

Country/entity	Papua New Guinea
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Ceasefire
Date	13 Mar 2024
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/local conflict Papua New Guinea: intercommunal violence in the Enga province, (2021-)

While there have been previous instances of intercommunal violence in the Enga province, there has been an escalation since 2023, with two particular instances of recorded deaths and casualties in February and July 2024. The communities in the Enga province have been suffering poverty and depletion of natural resources, and much of the conflict has been centred around the management of natural resources and degradation of agricultural land due to both legal and illegal gold mining operations. Further sources of conflict relate to organised crime and politics. The violence in Wabag and Wapenamanda on February 18th 2024 resulted in at least 25 deaths, with some estimates going up to 50, and the ACLED data estimated 220 casualties in 2023.

Close

Papua New Guinea: intercommunal violence in the Enga province, (2021-)

Stage	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Inter-group
Peace process	Papua New Guinea: local agreements
Parties	Not signed, agreement mentions the following parties as having produced it: tribal chiefs of Yopo and Palinau tribal alliances
Third parties	-
Description	In this agreement, the Yopa and Palinau tribal alliances agree to a three-month ceasefire in multiple areas of the Enga province of Papua New Guinea. The ceasefire includes provision for demarcation and for an end to disruption in villages and on public roads.

Agreement document [PG_240313_Ceasefire \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Source of document <https://www.postcourier.com.pg/historic-ceasefire-signed/>

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 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 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	<p>“The fighting factions, without reservation, undertake to the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary (RPNGC) and the Enga Provincial Government that their respective tribesmen, women and children and or any persons associated with them, whether hired or otherwise, WILL, within the fighting zones in Tsaka Valley and Middle Lai areas and along the Highways between Birip and Pombopos and make sure:</p> <p>(i) There will be no disturbance of any kind by any means, way or form on the highways and public roads;</p> <p>The RPNGC STRICTLY requires the following to be observed within the fighting zones within the Tsaka Valley and Middle Lai and Aiyal Valley areas as well as along the highway between Birip and Pombapus:</p> <p>(iV) No disturbances of any kind or form on highways and public roads;</p>
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

Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision

Unconditional Ceasefire

Both factions agree to an unconditional three-month ceasefire to end tribal warfare and declare that:

The fighting factions, having experienced and witnessed the devastating effects of their conflict, hereby voluntarily surrender to God Almighty and the State of PNG and pledge to end their warfare through this Cease Fire Agreement.

The fighting factions hereby further pledge to work together with the State and its agencies to bring to an END their conflict and work towards restoring peace and normalcy in their communities through the established legal processes to deal with all other conflicts and issues in the community.

Both fighting factions agree to lay down arms and cease and desist from all forms of hostile engagements.

Both fighting factions agree to cease all warlike, provocative, inciteful, and or disrespectful behaviour that may be considered as actions that may trigger the breach of this Cease Fire Agreement.

Both fighting factions agree to maintain the status quo and agree not to trespass into each other's traditional land boundaries.

Both fighting factions pledge to remain only within their respective customary land boundaries that have not been destroyed and which lands they now currently occupy.

Both fighting factions agree to preserve the status quo by further agreeing to not move into their respective lands that are considered as fighting areas for the duration of this Cease Fire Agreement.

Both fighting factions agree that Security Personnel are to be present at all hot spot areas until such time normalcy has been fully restored.

Both fighting factions agree to submit to and respect State authorities in all its composite forms that are involved in the peace and restoration process.

Both fighting factions undertake to adhere to this agreement as well as all preventative orders issued by the Enga Provincial Law and Order Office from time to time, which orders are annexed hereto for full compliance, and breach of which shall result in the lawful consequences.

“The fighting factions, without reservation, undertake to the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary (RPNGC) and the Enga Provincial Government that their respective tribesmen, women and children and or any persons associated with them, whether hired or otherwise, WILL, within the fighting zones in Tsaka Valley and Middle Lai areas and along the Highways between Birip and Pombopos and make sure:

(i) There will be no disturbance of any kind by any means, way or form on the highways and public roads;

(ii) That no armed men will be seen at and/or harass or intimidate, provoke or otherwise any person, whether directly involved in the tribal conflict or from any neighbouring villages;

(iii) That there shall be no disorderly behaviour of any sort;

(iv) That any suspected gunmen or hired man or mercenary or any person otherwise known who may be present in the war zone or are identified wherever they are caught, and identified as a gunman or hired man or mercenary will be detained, arrested; and

(v) That any conduct, action or behaviour which may be considered as warlike, provocative, inciteful, and or disrespectful behaviour capable of being considered as actions that may trigger the breach of this Ceasefire Agreement.

The RPNGC STRICTLY requires the following to be observed within the fighting zones within the Tsaka Valley and Middle Lai and Aiyal Valley areas as well as along the highway between Birip and Pombapus:

(iiv) No disturbances of any kind or form on highways and public roads;

(iiiv) No movement of armed men within the war zone or the neighbouring villages, whether or not they are actually harassing or intimidating anyone directly or indirectly

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.
