

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

<b>Country/ entity</b>	Papua New Guinea Bougainville
<b>Region</b>	Asia and Pacific Asia and Pacific
<b>Agreement name</b>	Loloata Understanding
<b>Date</b>	23 Mar 2000
<b>Agreement status</b>	Multiparty signed/agreed
<b>Interim arrangement</b>	Yes
<b>Agreement/ conflict level</b>	Intrastate/intrastate conflict ( Bougainville Conflict (1987 - 1998) )
<b>Stage</b>	Framework/substantive - partial
<b>Conflict nature</b>	Government/territory
<b>Peace process</b>	Bougainville: peace process
<b>Parties</b>	Rt. Hon. Sir Michael Somare, Minister for Bougainville Affairs and Chairman of the National Committee on Bougainville; Joel Banam, Chairman, Leitana Council of Elders; Hon. Jon Momis, Co-Leader of the Bougainville Delegation; Joseph C. Kabui, Co-Leader of the Bougainville Delegation;
<b>Third parties</b>	Signed in the presence of: Ambassador Noel Sinclair, Director of the United Nations Observer Mission on Bougainville; Ewan MacMillan, Chief Negotiator, Peace Monitoring Group;
<b>Description</b>	Culminated the third round of political negotiations between PNG delegation and Bougainville leaders. Committed to establishing an autonomous Bougainville province within the Constitution of Papua New Guinea. Leaves open question of independence and commits parties to discussing matter.

---

**Agreement  
document** [PG\\_000323\\_Loloata Understanding.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	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) Page 2, Autonomy  
5. The arrangements for an autonomous Bougainville Government will be provided within the Papua New Guinea Constitution, including any amendments, and will include provision for the following matters:  
a. Bougainville will establish an elected autonomous government developed through a democratic process.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum Page 2, Referendum  
6. The National Government acknowledges the aspirations for a binding referendum on independence as called for by the Bougainvillean leaders. The parties reaffirm their support for a progressive political settlement that takes account of, among other things, the wishes of the people of Bougainville. The parties will address the referendum issue. The parties agree that the holding of the referendum may be deferred until after autonomy has been implemented and can be fairly and properly judged.

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)→Temporary new institutions  
Page 1, Interim Arrangements  
1. The Bougainville Interim Provincial Government will be established under the Transitional Provisions of the Organic Law on Provincial Governments and Local-level Governments in accordance with the decision of the National Court of 10th March 2000.

Elections No specific mention.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society No specific mention.

Traditional/religious leaders Page 1, Interim Arrangements  
2. The parties note that arrangements for cooperation between the Bougainville Interim Provincial Government and the Bougainville People's Congress and Councils of Elders have been agreed under the Greenhouse Memorandum of 23rd December 1999.

Public administration No specific mention.

Constitution No specific mention.

---

## Power sharing

Political power sharing	No specific mention.
Territorial power sharing	<p>Power sharing→Territorial power sharing→Autonomous regions</p> <p>Page 1-2, Autonomy</p> <p>4. The arrangement for an autonomous Bougainville Government will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enable it to deal with the sources of the Bougainville conflict and prevent it from occurring again;</li><li>• Enable Bougainville to express and develop both its own identity and its relationship with the rest of Papua New Guinea.</li></ul> <p>Page 2, Autonomy</p> <p>5. The arrangements for an autonomous Bougainville Government will be provided within the Papua New Guinea Constitution, including any amendments, and will include provision for the following matters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Bougainville will establish an elected autonomous government developed through a democratic process.</li><li>b. The autonomous Bougainville Government will meet accepted standards of good governance.</li><li>c. Bougainville will have responsibility for major powers and functions of government to be agreed upon.</li><li>d. Bougainville will take some years to exercise many legislative powers and functions. Until Bougainville assumes responsibility for the full range of its powers and functions, National Government legislation and institutions will continue to apply.</li><li>e. Bougainville will need the fiscal and personnel resources required to carry out its functions.</li><li>f. Bougainville will receive substantial funds for reconstruction, restoration and development activities to support the peace process.</li></ol>
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	4.f) Bougainville will receive substantial funds for reconstruction, restoration and development activities to support the peace process.

---

## 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.
-----------------------	----------------------

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	Signed in the presence of: Ambassador Noel Sinclair, Director of the United Nations Observer Mission on Bougainville;
Other international signatory	Signed in the presence of: Ewan MacMillan, Chief Negotiator, Peace Monitoring Group;
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/similar	Page 2, Next Steps and Timetable 8. The parties acknowledge the helpful role that the United Nations Observer Mission on Bougainville can play at their meetings.
Enforcement mechanism	10. agree date for next leaders' meeting no later than May 2000.  Page 3, Next Steps and Timetable 10. The next Leaders' meeting will be held no later than May 2000.
Related cases	Page 1, Untitled Preamble Bougainville leaders and the National Committee on Bougainville met at Loloata Island and in Port Moresby from 17th to 23rd March 2000. • The parties remain committed to the peace process and to continued consultation and cooperation within the framework and spirit of the Lincoln Agreement; ... • The parties discussed the Bougainville paper, 'Bougainville Common Negotiating Position: Expanded Details' dated 8th March 2000, the Papua New Guinea Government paper, 'The National Delegation's Position on the Bougainville Delegation's Autonomy Proposals' dated 19th March 2000, and other papers, and agree that these documents provide the basis for future negotiations between the parties.
Source	Accord UN Peacemaker

---