

<b>Country/entity</b>	Papua New Guinea Bougainville
<b>Region</b>	Asia and Pacific
<b>Agreement name</b>	Cairns Commitment on Implementation of the Agreement Concerning the Neutral Regional Truce Monitoring Group for Bougainville
<b>Date</b>	24 Nov 1997
<b>Agreement status</b>	Multiparty signed/agreed
<b>Interim arrangement</b>	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-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>	Note: Parties are not listed in agreement, but instead agreement states that the parties are the same as the parties to the Burnham Truce. National Govt of PNG, Bougainville Transitional Govt, the Resistance, the Bougainville Interim Govt, Bougainville Revolutionary Army
<b>Third parties</b>	-
<b>Description</b>	Agreement establishing Truce Monitoring Group further to Burnham Truce agreement, and Peace Consultative Committee.

---

**Agreement document** [PG\\_971124\\_Cairns\\_Commitment on Implementation.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** 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** Page 2,  
5. The Peace Consultative Committee may, by unanimous consent of its members, invite representatives of other groups or bodies or person to become members.

**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**

<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.

---

## **Rights institutions**

<b>NHRI</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Regional or international human rights institutions</b>	No specific mention.

---

## **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.

---

## **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** Page 1,  
1. The bodies and groups represented will:  
... (c) ensure that the Truce Monitoring Group issue at all times from attack, interference or hindrance;

**Ceasefire** No specific mention.

**Police** No specific mention.

<b>Armed forces</b>	No specific mention.
<b>DDR</b>	No specific mention.
<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.

---

## **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**

Page 1,  
2. Consistent with the Agreement establishing the Truce Monitoring Group, the parties agree to establish the Peace Consultative Committee provided for in the Agreement in order to facilitate consultation and liaison -  
- among themselves;  
- through the Truce Steering Committee, including the Commander, with the Truce Monitoring group; and  
- at the local level.

Page 2,  
3. The parties recognise that the role of the Peace Consultative Committee is to review and assess implementation adherence by the signatories to the Truce. The Peace Consultative Committee will receive regular reports from the Truce Monitoring Group on the implementation, progress and success of the Truce. The Peace Consultative Committee will have no direct involvement in the command or the deployment decisions made by the Truce Monitoring Group;

Page 2,  
4. The Peace Consultative Committee will have the following composition:  
(a) Core members:  
National Government - 3  
BTG - 2  
BIG - 2  
BRA - 2  
Resistance- 2  
(b) The Chairman will be elected from among the core members  
(c) The Committee will determine its working arrangements including frequency of meetings

Page 2,  
5. The Peace Consultative Committee may, by unanimous consent of its members, invite representatives of other groups or bodies or person to become members.  
This Commitment shall take effect as of the date of signature, and shall be reviewed when the leaders meet in January, 1998.

**Related cases**

Page 1,  
Recalling and reaffirming the agreements and recommendations embodied in the Turnham Truce, signed at Turnham Military Camp, New Zealand, on 10th October 1997 ("the truce")

**Source**

Originally accessed from Conciliation Resources Accord (<http://www.c-r.org/accord/papua-new-guinea%E2%80%93bougainville> – no longer available from original source).