

Country/entity	Papua New Guinea Bougainville
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	AIDE MEMOIRE Aide Memoire, Presentation of the Bougainville Peace Agreement, and Formal Request for Assistance in Implementation by the United Nations Political Office, Observer Mission in Bougainville. Papua New Guinea (UNPOB/UNOMB)
Date	14 Sep 2001
Agreement status	Unilateral document
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Interstate/intrastate conflict(s)

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	Implementation/renegotiation
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Bougainville: peace process
Parties	Government of Papua New Guinea
Third parties	-
Description	Short document setting out a brief summary of what the Government of Papua New Guinea seeks from the Security Council in implementing parts of the Bougainville Peace Agreement. The document requests that the UN Security Council continue monitoring and reporting on implementation of agreed arrangements as provided in the Ceasefire Agreement, and assist in implementing the Resolution on Weapons Disposal adopted by the Peace Process Consultative Committee (PPCC) on 9 May and included in Part E of the Bougainville Peace Agreement

Agreement document

[PG_14092001_Aide Memoire.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Groups

Children/youth No specific mention.

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 No specific mention.

Accession/unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision No specific mention.



Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed)

No specific mention.

Elections

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...

Stage 3 - when the decision on the final fate of the weapons is made, be available to verify and certify, with the assistance of the neutral, regional Peace Monitoring Group, whether there has been substantial compliance in the handing in of weapons and whether the level of security makes it conducive to hold the first elections for the autonomous Bougainville Government, and to report to the PPCC on whether the elections should be deferred, and the length of any deferral.

Page 5, Enclosure I AIDE MEMOIRE Presentation of the Bougainville Peace Agreement, and Formal Request for Assistance in Implementation by the United Nations Political Office/ Observer Mission in Bougainville, Papua New Guinea (UNPOB / UNOMB) The Agreement has three pillars. They are as follows. ... 2. Referendum ... The referendum will be held no sooner than ten years, and in any case no later than fifteen years, after the election of the autonomous Bougainville Government.

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 No specific mention.

Territorial power sharing Power sharing→Territorial power sharing→Autonomous regions
Page 5, Enclosure I, AIDE MEMOIRE, Presentation of the Bougainville Peace Agreement, and Formal Request for Assistance in Implementation by the United Nations Political Office/ Observer Mission in Bougainville, Papua New Guinea (UNPOB / UNOMB), INTRODUCTION AND OUTLINE
The Agreement has three pillars. They are as follows.
1. Autonomy
The Agreement provides for arrangements for an autonomous Bougainville Government operating under a home-grown Bougainville Constitution with a right to assume increasing control over a wide range of powers, functions, personnel and resources on the basis of guarantees contained in the National Constitution. [...]

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 No specific mention.

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

No specific mention.

Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision

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5. The Agreement itself contains a number of commitments made by the Government of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea in respect of the United Nations Security Council:

(2) to request the United Nations Security Council to agree that UNPOB / UNOMB –
i. continue monitoring and reporting on implementation of agreed arrangements as provided in the Ceasefire Agreement, (Paragraph 334); [...]

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INTRODUCTION AND OUTLINE

This agreement is a joint creation by the Government of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea and Leaders representing the people of Bougainville ("the Parties") to resolve the Bougainville conflict and to secure a lasting peace by peaceful means. It is intended to further the objectives of The Burnham Truce, the Lincoln and Ceasefire Agreements and other agreements and understandings between the parties.

Police

No specific mention.

Armed forces

No specific mention.

DDR

Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes

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3. Weapons Disposal Plan The agreed weapons disposal plan will proceed in stages, area by area around Bougainville, beginning as soon as is practicable.

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i. continue monitoring and reporting on implementation of agreed arrangements as provided in the Ceasefire Agreement, (Paragraph 334); and

ii. assist in implementing the Resolution on Weapons Disposal adopted by the Peace Process Consultative Committee (PPCC) on 9 May and included in Part E of the Bougainville Peace Agreement (Paragraph 330 (a)).

