returned)
1. Agar Pakam, including:
  - a. Chief Manyiel Liany Wol (94 cattle returned)
  - b. Marik Lianny Malith (no cattle returned)
  - c. Magon Dalkoc Maluoth (no cattle returned)
  - d. Magon Awicwal Deng (no cattle returned)
  - e. Kumbai Dhalbany Mapuor (no cattle returned)
4. Rek area of Ex. Chief Mabior Dau, with three persons involved in the raid:
  - a. Majok Mabior Dau (no cattle returned)
  - b. Mamer Yuot Ciur (no cattle returned)
  - c. Thot Deng Kiir (no cattle returned)

The Dinka who went to raid Nuer were provoked by Nuer who came to raid cattle from Agar and which were then retrieved by SPLA soldiers who then returned to abduct the girl named Ayiep Manyiel Atembai which had caused the raid of Nuer cattle by Dinka.

Pages 4-5, Working Group I. Return of Missing Persons, Abductees & Cattle (Refer to Wunlit Resolution I), D. Strategies. The following are three strategies to solve the issue of missing persons and cattle:

1. Collection of missing persons should go side by side with the collection of missing cattle by the border chiefs and the police
2. Nuer chiefs should move in Dinka areas or their representatives to identify their missing persons and cattle, and vice versa with Dinka chiefs or their representatives since there is peace and reconciliation among two communities.
3. It is like number 1, except that there is a point added to have certificate from relevant

**Social cover**

No specific mention.

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