

Country/entity	Central African Republic Sudan
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Conflict prevention agreement between Farmers from Vakaga in the Central African Republic and herders from South Darfur
Date	11 Jun 2019
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/local conflict

Central African Republic Conflicts (1996 -)

The Central African Republic conflict is one of a set of regionally connected conflicts addressed by the African Great Lakes process. After the country gained independence from France in 1960 it has been ruled by a sequence of autocratic leaders that principally gained power through coups. Since the mid-1990s several waves of internal conflict took place in the Central African Republic, primarily along tribal, and later-on increasingly sectarian, lines. In 1996 and 1997, French troops and soldiers from neighbouring countries intervened to end a mutiny in the capital, Bangui, by factions of the army. The fighting was predominantly along tribal lines, with southern tribes in revolt against the 'northern' government. A UN mission was installed in 1998 to secure the truce. After General Bozizé took control of the country after several coup attempts in 2003, a 'bush war' began led by armed opposition forces. From late 2006 onward, government troops with French military support severely weakened the rebels. Following this, a number of agreements were signed during 2007-2008, but not all factions have accepted them. In 2011, Bozizé was re-elected in supposedly fraudulent elections, which resulted in a new wave of uprisings. Séléka, an alliance of northern rebel groups, took over parts of the country and forced Bozizé to agree to a power-sharing deal. However, after this agreement broke down, Séléka took control of Bangui and Bozizé had to flee the country in 2013. Leader of Séléka, Michel Djotodia, took office and officially disbanded Séléka. However, continual violence between ex-Séléka groups and opposing militias, collectively known as 'anti-balaka', persisted and Djotodia was forced to resign less than a year later. Catherine Samba-Panza was installed as interim president until Faustin Archange Touadéra was elected in January 2016. In February 2019 an agreement was signed between the government and fourteen armed groups, including ex-Seleka groups, committed to disarmament. However, violence between ex-Seleka groups and anti-balaka continues.

Close

Central African Republic Conflicts (1996 -)

Stage Framework/substantive - partial

Conflict nature	Inter-group
Peace process	CAR - Sudan: local cross-border agreements
Parties	<p>Page 5:</p> <p>For the Central African party: Bakhit Karama [second person may have been present and signed, but no name noted in original]</p> <p>For the Sudanese party: Almahadi Tidjani Younis Din Hamit Babikir</p>
Third parties	<p>Page 1, Preamble :</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>Gathered in Birao as part of the dialogue initiated by the Henry Dunant Center for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD) to support the stabilization efforts undertaken by the Central African Government, with the support of the international community, throughout the national territory including Vakaga</p> <p>Page 6:</p> <p>Witnesses (RCA):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Leonard Mbele, Prefect of Vakaga 2. Hamat Moustapha, Sultan Mayor of Birao <p>Witnesses (Sudan):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mahmoud Abudahaba, Consul General of Sudan in Birao 2. Abdoulkarim Younis Din, Mayor of Amdafock in Sudan
Description	The farmers and herders from the Vakaga (CAR) and South Darfur (Sudan), with mediation by HD - Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, agree to form a joint committee which is to assist in peaceful and cooperative resolution of conflicts arising from the use of land for farming and herding/breeding cattle.
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Agreement document	CF_SD_190611_Conflict prevention agreement between Farmers from Vakaga in the Central African Republic and herders from South Darfur in Sudan_tr.pdf (opens in new tab) Download PDF
Agreement document (original language)	CF_190611_Conflict prevention agreement between Farmers from Vakaga in the Central African Republic and herders from South Darfur in Sudan.pdf (opens in new tab)
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Local agreement properties

Process type	Isolated example
Rationale	While there have been negotiations in the Central African Republic concerning the internal conflicts, this agreement deals specifically with the cross-border issues present in Vakaga, related to movements of herders from Sudan.
Is there a documented link to a national peace process?	Yes
Link to national process: articulated rationale	While the agreement itself is an exceptional example of cross-border negotiations on local conflict issues, the document is framed as "part of the dialogue initiated by the Henry Dunant Center for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD) to support the stabilization efforts undertaken by the Central African Government, with the support of the international community, throughout the national territory including Vakaga" (page 1 of the agreement, Preamble).
Name of Locale	Vakaga
Nature of Locale	Region
GPS Lat/Long (DD)	10.296251, 22.781412
Participant type	Local state actor Local community/civilian group(s)/civil society organisations Regional state actor
Mediator, facilitator or similar	Mediator or similar referred to
Mediator (references)	The HD - Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue is an international non-governmental organization which mediated and convened the negotiations. The HD website also notes EU funding for their work in CAR.
Type of mediator/facilitator/similar	International or transnational actor

Local issues

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

Grievance List

Page 1:

Preamble

We, the Farmers of the Vakaga region in the Central African Republic (CAR) and Breeders of the South Darfur region of Sudan, hereinafter called "the parties"; Considering that our main activities in the two cross-border regions are agriculture and livestock; Considering that the increase in pastoral pressure, following the droughts of the 1970s and 1980s, pushed Sudanese breeders to come to the northeast of the Central African Republic where the availability of resources remains very important; Considering that tensions have always existed between our communities concerning the management of natural resources; Considering that these tensions lead to the regular occurrence of deadly conflicts between our communities;

Page 1-2:

Chapter I: Causes and consequences of tensions

Article 2:

The parties agree that the inter-communal tensions observed in the region result from the following elements:

- a) Non-compliance with transhumance routes by both parties;
- b) Field damage caused by animals of breeders;
- c) Theft of oxen;
- d) Failure to respect farming areas;
- e) Systematic cutting down of shea trees;
- f) The extended stays of transhumance parties;
- g) Collective attacks on villages and camps;

Page 2:

Article 3:

The parties agree that these tensions also have the following consequences:

- a) The death of human beings;
- b) The burning of villages;
- c) The displacement of populations;
- d) Restrictions on access to cultivable land;
- e) Social instability;
- f) The rapid degradation of biodiversity;
- g) Increase in the poverty of the population

**Cattle rustling/
banditry**

Page 1:

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Page 2-3:

Chapter II: Commitments of the Parties

Article 4

The parties jointly commit to:

[...]

Encouraging communities to commit themselves to peace and social cohesion;

- Opposing the theft of livestock regardless of the owner's community and facilitate the search for stolen property and animals so that they can be returned to their owners;

Social cover

No specific mention.