

Country/entity	Papua New Guinea Bougainville
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Gateway Communique
Date	9 Jun 2000
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	Sir Michael Somare, Minister for Bougainville Affairs & Chairman of the National committee on Bougainville; John L. Momis, Co-Leader of Bougainville Delegation; Joseph C. Kabui, Co-Leader of Bougainville Delegation;
Third parties	Signed in the presence of: Brigadier M. Silverstone, Commander, Peace Monitoring Group; Scott S. Smith, United Nations Observer Mission in Bougainville;
Description	Declaration endorsing 'Proposals for a Special Status Agmt' and a report 'Autonomy and Referendum' as the basis for future negotiations. Notes that parties also discussed other issues such as capacity building, institutional strengthening, weapons disposal, amnesty and pardon, withdrawal of security forces and reconstruction of infrastructure, restoration of services and development.

Agreement document

[PG_000609_Gateway Communique.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,
The Bougainville Delegation presented the National Government Delegation with a detailed working paper called 'Proposals for a Special Status Agreement', outlining the proposed draft of an agreement between the parties on a political settlement. This working paper is based on a document entitled 'Autonomy and Referendum', which the National Government Delegation has accepted as the basis for further negotiations. These documents are attached to this communique. The parties agree that these documents will provide the basis for future negotiations.

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) Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→General references
Page 1,
The parties also discussed other issues such as capacity building, institutional strengthening, weapons disposal, amnesty and pardon, withdrawal of security forces and reconstruction of infrastructure, restoration of services and development. It was agreed that the Peace Process Consultative Committee shall meet as soon as possible to develop proposals for weapons disposal and the phased withdrawal of the PNG Security Forces.

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 No specific mention.

Territorial power sharing No specific mention.

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	<p>Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development</p> <p>Page 1, The parties also discussed other issues such as capacity building, institutional strengthening, weapons disposal, amnesty and pardon, withdrawal of security forces and reconstruction of infrastructure, restoration of services and development. It was agreed that the Peace Process Consultative Committee shall meet as soon as possible to develop proposals for weapons disposal and the phased withdrawal of the PNG Security Forces.</p> <p>Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Infrastructure and reconstruction</p> <p>Page 1, The parties also discussed other issues such as capacity building, institutional strengthening, weapons disposal, amnesty and pardon, withdrawal of security forces and reconstruction of infrastructure, restoration of services and development. It was agreed that the Peace Process Consultative Committee shall meet as soon as possible to develop proposals for weapons disposal and the phased withdrawal of the PNG Security Forces.</p>
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** Page 1,
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Ceasefire No specific mention.

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces No specific mention.

DDR Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions
Page 1,
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**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 Transitional justice→Amnesty/pardon→Amnesty/pardon proper
Page 1,
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Courts No specific mention.

Mechanism No specific mention.

Prisoner release Parties discussed pardon, but nothing specific agreed.

Vetting No specific mention.

Victims No specific mention.

Missing persons No specific mention.

Reparations No specific mention.

Reconciliation No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory Page 1,
Parties acknowledge the assistance of the UN Observer Mission and Peace Monitoring Group in these negotiations.
SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF:
Scott S. Smith, United Nations Observer Mission in Bougainville

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 Page 1,
Building on the foundations laid down in the Lincoln Agreement and Loloata Understanding, the parties made progress towards peace and reaffirmed their commitment to the peace process and meaningful dialogue for a political settlement.

Source On file with author.
