

Peace Agreement Access Tool PA-X <https://pax.peaceagreements.org/>

Country/ entity	Solomon Islands
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Honiara Peace Accord
Date	28 Jun 1999
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/ conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict (Solomon Island Ethnic Conflict (1999 - 2004))
Stage	Framework/substantive - partial
Conflict nature	Inter-group
Peace process	Solomon Islands peace process
Parties	Honourable Bartholomew Ulufa'alu, MP PRIME MINISTER Major General Sitiveni L. Rabuka COMMONWEALTH SPECIAL ENVOY Right Honourable Ezekiel Alebua PREMIER GUADALCANAL PROVINCE Honourable David Oeta PREMIER OF MALAITA PROVINCE
Third parties	WITNESSED BY: Solomon Sunaone Mamaloni, MP LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION Honourable Tommy Chan, MP LEADER OF THE INDEPENDENT GROUP Honourable Mark Kemakeza PREMIER, CENTRAL ISLANDS PROVINCE Honourable Joini Tutua DEPUTY PREMIER, CHOISEUL PROVINCE

Description Resolved to eschew violence and to co-operate with the Commonwealth Special Envoy. Identified issues at the root of the crisis including the demand for return of lands to the people of Guadalcanal; demand for compensation for the murders of the Guadalcanal people by individual Malaitans; and the demand that a state government be established in Guadalcanal and other provinces. Called on the government and provincial government to take action to honour commitments in the Memorandum of Understanding and suggested further action that could be taken to alleviate the suffering by the Guadalcanal people as a result of the capital being located in the territory. For example a review of the Lands and Titles Act was suggested so as to adequately compensate original land owners when Central Government or industrial projects are located in their territory. Also provided that the Committee set up to review the Provincial Government System should endeavour to conclude its work within six months and that all organisations formed to push demands of the people of Guadalcanal through force were to be dissolved and to surrender their weapons with no amnesty. The Government agreed to assist victims forced to relocate, and to establish mechanisms to pay adequate compensation to those who had lost properties. Parties also agreed that there should be equal and fair representation of all provinces in the national civil service and the police force, to promote a sense of national unity.

Agreement document [SI_990628_Honiara Peace Accord.pdf](#)  | [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

Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Rhetorical

Summary: Conflict nature is ethnically-based founded on land disputes.
Agreement makes references to Malaita migrants.

Page 1, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:

(2). Observe that since 1978 the issues which repeatedly appeared in the demands of Guadalcanal and which has been at the root of the current crisis are:

(i) Demand for a return of alienate lands belonging to the people of Guadalcanal in the process of developing Honiara as the National Capital and those alleged to have been acquired illegally by migrating Malaitans who form the largest group of workers employed by the government and private sectors in Honiara.

(ii) Demand for Compensation for the murders of Guadalcanal people by individual Malaitans and a desire to put an end to this.

...(iv) Failure of successive Governments to respond satisfactorily to these demands led to the formation of a militant Guadalcanal group to press these demands by harassing Malaitans living and working in the National Capital, Honiara and the surroundings. This has in recent times led to the enforced return of Malaitans; some of whom have spent all their lives in Guadalcanal, to their territory and has involved the loss of property and tremendous amount of discomfort.

Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Substantive

Page 2, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:

... (4) Recognize that the above attempts could have constituted the starting point for a lasting solution. The implementation of aspects of the memorandum of understanding in particular the payment of 2.5 million into a Reconciliation Trust Account to be held by the Guadalcanal province in recognition of the social costs being borne by the indigenous people of Guadalcanal as a result of the capital being located in Honiara is a step in the right direction. It is however observed that this action has not been sufficiently well communicated to all sections of the Guadalcanal community in particular the militants. Effective steps to ensure that this is done should be taken immediately. Furthermore the provincial government of Guadalcanal should as a matter of urgency take action to honour its commitments as stated in para. 6 page 2 of the Memorandum of Understanding and the government does same with regards to para. 7 page 2 with particular reference to the police.

