Country/entity	Philippines Mindanao
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	The Task Force for Decommissioned Combatants and their Communities and its Terms of Reference
Date	2 Jun 2015
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Philippine Insurgencies (1968 -)

The Maoist Insurgencies (1968 -)

Philippines-NDF

The Philippines have been defined by a series of center-periphery and often ideologically Maoist, separatist insurgencies. The Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), began its war against the central Philippine government in 1968 through their armed wing – the New People's Army (NPA). Further legitimacy was gained through the establishment of the National Democratic Front (NDF) in 1973. Grievances were predominantly opposed to the corruption and repression under the authoritarian Marcos regime.

Philippines-Cordillera

With the overthrow of Marcos' regime in 1986, the CPP factionalized further to take on more localized characteristics. The Cordillera Peoples Liberation Army (CPLA) broke away from the NDF in 1986 to focus on the protection of the Cordilleran people and land in northern Luzon. Hostilities were formally ended in July 2011, with an agreement signed between the central government, the CPLA and the Cordillera Bodong Administration (CBA) that allowed for the absorption of CPLA fighters into the Philippine Army and the re-working of the CBA-CPLA into a socio-development organisation.

Philippines-RPM-P

Meanwhile, purge among the CPP in the early 1990s, encouraged the formation of a parallel party, the Revolutionary Workers Party (RPM-P). Their armed wing, the Alex Boncayao Brigade (ABB) which had carried out a number of assassinations during the 1980s at the bequest of the CPP, followed suit and allied themselves with the RPM-P in 1997 forming the (RPM-P-RPA-ABB). Severely weakened by the split with the CPP and with the arrest of several key figures, the RPM-P-RPA-ABB signed a peace agreement in December 2000, which encouraged the RPM-P's branch in Mindanao to break away in 2001.

The CPP-NPA has only participated in intermittent talks with the government. Talks halted in 2004 when Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's administration sought closer ties with the U.S. in the war on terror and added the CPP-NPA to the list of terrorist organisations, renewing violence. Following the launch of a counter-insurgency by the Philippine government, negotiations have been further delayed due to suspected internal differences between the CPP 'old guard' and younger members.

The Moro Insurgency (1968 -)

Philippines-Mindanao

The Moro Insurgency began in 1968, in Mindanao and the Sulu archipelago after the killing of Moro Commandos, the so-called Jabidah Massacre, by the Philippine Army following a plot to invade Sabah province in Malaysia. The Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) captured a swath of territory in the mid-1970s. In an attempt to stem the violence, the constitution was reformed and Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) was created 1990 granting a devolution of power to the provinces of Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi. Following the establishment of the ARMM, the MNLF splintered into a range of smaller groups including Islamic factions such as the

Stage	Implementation/renegotiation
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Philippines - Mindanao process
Parties	Prof. Miriam Coronel-Ferrer, GPH Panel Chair; Mohagher Iqbal, MILF Panel Chair
Third parties	Signed in the presence of: Tengku Dato' Ab Ghafar Tengku Mohamed, Malaysian Facilitator
Description	Agreement by the Parties establishing the Task Force for Decommissioned Combatants and their Communities and the Terms of Reference it will abide by, which include the mandate, tasks, composition, funding, reporting methods, and duration. The Task Force will undertake all efforts related to socio-economic and development programs for MILF combatants and their communities until an Exit Agreement is signed.

Agreement document	PH_150602_ToR for Task Force for Decommissioned Combatants.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	Page 2, IV. Composition 3. The Task Force shall create a special team on the special socio-economic and development programs for the decommissioned women auxiliary forces of the MILF.
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 1, III. Tasks - In order to fulfill its mandate, the Task Force shall perform the following tasks: 1. Undertake through agreed modalities the socio-economic and development programs for decommissioned combatants and their communities; 2. Coordinate with government agencies, development partners, private sector and other stakeholders in support of the socio-economic and development programs for MILF combatants and their communities; 3. Prepare procedures and timeline of implementation of socio-economic and development programs for decommissioned combatants and their communities; 4. Implement a communication plan as approved by the Panels; 5. Address implementation concerns at the Task Force level before elevation to the Panels.
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	Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles Page 1, III. Tasks - In order to fulfill its mandate, the Task Force shall perform the following tasks: [...] 4. Implement a communication plan as approved by the Panels;
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

Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development

Page 1, II. Mandate - The Task Force for Decommissioned Combatants and their Communities (hereinafter referred as Task Force) shall undertake all efforts related to socio-economic and development programs for MILF combatants and their communities identified under the Normalization Annex of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB). It shall assist the Panels identify and implement socio-economic priorities and development projects that will address the needs of MILF combatants and their communities.