In relation to (2).i, the Agreement envisages that UNPOB / UNOMB will continue to chair the PPCC (Paragraph 335), as provided in the Ceasefire Agreement (which was signed on 30 April 1998).

In relation to (2).ii, the Agreement notes that the decision on the final fate of the weapons at Stage 3 of the agreed weapons disposal plan means that there may be a requirement for 'a continuing presence' by UNPOB / UNOMB 'for a short period to conclude their assignment... during implementation', and that the likely exit-date is 'around the middle and not later than the end of 2002' (Paragraph 330 (b) and (c)).

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6. The details of the role that the Agreement foresees for UNPOB / UNOMB in relation to implementation of the agreed weapons disposal is for UNPOB / UNOMB to –

(1) chair the sub-committee to be established to develop, manage and implement weapons disposal on behalf of the Peace Process Consultative Committee (PPCC); and

(2) participate in implementation as follows:

Stage 1 - receive and transmit information when particular areas are ready for ex-combatants to disarm and re-integrate into the community and verify the safe storage of weapons after they have been handed in and placed in sealed containers by unit commanders;

Stage 2 - supervise storage, and hold one of the two keys necessary to open the containers which will be provided at a small number of central locations; the Constitutional amendments required to implement the Agreement will take legal effect on verification by UNPOB / UNOMB that 'the weapons are in secure, double-locked containers under its supervision' – pending a final decision on the fate of the weapons, which should be made within the following 4 V% months; and

Stage 3 - when the decision on the final fate of the weapons is made, be available to verify and certify, with the assistance of the neutral, regional Peace Monitoring Group, whether there has been substantial compliance in the handing in of weapons and whether the level of security makes it conducive to hold the first elections for the autonomous Bougainville Government, and to report to the PPCC on whether the elections should be deferred, and the length of any deferral.

In order to be effective in the role envisaged in the Agreement, UNOMB 'will carry out such inspections and enquiries as its representative considers necessary at each stage, verify the collection and storage of weapons, and report its findings regularly, frequently

Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	No specific mention.
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	No specific mention.
Courts	No specific mention.
Mechanism	No specific mention.
Prisoner release	No specific mention.
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	No specific mention.
Missing persons	No specific mention.
Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement Page 5, Enclosure I: AIDE MEMOIRE, Presentation of the BoufainvUle Peace Agreement, and Formal Request for Assistance in Implementation by the United Nations Political Office/ Observer Mission in Bougainville, Papua New Guinea (UNPOB / UNOMB), INTRODUCTION AND OUTLINE

2. Referendum

The agreement provides for the right, guaranteed in the National Constitution, for a referendum among Bougainvilleans' on Bougainville's future political status. The choices available in the referendum will include a separate independence for Bougainville. The referendum will be held no sooner than ten years, and in any case no later than fifteen years, after the election of the autonomous Bougainville Government. The actual date of the referendum will be set taking account of standards of good governance and the implementation of the weapons disposal plan. The outcome of the referendum will be subject to ratification (final decision making authority) of the National Parliament.

International mission/force/similar

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In order to be effective in the role envisaged in the Agreement, UNOMB 'will carry out such inspections and enquiries as its representative considers necessary at each stage, verify the collection and storage of weapons, and report its findings regularly, frequently and fully to the PPCC, with respect for such confidentiality as may be required.'

The agreed weapons disposal plan contains an assurance that the parties will co-operate with UNOMB, and ensure it can carry out its responsibilities efficiently and effectively.

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7. Papua New Guinea, therefore –

(2) respectfully requests that UNPOB / UNOMB:

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source Originally accessed from Conciliation Resources Accord (<http://www.c-r.org/accord/papua-new-guinea%E2%80%93bougainville> – no longer available from original source).
Currently available from UN Docs: <https://undocs.org/pdf?symbol=en/S/2002/1379>