Page 3, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:

... (8) In order to promote a sense of national unity and bridge the feeling of alienation by ethnic persons of Guadalcanal from the Central Government, there should be an equal and fair representation of all provinces in the national civil service and the police force with emphasis on quality. The police in particular should be encouraged to improve its image in Guadalcanal.

Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	<p>Groups→Indigenous people→Rhetorical</p> <p>Page 2, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:</p> <p>(4) Recognize that the above attempts could have constituted the starting point for a lasting solution. The implementation of aspects of the memorandum of understanding in particular the payment of 2.5 million into a Reconciliation Trust Account to be held by the Guadalcanal province in recognition of the social costs being borne by the indigenous people of Guadalcanal as a result of the capital being located in Honiara is a step in the right direction. It is however observed that this action has not been sufficiently well communicated to all sections of the Guadalcanal community in particular the militants. Effective steps to ensure that this is done should be taken immediately. Furthermore the provincial government of Guadalcanal should as a matter of urgency take action to honour its commitments as stated in para. 6 page 2 of the Memorandum of Understanding and the government does same with regards to para. 7 page 2 with particular reference to the police.</p>
Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/ displaced persons	<p>Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical</p> <p>Page 1, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:</p> <p>(2). Observe that since 1978 the issues which repeatedly appeared in the demands of Guadalcanal and which has been at the root of the current crisis are:</p> <p>... (iv) Failure of successive Governments to respond satisfactorily to these demands led to the formation of a militant Guadalcanal group to press these demands by harassing Malaitans living and working in the National Capital, Honiara and the surroundings. This has in recent times led to the enforced return of Malaitans; some of whom have spent all their lives in Guadalcanal, to their territory and has involved the loss of property and tremendous amount of discomfort.</p> <p>Page 1, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:</p> <p>(2). Observe that since 1978 the issues which repeatedly appeared in the demands of Guadalcanal and which has been at the root of the current crisis are:</p> <p>... (ii) Demand for Compensation for the murders of Guadalcanal people by individual Malaitans and a desire to put an end to this.</p>
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)	Page 3, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY: ... (8) In order to promote a sense of national unity and bridge the feeling of alienation by ethnic persons of Guadalcanal from the Central Government, there should be an equal and fair representation of all provinces in the national civil service and the police force with emphasis ion quality. The police in particular should be encouraged to improve its image in Guadalcanal.
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) Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→General references 2.(iii) demand that a state govt be established in Guadalcanal and other provinces in order to achieve in Guadalcanal control over sale and use of land, control over distribution of wealth derived from Guadalcanal province, and control over migration of people from other provinces to Guadalcanal. 5. Noted that a committee has been set up to review the Provincial Govt system.

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 Page 3, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:
... (8) In order to promote a sense of national unity and bridge the feeling of alienation by ethnic persons of Guadalcanal from the Central Government, there should be an equal and fair representation of all provinces in the national civil service and the police force with emphasis on quality. The police in particular should be encouraged to improve its image in Guadalcanal.

Constitution Governance→Constitution→Constitutional reform/making

Page 3, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:

... (5) The demand for State Government System of administration arose out of frustration over the failure of successive governments to address issues relating to the location of the National Capital in Honiara. It is also recognized that this is a constitutional issue of fundamental importance with implications on how the entire country is governed. It is noted that a committee has been set up to review the Provincial Government System. The Committee should endeavour to conclude its work within six months following which necessary constitutional amendments could be introduced in Parliament.

Power sharing

Political power sharing	No specific mention.
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Territorial power sharing	No specific mention.
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Economic power sharing	No specific mention.
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Military power sharing	No specific mention.
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Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general	No specific mention.
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Bill of rights/similar	No specific mention.
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Treaty incorporation	No specific mention.
Civil and political rights	Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Freedom of movement Page 2, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY: ... (4) ... It is suggested that further action to be taken to alleviate the handicap suffered by the Guadalcanal people as a result of the capital being located in the territory are: ... (d) All the above (a-c) should however be without prejudice to the Freedom of Movement of bonafide Citizens of Solomon Islands and to their constitutional rights to own properties in any part of the country subject to compliance to the law as applied to the particular territory of domicile.
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 No specific mention.
international
human
rights
institutions

