

Country/entity	Papua New Guinea Bougainville
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Joint Statement on the Outcomes of the first Post-Referendum Consultations held at Kokopo (Kokopo Statement)
Date	19 May 2021
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-Bougainville relationship, which included elections.

Close

Bougainville Conflict (1987 - 1998)

Stage	Implementation/renegotiation
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Bougainville: peace process
Parties	Hon. James Marape, MP Prime Minister Government of Papua New Guinea Hon. Ishmael Toroama, MHR President Autonomous Bougainville Government
Third parties	-
Description	Short joint statement in which the National Government and the Autonomous Bougainville Government acknowledge the results of the Bougainville Referendum on independence, to continue the post-referendum consultation process, and to fully implement the Sharp Agreement.

Agreement document

[PG_210519_Joint Statement on the Outcomes.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, Untitled Preamble
Whereas we acknowledge the requirements under s.342 of the Constitution for both the National Government and the Autonomous Bougainville Government to consult on the results of the Referendum.

Page 1, Untitled Preamble
Whereas we jointly recognize that the first post referendum consultations (first consultations) have been held from 18th - 19th May, 2021 here in Kokopo, East New Britain.

Page 1,
We jointly acknowledge that the results of the Bougainville Referendum have been tabled in the first consultations and that of the Bougainville people have voted 97.7% in favour of Independence.

Page 1,
We jointly appreciate the positions of both Governments on the Referendum results and the road ahead of us.

Page 1,
We jointly direct the technical teams for both the National Government and the Autonomous Bougainville Government to:
I. consult on the definition and process of ratification;
II. identify Constitutional issues relating to the referendum result and the tabling of the consultation outcomes in the National Parliament;
III. develop a Joint Roadmap on Post-Referendum Consultations; and
IV. fully implement the Sharp Agreement as a matter of priority.

Page 1,
We jointly agree that the second Post-Referendum Consultations will be held in Wabag, Enga on the margins of the Joint Supervisory Body meeting in June 2021.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/secession Page 1,
We jointly acknowledge that the results of the Bougainville Referendum have been tabled in the first consultations and that of the Bougainville people have voted 97.7% in favour of Independence.

**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 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,
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consultation outcomes in the National Parliament;
III. develop a Joint Roadmap on Post-Referendum Consultations; and
IV. fully implement the Sharp Agreement as a matter of priority.

Power sharing

Political power sharing No specific mention.

Territorial power sharing Power sharing→Territorial power sharing→Autonomous regions
[Summary: The entirety of the agreement relates to provision of a referendum on secession of the Autonomous Region of Bougainville, as an act on self-determination, implementing the commitment of the Bougainville Peace Agreement.

Page 1, Untitled Preamble

Whereas we acknowledge the requirements under s.342 of the Constitution for both the National Government and the Autonomous Bougainville Government to consult on the results of the Referendum.

Page 1,

We jointly agree that the second Post-Referendum Consultations will be held in Wabag, Enga on the margins of the Joint Supervisory Body meeting in June 2021.

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 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 No specific mention.

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.
