

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 22 October 2001 from the Secretary-General
addressed to the President of the Security Council**

As requested by the Permanent Representative of Papua New Guinea to the United Nations, I am forwarding, for the attention of the Security Council, his letter to me, dated 14 September 2001 (see annex), requesting assistance from the United Nations for the implementation of the Bougainville Peace Agreement, especially in the area of weapons collection and disposal.

Members of the Security Council are aware of the role played by the United Nations Political Office in Bougainville, in conjunction with the Peace Monitoring Group, in support of the process that led to the Bougainville Peace Agreement, a copy of which is attached to the letter from Ambassador Donigi (see enclosure 2). It is my intention, with the concurrence of the Council, to respond positively to the request from the Government of Papua New Guinea, which is supported by the Bougainville parties. In addition to the existing mandate, as specified in my letter of 2 June 1998 addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1998/506), the United Nations Political Office in Bougainville will accordingly perform the following functions, as spelled out in part E of the Bougainville Peace Agreement:

- (a) Continue its work in conjunction with the Peace Monitoring Group;
- (b) Chair the Peace Process Consultative Committee Subcommittee on Weapons Disposal, which is comprised of representatives of the parties and the Peace Monitoring Group. The functions of the Subcommittee include promoting public awareness and developing, managing and implementing the process of weapons disposal;
- (c) Report to the Peace Process Consultative Committee Subcommittee as and when councils of chiefs/elders inform the United Nations Political Office in Bougainville that the ex-combatants in their respective communities are ready to disarm, the remaining Papua New Guinea Defence Force and Police Mobile Units to withdraw and weapons to be placed in containers;
- (d) Carry out such inspections and inquiries as it may consider necessary to each stage of the weapons disposal process, verify the collection and storage of weapons, and report its findings to the Peace Process Consultative Committee;
- (e) Hold one of the keys for the dual-locking systems in the containers in which the weapons are stored;



(f) If called upon by any of the parties to do so, verify and certify, with the assistance of the Peace Monitoring Group, whether there has been substantial compliance by the parties in the handing over of weapons and whether the weapons are securely contained, thereby making it conducive to the holding of the first election for an autonomous Bougainville Government, or whether those elections should be deferred and, if so, for how long.

It is my hope that the implementation of the Agreement, especially the handing over of weapons by the ex-combatants, will clear the way for post-conflict peace-building activities and help ensure that the people of Bougainville benefit materially from the return of a lasting peace to the island.

The United Nations Political Office in Bougainville will carry out these activities in close consultation with the Department for Disarmament Affairs and the United Nations Development Programme. Its expanded mandate will require the setting up of a sub-office in Buka and additional resources. The overall financial implications for the Office are estimated at \$2.3 million for the period from January to December 2002 and will be covered from resources provided for special missions during the biennium 2002-2003. As in the past, I will keep the Council regularly informed of the progress in the work of the Office.

I should be grateful if you would kindly make the text of the present letter and its annex available to the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. **Annan**

Annex**Letter dated 14 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Papua New Guinea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

This week is certainly not a week of celebration, in view of the disaster that has befallen this city of ours. I am certain that everyone at the United Nations and at the Missions to the United Nations have been touched in some way. Some of our countries have also lost citizens. Papua New Guinea has been spared in this respect, but the enormity of the murderous intent with which the perpetrators have consummated their plans has just begun to be felt by many. We grieve for those who have lost their lives and we pray for those who have been wounded, the families of those lost and the many brave souls who are working tirelessly in the rescue operations.

Amidst all this carnage and this sad and sorrowful occasion, we feel much humbled in presenting to you a signed copy of the Bougainville Peace Agreement (see enclosure 2).*

Attached also is our aide mémoire (see enclosure 1),* setting out a brief summary of what the Government of Papua New Guinea seeks from the Security Council. We draw your attention in particular to paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 of the aide mémoire.

Consistent with the statement by the President of the Security Council on 14 August 2001, we therefore seek the endorsement of the Security Council of the request of the Government of Papua New Guinea, as contained in paragraph 7(2) of the aide mémoire.

We would be grateful if you could communicate the present letter of request, on behalf of the Government of Papua New Guinea, to the President and members of the United Nations Security Council, together with the Bougainville Peace Agreement and the aide mémoire.

(Signed) Peter D. **Donigi**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* Enclosures to be reproduced in language of submission only.