Justice sector reform

Criminal No specific mention.
justice and
emergency
law

State of No specific mention.
emergency
provisions

Judiciary No specific mention.
and courts

Prisons and No specific mention.
detention

Traditional No specific mention.
Laws

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction	<p>Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development</p> <p>Page 2-3, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:</p> <p>... (4) ... It is suggested that further action to be taken to alleviate the handicap suffered by the Guadalcanal people as a result of the capital being located in the territory are:</p> <p>... (e) In order to check the current trend of rural-urban migration and in particular the migration to Honiara, Government agrees to adopt a policy of even development of all the constituent provinces of Solomon Islands. Particular emphasis should be placed on developing infrastructures in the other provinces in Particular Malaita province so as to attract industrial development.</p> <p>Page 3, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:</p> <p>... (7) Victims of the unrest of the recent past who have been forced to relocate in their province should be encouraged and assisted by Government. A mechanism should be established to pay adequate compensation to those who had suffered loss of properties. The Task Force established by Government to resettle displaced Malaitans be adequately funded. Domestic and International assistance to aid rehabilitation and repatriation of displaced persons will be intensified. A Central Government accelerated development programme for Malaita, aided and supported by international organisation and Commonwealth countries should be established immediately to enable displaced Malaitans practice their skill, arrest the wave of rural-urban migration, and to consolidate peace efforts.</p>
National economic plan	No specific mention.
Natural resources	No specific mention.
International funds	No specific mention.
Business	<p>Page 3, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:</p> <p>(6) Following the acceptance of the need for all sides to compromise and sacrifice in the search for peace in the country, it is hereby resolved that:</p> <p>(iii) Normal operations should resume at the industrial sites of CDC/SIPL , the Gold Ridge Mine and other industrial establishments bearing in the mind their contribution to the national economy.</p>

Taxation No specific mention.

Banks No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/
rights

Land, property and environment→Land reform/rights→Land reform and management

Page 1, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:

(2). Observe that since 1978 the issues which repeatedly appeared in the demands of Guadalcanal and which has been at the root of the current crisis are:

... (iii) The demand that a state government be established in Guadalcanal and other provinces in order to achieve in Guadalcanal; control over sale and use of land; control over distribution of wealth derived from Guadalcanal province and control over migration of people from other provinces to Guadalcanal.

Page 2, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:

... (4) ... It is suggested that further action to be taken to alleviate the handicap suffered by the Guadalcanal people as a result of the capital being located in the territory are:

... (c) A policy to be put in place within a period of time to discourage the practice of squatting particularly in Guadalcanal. Strong penalties to be instituted against offenders as a form of deterrent.

Land, property and environment→Land reform/rights→Property return and restitution

Page 1, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:

(2). Observe that since 1978 the issues which repeatedly appeared in the demands of Guadalcanal and which has been at the root of the current crisis are:

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Page 2, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:

... (4) ... It is suggested that further action to be taken to alleviate the handicap suffered by the Guadalcanal people as a result of the capital being located in the territory are:

(a) A Review of the Lands and Titles Act to take account of the aspects of the diverse cultures in particular the land tenure system of all the provinces in such a way as to adequately compensate original land owners when Central Government or industrial projects are located in their territory. A Committee comprising representatives of all the provinces should be established immediately and its recommendation should take account of the special needs of Guadalcanal in view of the fact that Honiara is located in the Province. The Committee should submit its report within a year and its recommendations implemented immediately.

Page 2, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:

... (4) ... It is suggested that further action to be taken to alleviate the handicap suffered by the Guadalcanal people as a result of the capital being located in the territory are:

... (b) Investigation to be conducted into land alleged to have been illegally acquired by from the original owners of Guadalcanal with a view to returning the land to the original owners or pay adequate compensation and if applicable adequate compensation to the developers of the land in question.

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, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:
(1). Resolve to eschew violence as a means of resolving the crisis and cooperate with the Commonwealth Special Envoy in his efforts to find a lasting solution.

Ceasefire No specific mention.

