

**Country/entity** South Sudan

**Region** Africa (excl MENA)

**Agreement name** Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Gbudue and Maridi States

**Date** 2 Apr 2016

**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** Framework/substantive - comprehensive

**Conflict nature** Government/territory

**Peace process** South Sudan: Post-secession Local agreements

**Parties**

1. THE PARTIES

Hon. Tut Gatluak Manimi  
Presidential Advisor  
For the Government  
Republic of South Sudan (RSS)

Commander Mbereke John Faustino  
Leader  
For South Sudan National Liberation Movement (SSNLM)

**Third parties**

2. FOR THE FAITH BASED MEDIATION

Barani Eduardo Hiliboro Kussala  
Bishop and Chairperson of Faith Based Council

3. WITNESS TO THIS AGREEMENT

UNMISS Representative  
South Sudan  
Headquarter

4. STAKEHOLDERS

Chief Wilson Peni Rikito  
Paramount Chief  
Representative of Traditional Authority

Simple John Bakeaki  
Youth Representative  
Civil Society Organization

Christine Joseph Ngbaazande  
Representative of Women Group-WES

**Description**

This agreement between the Government of the Republic of South Sudan (RSS) and the South Sudan National Liberation Movement/Army (SSNLM/A) recommits the parties to a ceasefire and to pursuing reconciliation. It also sets out the specifics of integrating SSNLM/A forces into the national army.

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**Agreement document**

[SS\\_160402\\_Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Gbudue and Maridi States.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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## Local agreement properties

<b>Process type</b>	Formal structured process
<b>Rationale</b>	This agreement is directly related to the 'Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities between the Government of the Republic of South Sudan (RSS) and the South Sudan National Liberation Movement/Army (SSNLM/A)' (signed on the same day), and was mediated by the Faith Based Council of Peace. According to a secondary source, the South Sudanese government and the SSNLMA previously signed a 'preliminary peace agreement' in November 2015 (see reference Reliefweb, 2015).
<b>Is there a documented link to a national peace process?</b>	Yes
<b>Link to national process: articulated rationale</b>	The agreement refers to the Agreements on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (ARCSS). The SSNLM was one of the direct opponents of the SPLA in the macro conflict in South Sudan, and the agreement was concluded directly between the South Sudanese government and the SSNLM/A. The agreement can thus be regarded as linked to and complementary to the national-level peace process (also see reference Alan Boswell, 2019).
<b>Name of Locale</b>	Gbudue and Maridi States (Western Equatoria State)
<b>Nature of Locale</b>	Region
<b>GPS Lat/Long (DD)</b>	4.567000, 28.400000
<b>Participant type</b>	Central state actor Local armed group International or transnational actor Domestic religious organisation/leader or other elder Local community/civilian group(s)/civil society organisations
<b>Mediator, facilitator or similar</b>	Mediator or similar referred to
<b>Mediator (references)</b>	Mediators: Faith Based Council for Peace (FBCP); Bishop and Chairperson of Faith Based Council, Barani Eduardo Hiiboro Kussala
<b>Type of mediator/facilitator/similar</b>	Domestic religious organisation/leader or other elder

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**Local issues**

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

**Grievance List** Page 2, 1. Preamble, CONSCIOUS of the need to end the suffering of the communities and the problem of displacement amongst the population; and  
  
Page 5, 4. 1. Special Considerations, 4.3 The list of grievances and demands of SSNLM/A stated in November 16th 2015 Preliminary agreement have been acknowledged and will be dully and mutually addressed by the Government of South Sudan such as:...

**Cattle rustling/ banditry** No specific mention.

**Social cover** No specific mention.

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