A peace agreement signed in 2015 by the Barako government and armed groups was aimed at ending the 25-year-long conflict which has claimed the lives of more than 20,000 people. The agreement is seen as a major step forward in the peace process, but negotiations have been slow and there are still many obstacles to overcome before a lasting peace can be achieved.

In 2016, the government declared a ceasefire with the Muslim separatists, but this was short-lived and violence escalated again in 2017. The conflict has been marked by bombings, shootings, and attacks on security forces, as well as by the recruitment of child soldiers. The government has been criticized for its slow response to the crisis, and for failing to adequately protect the civilian population.

The government has made some efforts to address the root causes of the conflict, including by implementing reconciliation and reintegration programs for former combatants. However, these initiatives have been limited in scope and have not been successful in bringing about lasting peace. The government has also struggled to deliver basic services and infrastructure to the affected areas, which has fueled discontent and unrest.

The peace process remains fragile and there are concerns that the ceasefire could collapse again at any time. The international community has expressed concern about the situation in the region and has called for sustained efforts to achieve a lasting peace. It remains to be seen whether the parties will be able to reach a comprehensive settlement in the near future.