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3. Prepare procedures and timeline of implementation of socio-economic and development programs for decommissioned combatants and their communities;
4. Implement a communication plan as approved by the Panels;
5. Address implementation concerns at the Task Force level before elevation to the Panels.

Page 2, IV. Composition
3. The Task Force shall create a special team on the special socio-economic and development programs for the decommissioned women auxiliary forces of the MILF.

Page 2, V. Duration - The Task Force shall continue to exist until the signing of the Exit Agreement.

Page 2, VI. Reports and Recommendations
2. The Task Force shall provide relevant data to the Joint Normalization Committee for the conduct of its monitoring of the implementation of socio-economic and development programs for combatants and their communities.

Page 3, VII. Funding - The GPH shall provide funds for the operation of the Task Force. The Parties may mobilize financial support and technical expertise from local and development partners on matters related to its mandate.

Page 3, VIII. Amendments - This Terms of Reference shall be periodically reviewed by the GPH and MILF Panels and may be altered to meet the prevailing situation.

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 3, IX. Confidentiality - All information, data, or opinions gathered, generated or exchanged in connection with the work of the Task Force shall be treated with utmost consideration for the safety and security of the source and the integrity of the peace process. Critical and or confidential information as defined by the Task Force may not be divulged to their respective organizations and other entities.
Ceasefire	No specific mention.
Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	No specific mention.

DDR	Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes Page 1, II. Mandate - The Task Force for Decommissioned Combatants and their Communities (hereinafter referred as Task Force) shall undertake all efforts related to socio-economic and development programs for MILF combatants and their communities identified under the Normalization Annex of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB). It shall assist the Panels identify and implement socio-economic priorities and development projects that will address the needs of MILF combatants and their communities. Page 1, III. Tasks - In order to fulfill its mandate, the Task Force shall perform the following tasks: 1. Undertake through agreed modalities the socio-economic and development programs for decommissioned combatants and their communities; 2. Coordinate with government agencies, development partners, private sector and other stakeholders in support of the socio-economic and development programs for MILF combatants and their communities; 3. Prepare procedures and timeline of implementation of socio-economic and development programs for decommissioned combatants and their communities; 4. Implement a communication plan as approved by the Panels; 5. Address implementation concerns at the Task Force level before elevation to the Panels. Page 2, IV. Composition 3. The Task Force shall create a special team on the special socio-economic and development programs for the decommissioned women auxiliary forces of the MILF. Page 2, VI. Reports and Recommendations 2. The Task Force shall provide relevant data to the Joint Normalization Committee for the conduct of its monitoring of the implementation of socio-economic and development programs for combatants and their communities.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	Page 1, II. Mandate - The Task Force for Decommissioned Combatants and their Communities (hereinafter referred as Task Force) shall undertake all efforts related to socio-economic and development programs for MILF combatants and their communities identified under the Normalization Annex of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB). It shall assist the Panels identify and implement socio-economic priorities and development projects that will address the needs of MILF combatants and their communities. Page 1, III. Tasks - In order to fulfill its mandate, the Task Force shall perform the following tasks: 1. Undertake through agreed modalities the socio-economic and development programs for decommissioned combatants and their communities; 2. Coordinate with government agencies, development partners, private sector and other stakeholders in support of the socio-economic and development programs for MILF combatants and their communities; 3. Prepare procedures and timeline of implementation of socio-economic and development programs for decommissioned combatants and their communities; 4. Implement a communication plan as approved by the Panels; 5. Address implementation concerns at the Task Force level before elevation to the Panels. Page 2, IV. Composition 3. The Task Force shall create a special team on the special socio-economic and development programs for the decommissioned women auxiliary forces of the MILF. Page 2, VI. Reports and Recommendations 2. The Task Force shall provide relevant data to the Joint Normalization Committee for the conduct of its monitoring of the implementation of socio-economic and development programs for combatants and their communities.
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	Signed in the presence of: Tengku Dato' Ab Ghafar Tengku Mohamed, Malaysian Facilitator
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/ similar	No specific mention.
Enforcement mechanism	No specific mention.