Police Page 2, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:
... (4) Recognize that the above attempts could have constituted the starting point for a lasting solution. The implementation of aspects of the memorandum of understanding in particular the payment of 2.5 million into a Reconciliation Trust Account to be held by the Guadalcanal province in recognition of the social costs being borne by the indigenous people of Guadalcanal as a result of the capital being located in Honiara is a step in the right direction. It is however observed that this action has not been sufficiently well communicated to all sections of the Guadalcanal community in particular the militants. Effective steps to ensure that this is done should be taken immediately. Furthermore the provincial government of Guadalcanal should as a matter of urgency take action to honour its commitments as stated in para. 6 page 2 of the Memorandum of Understanding and the government does same with regards to para. 7 page 2 with particular reference to the police.

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Armed forces No specific mention.

DDR Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions
Page 3, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:
(6) Following the acceptance of the need for all sides to compromise and sacrifice in the search for peace in the country, it is hereby resolved that:
(i) All organisations formed for the purpose of pushing demands of the people of Guadalcanal through the use of force be dissolved with immediate effect. All members of the group should return home and surrender their weapons at agreed points established by the peace envoy. In the case of those who committed particular offences the process of law will be allowed to take its course as there is no constitutional provision for an amnesty.

Intelligence services No specific mention.

Parastatal/
rebel and
opposition
group
forces

Page 3, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:
(6) Following the acceptance of the need for all sides to compromise and sacrifice in the search for peace in the country, it is hereby resolved that:
(i) All organisations formed for the purpose of pushing demands of the people of Guadalcanal through the use of force be dissolved with immediate effect. All members of the group should return home and surrender their weapons at agreed points established by the peace envoy. In the case of those who committed particular offences the process of law will be allowed to take its course as there is no constitutional provision for an amnesty.
(ii) The Special Envoy notes the decision of government to agree to a meeting with the militants. Arrangements will be made to effect this within the shortest possible time.

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	<p>Transitional justice→Amnesty/pardon→Amnesty/pardon proper</p> <p>Page 3, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:</p> <p>(6) Following the acceptance of the need for all sides to compromise and sacrifice in the search for peace in the country, it is hereby resolved that:</p> <p>(i) All organisations formed for the purpose of pushing demands of the people of Guadalcanal through the use of force be dissolved with immediate effect. All members of the group should return home and surrender their weapons at agreed points established by the peace envoy. In the case of those who committed particular offences the process of law will be allowed to take its course as there is no constitutional provision for an amnesty.</p>
Courts	No specific mention.
Mechanism	No specific mention.
Prisoner release	No specific mention.
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	<p>Page 3, WE THE PARTICIPANTS HEREBY:</p> <p>(6) Following the acceptance of the need for all sides to compromise and sacrifice in the search for peace in the country, it is hereby resolved that:</p> <p>... (7) Victims of the unrest of the recent past who have been forced to relocate in their province should be encouraged and assisted by Government. A mechanism should be established to pay adequate compensation to those who had suffered loss of properties. The Task Force established by Government to resettle displaced Malaitans be adequately funded. Domestic and International assistance to aid rehabilitation and repatriation of displaced persons will be intensified. A Central Government accelerated development programme for Malaita, aided and supported by international organisation and Commonwealth countries should be established immediately to enable displaced Malaitans practice their skill, arrest the wave of rural-urban migration, and to consolidate peace efforts.</p>
Missing persons	No specific mention.

Reparations Transitional justice→Reparations→Material reparations

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Reconciliation No specific mention.

Implementation

UN No specific mention.
signatory

Other Major General Sitiveni L. Rabuka
international COMMONWEALTH SPECIAL ENVOY
signatory

Referendum No specific mention.
for
agreement

International No specific mention.
mission/
force/similar

Enforcement mechanism 3. recognized that the national govt has attempted to deal with the crisis as evident by the activities of The Task force on Guadalcanal Demands March 1999, and the Guadalcanal Peace Process Committee June 1999 and the establishment of a govt negotiating team to negotiate the Guadalcanal demands with the Guadalcanal people.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source UN Peacemaker; http://peacemaker.un.org/sites/peacemaker.un.org/files/SB_990628_HoniaraPeaceAccord.pdf
