

Humanitarian agreement between breeders, farmers, and Dozo hunters in the Djenné circle

Mopti Region, Mali

August 2019

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Preamble

We, Peulh breeders, and Bambara and Bozo farmers and hunters, hereinafter called the Parties:

Recalling that in the past, the communities living in the Djenné circle have always resorted to dialogue to manage tensions linked to the resources they share;

Conscious that the conflict that has been taking place between our communities for more than two years fuels the multidimensional crisis which is shaking the Mopti region;

Aware that the violence which involves the members of our respective communities may not end immediately with the signing of this Agreement, but will rather require a constant commitment on our part to peacefully deal with the disputes;

Determined to improve the peaceful cohabitation between our communities in a current climate marred by massacres likely to divide us more;

Satisfied that the Agreement for the prevention of a conflict between breeders and farmers in the Djenné circle signed in November 2018 has effectively allowed for the peaceful return of herds to the borgou fields of the Djenné circle;

Satisfied that the preparatory meeting of Gagna, on July 18 and 19, 2019, established the main outline of this Agreement, and that this was well received by the members of our communities;

Meeting in Djenné within the framework of mediation facilitated for ten months by the Center for Humanitarian Dialogue, requested by community leaders and the Djenné authorities, we commit to:

Chapter I: Generalities

Article 1: On the general commitment of the Parties

With this Agreement, the Parties guarantee the physical safety and the free movement of people, goods, and livestock in the Djenné circle.

Chapter II: Commitments of the Parties

Article 2: The Peulh community undertakes to:

- a) Cease any recourses to violence against the Bambara agricultural community;
- b) Respect the routes set up for transhumance and facilitate their development;
- c) Not allow animals to graze at night during the agricultural season;
- d) Inform the community of the calendar for the arrival of breeders and their herds;
- e) Not hinder the agricultural season;
- f) Compensate for the damage caused by livestock to crops, in a prompt, adequate, and effective manner.

Article 3: The farmers' communities (among others Bambara and Bozo) agree to:

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- a) Cease all use of violence against the Peulh pastoral community;
- b) Respect the routes established for transhumance and facilitate their development;
- c) Compensate for the damage caused to livestock in a prompt, adequate and effective manner.

Article 4: Dozo hunters agree to:

- a) Not use armed force against civilian communities
- b) Stop hunting all livestock;

Article 5: In addition, the parties jointly undertake to:

- a) Support ending the violence that obstructs the 2019 transhumance and agricultural seasons;
- b) Settle any dispute through dialogue;
- c) Facilitate access for the population of the Djenne circle to weekly health fairs and centres;
- d) Not to hinder the free movement of people and their goods;
- e) Encourage community leaders to commit to peace by spreading messages of cohesion and peace;
- f) Condemn any act in violation of this Agreement;
- g) Respect and ensure respect for the local rules of access to pastoral resources;
- h) Stop all taking of livestock regardless of the owner's community and facilitate searches for stolen goods and animals.

Chapter III: Recommendations addressed to the State

Article 6: The Parties request the State to support their efforts and more particularly to:

- Ensure the safety of people and their property
- Negotiate and agree with the armed groups of the Djenne circle on a model of demobilization and reintegration;
- Deliver aid to mitigate the food crisis that affects community members;
- Support the efforts of the Agreement's monitoring committee.

Chapter IV: Monitoring of the implementation

Article 7: The Parties undertake to meet each month from the signing of this agreement in order to take stock of its implementation and, if necessary, amend its commitments.

Article 8: A monitoring committee will be set up; whose mission is to:

- a) Review the progress of the implementation of the commitments made under this Agreement with the Parties in order to strengthen their scope;
- b) Prevent and resolve disputes between the Parties which may lead to non-compliance with this Agreement;
- c) Identify, if necessary, additional measures necessary for the process of inter-communal reconciliation;
- d) Spread the content of the Agreement in all the Djenne circle municipalities and all those neighbouring;
- e) Review regularly with the authorities the progress of the implementation of the commitments made under this Agreement in order to strengthen their scope;

Eleven (11) people are designated by consensus to make up the monitoring Committee. These will include five representatives of the Bambara community, five representatives of the Peulh community, and the mayor of Gagna.

Chapter V: Managing Disagreements

Article 9: The Parties will do everything in their power to settle amicably and through negotiation any disagreement arising between them, in the spirit of cooperation and friendship that underline this Peace Agreement.

Article 10: In the event of failure to implement this Agreement or in the event of a dispute relating to its interpretation, the Parties will use the Monitoring Committee so that a consensus solution is identified and applied.

Article 11: In the event of failure to apply the solution identified with the monitoring committee, the Parties will refer to the authorities together to resolve their dispute.

Article 12: In the event of a serious breach of the application of this Agreement, and failure of any negotiation attempts to remedy this, the Parties may terminate this Agreement. Such a decision will take effect on a specified termination date. In this case, the Parties will take all necessary measures to minimize the impact of such a decision on the peace efforts already undertaken.

Chapter VI: Final provisions

Article 13: This Agreement shall come into force from the date of signature by the Parties.

Done in Djenne, Thursday 01 August 2019

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Signatories to the humanitarian agreement between breeders, farmers, and Dozo hunters in the Djenne circle

Representatives of the hunters

Sinali MAIGA

Amadou DIARRA

Representatives of the Peuhl breeders' community

Alpha Samba LANDOURE

Malick TOURE

Village chief of Diaba peuhl

Representatives of the farmers' community

Dramane COULIBALY

Mayor of the Derary commune

El Hadj DJETTE

Representatives of the facilitators

Binkè KONATE

Ali TOURE

Witnessed

The village chief of Djenne

Sidi Yeya MAIGA

Witnessed

Mayor of the urban community of Djenne

Lassine YARO

Witnessed

President of the council of Djenne circle

Alassane BOCOUM

Witnessed

Prefect of Djenne circle

Bolle Maouloud BABY

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