



<b>Country/entity</b>	Papua New Guinea Bougainville
<b>Region</b>	Asia and Pacific
<b>Agreement name</b>	Matakana and Okataina Understanding
<b>Date</b>	22 Apr 1999
<b>Agreement status</b>	Multiparty signed/agreed
<b>Interim arrangement</b>	Yes
<b>Agreement/conflict level</b>	Intrastate/intrastate conflict
<b>Bougainville Conflict (1987 - 1998)</b>	

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)

<b>Stage</b>	Pre-negotiation/process
<b>Conflict nature</b>	Government/territory
<b>Peace process</b>	Bougainville: peace process

<b>Parties</b>	Signed: Honourable Sir John R Kaputin, KBE, CMG, MP, Special State Negotiator, Papua New Guinea Government; Honourable Sam Akoitai, MP, Minister for State, Papua New Guinea Government; Honourable John L Momis, MP, Member for Bougainville Regional; Honourable Michael Ogio, MP, Member for North Bougainville, Deputy Speaker, Papua New Guinea National Parliament; Honourable Michael Laimo, MP, Member for Bougainville South; Joseph Kabui, Co-Chairman, Bougainville Constituent Assembly; Gerard Sinato, Co-Chairman, Bougainville Constituent Assembly; Joel Banam, Chairman, Leitana Council of Elders; Hilary Masiria, Chairman, Bougainville Resistance Forces;
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<b>Third parties</b>	Witnessed by: Sir Paul Reeves, GCMG, GCVO, CF, QSO;
<b>Description</b>	Understanding among Bougainville parties for government. Paved way for formation of interim advisory body.

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<b>Agreement document</b>	<a href="#">PG_990422_Matakana and Okataina Understanding.pdf (opens in new tab)</a>   <a href="#">Download PDF</a>
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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** No specific mention.

**Men and boys** No specific mention.

**LGBTI** No specific mention.

**Family** No specific mention.

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## **State definition**

**Nature of state (general)** Page 1, Preparing future arrangements for government on Bougainville  
2. Bearing in mind the need to look beyond the immediate situation, the parties agree that the Special State Negotiator will prepare a package of proposals on the powers, functions, structure and status of Bougainville's government, geared to Bougainville's needs.

**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)** No specific mention.

**Elections** Page 2, Leadership Issues  
9. While participants in the peace process are entitled to select their leaders in their own ways, we recognise that there must be proper elections when the agreed package for Bougainville comes into effect, and request the Electoral Commission to begin preliminary work for such elections.  
10. The parties will co-operate in explaining and publicising their agreement regarding elections to the people.

**Electoral commission** Page 2, Leadership Issues  
9. While participants in the peace process are entitled to select their leaders in their own ways, we recognise that there must be proper elections when the agreed package for Bougainville comes into effect, and request the Electoral Commission to begin preliminary work for such elections.

**Political parties reform** No specific mention.

**Civil society** No specific mention.

**Traditional/religious leaders** Page 4,  
Signed:  
... Joel Banam, Chairman, Leitana Council of Elders;

**Public administration** No specific mention.

**Constitution** No specific mention.

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## **Power sharing**

<b>Political power sharing</b>	Power sharing→Political power sharing→General State level Page 3, National Political Support 14. The National Government will prepare proposals for legislation to establish an authority containing representatives of all major groups to plan and manage major reconstruction activities in meaningful consultation with the four Bougainvillean National Parliamentarians.
<b>Territorial power sharing</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Economic power sharing</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Military power sharing</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Human rights and equality**

<b>Human rights/RoL general</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Bill of rights/similar</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Treaty incorporation</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Civil and political rights</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Socio-economic rights</b>	14. The National Govt will prepare proposals for leg to establish an authority containing representatives of all major groups to plan and manage major reconstruction activities in meaningful consultation with the four Bougainvillean National Parliamentarians.

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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**

<b>Development or socio-economic reconstruction</b>	No specific mention.
<b>National economic plan</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Natural resources</b>	No specific mention.
<b>International funds</b>	No specific mention.

<b>Business</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Taxation</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Banks</b>	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** Page 3, Implementation of existing Agreements  
16. As part of our shared commitment to the mutual confidence-building on which the peace process is based, the parties reaffirm the agreement made in the Lincoln and Ceasefire Agreements for the PPCC to develop detailed plans for phased withdrawal of the Papua New Guinea Defence Force and the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary Mobile Riot Squad from Bougainville subject to restoration of civil authority

**Ceasefire** No specific mention.

**Police** Page 3, Implementation of existing Agreements  
16. As part of our shared commitment to the mutual confidence-building on which the peace process is based, the parties reaffirm the agreement made in the Lincoln and Ceasefire Agreements for the PPCC to develop detailed plans for phased withdrawal of the Papua New Guinea Defence Force and the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary Mobile Riot Squad from Bougainville subject to restoration of civil authority

**Armed forces** Page 3, Implementation of existing Agreements  
16. As part of our shared commitment to the mutual confidence-building on which the peace process is based, the parties reaffirm the agreement made in the Lincoln and Ceasefire Agreements for the PPCC to develop detailed plans for phased withdrawal of the Papua New Guinea Defence Force and the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary Mobile Riot Squad from Bougainville subject to restoration of civil authority



<b>DDR</b>	Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions Page 2, Weapons disposal 12. Weapons disposal should begin immediately. – The Peace Process Consultative Committee (PPCC) should convene immediately and discuss detailed plans for weapons disposal. – New Zealand will be asked to assist and facilitate the weapons disposal process. – The current United Nations observer mission will be asked to be present and observe the process.
<b>Intelligence services</b>	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.

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## **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.

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## **Implementation**

<b>UN signatory</b>	12. The current UN observer mission will be asked to be present and observe the process.
<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 3, Implementation of existing Agreements</p> <p>16. As part of our shared commitment to the mutual confidence-building on which the peace process is based, the parties reaffirm the agreement made in the Lincoln and Ceasefire Agreements for the PPCC to develop detailed plans for phased withdrawal of the Papua New Guinea Defence Force and the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary Mobile Riot Squad from Bougainville subject to restoration of civil authority</p>
<b>Source</b>	<p>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). Currently available from UN Peacemaker: <a href="https://peacemaker.un.org/pnd-matakana-okataina99">https://peacemaker.un.org/pnd-matakana-okataina99</a></p>

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