

**Country/entity** Papua New Guinea  
Bougainville

**Region** Asia and Pacific

**Agreement name** Buin Declaration

**Date** 22 Aug 1998

**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** Pre-negotiation/process

**Conflict nature** Government/territory

**Peace process** Bougainville: peace process

**Parties** Signed by:  
Representing the chiefs of Central Bougainville, Peter Mekea, Peter Kalasoi, Sameul Kopa, Amos toroama, bibi Narunsi, Ikea Kakito, Robert Abara;  
Representing the chiefs of South Bougainville, Hera Potunga, Paul Kaile, Daniel Tsibim, Linus Konukung, james Mita, John Monko;  
Representing the chiefs of North Bougainville, Joel banam, Carolus Ketsimur, John Tabinaman, Amos Toromuir, Dennis Sareke, Avo Sini, Joe Toarats, Osborne Tomi;  
Representing the women of Bougainville, Thersa Jaintong, Josephine Kauona;

**Third parties** Witnessed by:  
Honourable Reverend Leslie Beseto, CMG MO, Minister for Home Affairs & Chairman of Solomon Islands, Bougainville Peace committee, Government of Solomon Islands;

**Description** Pan Bougainvillean Leaders Congress reaffirming Burnham Declaration, Lincoln Agreement, the Arawa Implementation of Ceasefire Agreement.

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**Agreement document**

[PG\\_980822\\_Buin Declaration.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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**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.

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**Gender**

**Women, girls and gender** Page 2, Signed by, ...Representing the women of Bougainville, Thersa Jaintong, Josephine Kauona;

**Men and boys** No specific mention.

**LGBTI** No specific mention.

**Family** No specific mention.

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## State definition

**Nature of state (general)** No specific mention.

**State configuration** No specific mention.

**Self determination** Page 1, 1. Political Issue  
The Congress believes that the people of Bougainville are united in their common aspiration for an independent homeland.  
To this end, the congress calls upon the Government of Papua New Guinea to give the people of Bougainville, as a matter of principle, the chance to exercise their individual and collective rights to self-determination.

**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.

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## Governance

**Political institutions (new or reformed)** Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→Temporary new institutions  
Page 1, 2. Bougainville Reconciliation Movement  
Consistent with the Lincoln Agreement, the Congress reaffirms the need to immediately establish the Bougainville Reconciliation Government by the end of 1998 - be it elected, appointed or nominated or both.  
It calls for the establishment of this Government under a new Interim Constitution.  
The Congress, therefore, endorses the appointment of a Working Committee to prepare the structure for presentation to the PPCC.

**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, 2. Bougainville Reconciliation Movement  
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### **Power sharing**

**Political power  
sharing** No specific mention.

**Territorial power  
sharing** No specific mention.

**Economic power  
sharing** No specific mention.

**Military power  
sharing** No specific mention.

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### **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.

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## **Rights related issues**

<b>Citizenship</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Democracy</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Detention procedures</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Media and communication</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Mobility/access</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Protection measures</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Other</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Rights institutions**

<b>NHRI</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Regional or international human rights institutions</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Justice sector reform**

<b>Criminal justice and emergency law</b>	No specific mention.
<b>State of emergency provisions</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Judiciary and courts</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Prisons and detention</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Traditional Laws</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Socio-economic reconstruction**

**Development or socio-economic reconstruction** Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development  
Page 1, Other Issues  
The Congress also noted concerns over the issues of development, immigration and disposal of arms. It, therefore, mandates the Working Committee to present these issues as a matter of priority at the next PPCC Meeting.

**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.

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## **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.

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## **Security sector**

**Security Guarantees** No specific mention.

**Ceasefire** Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision  
Page 1, Untitled Preamble,  
Reaffirming the Burnham Declaration, the Lincoln Agreement and the Arawa  
Implementation of Cease-Fire Agreement.

**Police** No specific mention.

**Armed forces** No specific mention.

**DDR** Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions  
Page 1, Other Issues  
The Congress also noted concerns over the issues of development, immigration and  
disposal of arms. It, therefore, mandates the Working Committee to present these issues  
as a matter of priority at the next PPCC Meeting.

**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.

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## **Transitional justice**

**Transitional justice general** No specific mention.

**Amnesty/pardon** 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>	<p>Page 1, 2. Bougainville Reconciliation Movement</p> <p>Consistent with the Lincoln Agreement, the Congress reaffirms the need to immediately establish the Bougainville Reconciliation Government by the end of 1998 - be it elected, appointed or nominated or both.</p> <p>It calls for the establishment of this Government under a new Interim Constitution</p> <p>The Congress, therefore, endorses the appointment of a Working Committee to prepare the structure for presentation to the PPCC.</p>

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## **Implementation**

<b>UN signatory</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Other international signatory</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Referendum for agreement</b>	No specific mention.
<b>International mission/force/similar</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Enforcement mechanism</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Related cases</b>	<p>Page 1,</p> <p>Reaffirming the Burnham Declaration, the Lincoln Agreement and the Arawa Implementation of Cease-Fire Agreement</p>
<b>Source</b>	Originally accessed from Conciliation Resources Accord ( <a href="http://www.c-r.org/accord/papua-new-guinea%E2%80%93bougainville">http://www.c-r.org/accord/papua-new-guinea%E2%80%93bougainville</a> – no longer available from original source).

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