

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Country/entity</b>           | Papua New Guinea<br>Bougainville   |
| <b>Region</b>                   | Asia and Pacific   |
| <b>Agreement name</b>           | Joint Statement on the Outcomes of the first Post-Referendum Consultations held at Kokopo (Kokopo Statement) |
| <b>Date</b>                     | 19 May 2021  |
| <b>Agreement status</b>         | Multiparty signed/agreed   |
| <b>Interim arrangement</b>      | Yes  |
| <b>Agreement/conflict level</b> | 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-Bougainville relationship, which included elections.

Close

Bougainville Conflict (1987 - 1998)

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>Stage</b>           | Implementation/renegotiation  |
| <b>Conflict nature</b> | Government/territory  |
| <b>Peace process</b>   | Bougainville: peace process   |
| <b>Parties</b>         | Hon. James Marape, MP<br>Prime Minister<br>Government of Papua New Guinea<br><br>Hon. Ishmael Toroama, MHR<br>President<br>Autonomous Bougainville Government   |
| <b>Third parties</b>   | -   |
| <b>Description</b>     | Short joint statement in which the National Government and the Autonomous Bougainville Government acknowledge the results of the Bougainville Referendum on independence, to continue the post-referendum consultation process, and to fully implement the Sharp Agreement. |

---

**Agreement document**

[PG\\_210519\\_Joint Statement on the Outcomes.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** Page 1, Untitled Preamble  
Whereas we acknowledge the requirements under s.342 of the Constitution for both the National Government and the Autonomous Bougainville Government to consult on the results of the Referendum.

Page 1, Untitled Preamble  
Whereas we jointly recognize that the first post referendum consultations (first consultations) have been held from 18th - 19th May, 2021 here in Kokopo, East New Britain.

Page 1,  
We jointly acknowledge that the results of the Bougainville Referendum have been tabled in the first consultations and that of the Bougainville people have voted 97.7% in favour of Independence.

Page 1,  
We jointly appreciate the positions of both Governments on the Referendum results and the road ahead of us.

Page 1,  
We jointly direct the technical teams for both the National Government and the Autonomous Bougainville Government to:  
I. consult on the definition and process of ratification;  
II. identify Constitutional issues relating to the referendum result and the tabling of the consultation outcomes in the National Parliament;  
III. develop a Joint Roadmap on Post-Referendum Consultations; and  
IV. fully implement the Sharp Agreement as a matter of priority.

Page 1,  
We jointly agree that the second Post-Referendum Consultations will be held in Wabag, Enga on the margins of the Joint Supervisory Body meeting in June 2021.

**State symbols** No specific mention.

**Independence/secession** Page 1,  
We jointly acknowledge that the results of the Bougainville Referendum have been tabled in the first consultations and that of the Bougainville people have voted 97.7% in favour of Independence.

**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** 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** Governance→Constitution→Constitutional reform/making  
Page 1,  
We jointly direct the technical teams for both the National Government and the  
Autonomous Bougainville Government to:  
I. consult on the definition and process of ratification;  
II. identify Constitutional issues relating to the referendum result and the tabling of the  
consultation outcomes in the National Parliament;  
III. develop a Joint Roadmap on Post-Referendum Consultations; and  
IV. fully implement the Sharp Agreement as a matter of priority.

---

## **Power sharing**

**Political power sharing** No specific mention.

**Territorial power sharing** Power sharing→Territorial power sharing→Autonomous regions  
[Summary: The entirety of the agreement relates to provision of a referendum on secession of the Autonomous Region of Bougainville, as an act on self-determination, implementing the commitment of the Bougainville Peace Agreement.

Page 1, Untitled Preamble

Whereas we acknowledge the requirements under s.342 of the Constitution for both the National Government and the Autonomous Bougainville Government to consult on the results of the Referendum.

Page 1,

We jointly agree that the second Post-Referendum Consultations will be held in Wabag, Enga on the margins of the Joint Supervisory Body meeting in June 2021.

**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** No specific mention.

**Police** No specific mention.

**Armed forces** No specific mention.

**DDR** No specific mention.

**Intelligence  
services** No specific mention.

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| <b>Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces</b> | No specific mention. |
| <b>Withdrawal of foreign forces</b>                 | No specific mention. |
| <b>Corruption</b>                                   | No specific mention. |
| <b>Crime/organised crime</b>                        | No specific mention. |
| <b>Drugs</b>  | No specific mention. |
| <b>Terrorism</b>                                    | No specific mention. |

---

### **Transitional justice**

|                                     |                      |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Transitional justice general</b> | No specific mention. |
| <b>Amnesty/pardon</b>               | No specific mention. |
| <b>Courts</b>                       | No specific mention. |
| <b>Mechanism</b>                    | No specific mention. |
| <b>Prisoner release</b>             | No specific mention. |
| <b>Vetting</b>                      | No specific mention. |
| <b>Victims</b>                      | No specific mention. |
| <b>Missing persons</b>              | No specific mention. |
| <b>Reparations</b>                  | No specific mention. |
| <b>Reconciliation</b>               | No specific mention. |

---

## **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** [https://www.abg.gov.pg/uploads/bulletin/Bougainville\\_Bulletin\\_Edition\\_18.pdf](https://www.abg.gov.pg/uploads/bulletin/Bougainville_Bulletin_Edition_18.pdf)  
(Accessed on 13/6/2022)

---