

Country/entity	Papua New Guinea Bougainville
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Memorandum of Understanding between Buka Community Leaders and the National Government Delegation
Date	5 Oct 1990
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Bougainville Conflict (1987 - 1998)

The conflict on Bougainville, an island under the jurisdiction of Papua New Guinea (PNG), began in 1987 as a dispute over compensation for the use of land by Bougainville Copper Ltd, a an Australian subsidiary. The underlying issue of independence soon emerged and the conflict escalated between the government of PNG and the native islanders, in turn spearheaded by the Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA). Until fighting ended in 1998, an estimated 20,000 died in the conflict. Several pre-negotiation agreements culminated in an agreement to a 'permanent and irrevocable' ceasefire, and a framework for normalizing the PNG-Bourgainville relationship, which included elections.

Close

Bougainville Conflict (1987 - 1998)

Stage	Framework/substantive - partial
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Bougainville: peace process
Parties	Hon. Fr. John Momis MP, Minsiter for Provincial Affairs; Hon. Bernard Narokobi MP, Attorney General; Sam Tulo, Leader of Delegation; James Togel, Deputy Leader of Delegation;
Third parties	-

Description A short memorandum of understanding between the National Government and a delegation of Baku community leaders. Agreement sets out a range of measures designed to address conflict related issues facing the Baku community.

Agreement document [PG_901005_MoUBukaCommunityLeaders.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Groups

Children/youth	Groups→Children/youth→Rhetorical Page 1, 6. The Buka leaders further urged the government, among other things to: - ... (e) rehabilitate and gainfully employ youth
Disabled persons	No specific mention.
Elderly/age	No specific mention.
Migrant workers	No specific mention.
Racial/ethnic/ national group	No specific mention.
Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/displaced persons	No specific mention.
Social class	No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender	No specific mention.
Men and boys	No specific mention.
LGBTI	No specific mention.
Family	No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general) No specific mention.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/secession Page 1,
3. The Buka leaders totally rejected secession, but urged the National Government to grant more autonomy to the Province through the existing Constitutional framework.

Accession/unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision No specific mention.



Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed) Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→General references
Page 1,
6. The Buka leaders further urged the government, among other things to: -
... (b) establish an interim administration to run the affairs of Buka;

Elections No specific mention.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society No specific mention.

Traditional/religious leaders No specific mention.

Public administration No specific mention.

Constitution No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power sharing Power sharing→Political power sharing→General
State level
Page 2,
6. The Buka leaders further urged the government, among other things to: -
(a) appoint an additional member of Parliament to represent Buka in this crisis period;

Territorial power sharing Power sharing→Territorial power sharing→Autonomous regions
Page 1,
3. The Buka leaders totally rejected secession, but urged the National Government to grant more autonomy to the Province through the existing Constitutional framework.

Economic power sharing No specific mention.

Military power sharing No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general No specific mention.

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty incorporation No specific mention.

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication No specific mention.

Mobility/access No specific mention.

Protection measures No specific mention.

Other No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions No specific mention.

Judiciary and courts No specific mention.

Prisons and detention No specific mention.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction No specific mention.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds No specific mention.

Business Page 2,
8. The National Government delegation undertakes, within the legal, and constitutional powers and within the constraints of its financial resources to do all it can to restore government and business services to Buka and to the whole of Bougainville.

Taxation No specific mention.

Banks No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights No specific mention.

Pastoralist/nomadism rights No specific mention.

Cultural heritage No specific mention.

Environment No specific mention.

Water or riparian rights or access No specific mention.

Security sector

Security Guarantees Page 1, Untitled Preamble
WHEREAS, on the 16th March 1990, following an agreement with the illegal BRA leadership, the National government withdrew all Security Forces on Bougainville; and ... AS A RESULT, the Buka people, out of desperation, sought the assistance of the Security Forces on 18/9/90 for safety and restoration of all government services;

Page 1,
4. The Buka leaders in equal vigour rejected the BRA's 'reign of terror and fear', and strongly welcomed the presence of the National Government and the Security Forces.

Page 1,
5. The Buka leaders highly commended the exemplary conduct of the Security Forces and urged their continued presence on Buka Island.

Page 1,
6. The Buka leaders further urged the government, among other things to: -
... (g) engage Buka personnel in the provision of security to the Island.

Page 2,
9. The National Government delegation undertakes to continue to provide security to the people of Buka as apart of its constitutional obligations.

Ceasefire No specific mention.

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces Page 1,
4. The Buka leaders in equal vigour rejected the BRA's 'reign of terror and fear', and strongly welcomed the presence of the National Government and the Security Forces.

Page 1,
5. The Buka leaders highly commended the exemplary conduct of the Security Forces and urged their continued presence on Buka Island.

DDR No specific mention.

Intelligence services No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	Page 1, Untitled Preamble WHEREAS, the Buka people have suffered atrocities and inhuman treatment at the hands of the outlawed BRA;
Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.
Corruption	No specific mention.
Crime/organised crime	No specific mention.
Drugs	No specific mention.
Terrorism	No specific mention.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general	No specific mention.
Amnesty/pardon	Transitional justice→Amnesty/pardon→Amnesty/pardon proper Page 1, 6. The Buka leaders further urged the government, among other things to: - ... (f) consider giving amnesty or immunity to the members of the BRA who freely surrounded to the government;
Courts	No specific mention.
Mechanism	No specific mention.
Prisoner release	No specific mention.
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	Page 2, 6. The Buka leaders further urged the government, among other things to: - ... (d) undertake a programme of reconciliation, restoration of services and compensation to the victims of the crisis.
Missing persons	No specific mention.

Reparations Transitional justice→Reparations→Material reparations
Page 2,
6. The Buka leaders further urged the government, among other things to: -
... (d) undertake a programme of reconciliation, restoration of services and
compensation to the victims of the crisis.

Reconciliation Page 2,
6. The Buka leaders further urged the government, among other things to: -
... (d) undertake a programme of reconciliation, restoration of services and
compensation to the victims of the crisis.

Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source UN Peacemaker, available at https://peacemaker.un.org/sites/peacemaker.un.org/files/901005_MoUBikaCommunityLeaders.pdf (Accessed on January 8, 2020; archived on WaybackMachine)
