Country/entity	Philippines Mindanao
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Protocol on the Implementation of the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Independent Decommissioning Body (IDB)
Date	29 Jan 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	For the GPH: Professor Miriam Coronel-Ferrer, GPH Panel Chair; For the MILF: Mohagher Iqbal, MILF Panel Chair
Third parties	Signed in the presence of: H.E. Haydar Berk, IDB Chair; Tengku Dato' Ab Ghafar Tengku Mohamed, Malaysian Facilitator
Description	The agreement provides the functions, composition, and processes, which are to be completed in 4 phases, for implementing the Terms of Reference for the Independent Decommissioning Body (IDB) for the decommissioning and normalization of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.

Agreement document	PH_150129_Protocol Implementation for ToR of IDB.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, II. Definitions: MILF Combatants. For purposes of these implementing guidelines, refers to both regular and guerrilla members of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF). To ensure that the socio-economic initiatives and the decommissioning process will be gender-sensitive and inclusive, the term shall include Women Auxiliary forces. Page 8, V. The Process, 2. Assembly and Processing Area (APA) 2.5. Registration and verification of MILF weapons and combatants at APA - All MILF combatants will include the following information: name, age, sex, rank, responsibilities within the unit/formation, date of entry into service and will provide the basis for a complete list of personnel. [...]
Men and boys	No specific mention.
LGBTI	No specific mention.
Family	Page 1, II. Definitions Socio-economic development - refers to programs and other initiatives for the MILF combatants, their families and communities in accordance with the Annex on Normalization.

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	Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles Page 9, VII. Communication Plan - The IDB shall formulate a communication plan on the decommissioning process.
Mobility/access	Page 5, V. The Process, Phase 3 b. Joint Normalization Committee - Joint Peace and Security Committee (JNC - JPSC) shall facilitate the movements of such MILF forces to the assembly areas. Page 6, V. The Process, Phase 4 b. Joint Normalization Committee - Joint Peace and Security committee (JNC-JPSC) shall facilitate the movements of such MILF forces to the APAs. Page 6, V. The Process, 1. Movement and Concentration of Forces For this purpose, comprehensive plans, timelines and routes for the movement and concentration of forces shall be provided by MILF to the IDB. The GPH shall give information to the IDB on the comprehensive plans and timeline for the redeployment of the AFP. The movement of all MILF combatants and weapons to the APAs shall be carried out in consultation with the IDB and in coordination with the ceasefire mechanisms. The Parties shall undertake measures to promote and guarantee free movement and create and environment free of fear and intimidation. Page 6, V. The Process, 2. Assembly and Processing Area (APA) 2.1. In accordance with the commitment referred to in the Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro (FAB) and relevant documents (see References), MILF combatants and their weapons shall, in a sequence agreed upon between the MILF and the IDB, be confined within designated APA sites for registration, verification and decommissioning of forces and weapons. The APA shall be based on comprehensive planing and preparation before implementation. The GPH shall provide services to the combatants in the APA. To ensure implementation there shall be good communication and available supplies and logistics. The IDB shall have access to any and all APA sites for the purposes of verification and monitoring. To ensure the safety of both monitors and MILF forces, no improvised explosive devices or crude bombs shall be brought inside the APA sites.

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. Definitions
Socio-economic development - refers to programs and other initiatives for the MILF combatants, their families and communities in accordance with the Annex on Normalization.

Page 1, II. Definitions
Decommissioning is the process of putting the weapons of the MILF beyond use and the process of allowing a smooth transition for the MILF combatants to productive civilian life which shall be parallel and commensurate with the redeployment of AFP and dismantling of Private Armed Groups (PAGs) and other aspects of the peace agreements.

Page 3, IV. The IDB
[...] The IDB will:
6. Coordinate with the Joint Normalization Committee (JNC) on the other aspects of normalization.

Page 4, V. The Process, Phase 1
c. The Institute of Bangsmaoro Studies (IBS) shall undertake the needs assessment survey for the members of the BIAF as basis for financial assistance and sustainable socio-economic programs for the decommissioned BIAF members and their communities.

Page 5, V. The Process, Phase 1
d. Consolidation of previous needs and skills assessment of MILF forces and communities.

Page 5, V.The Process, Phase 2
d. The IBS shall conduct additional needs and skills assessment for the MILF forces and their communities.
e. The JNC shall conduct on-site verification of the implementation and delivery of the socio-economic programs extended by the GPH and other donors for the decommissioned MILF forces and their communities.
f. The IDB shall program the next 35% of the verified, validated and registered MILF forces and weapons for Phase 3 after the assessment and evaluation of the implementation of the normalization processes.

Page 6, V. The Process, Phase 3,
d. The JNC shall conduct on-site verification of the implementation and delivery of the sustainable socio-economic programs extended by the GPH and other donors for the decommissioned MILF forces and their communities.

Page 6, V. The Process, Phase 4
c. The remaining stage of decommissioning shall take place after the evaluation of the panels with the participation of the Third Party Monitoring Team (TPMT) and Facilitator that all the commitments of the parties have been completed.
e. The JNC shall conduct on-site verification of the implementation and delivery of the socio-economic programs extended by the GPh and other donors for the decommissioned BIAF members and their communities.

Page 8, V. The Process, 2. Assembly and Processing Area (APA)
2.5. Registration and verification of MILF weapons and combatants at APA - [...] As part of this registration, all MILF combatants will be issued an identity card. This identity card may be used to access programs for decommissioned MILF members

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 9, Page 8, V. The Process, 2. Assembly and Processing Area (APA) 2.6. [...] the IDB shall periodically review the security requirements of the temporary storage area on the basis of a shared security threat or when appropriate the transfer to a more permanent storage area. The IDB shall monitor these commitments with a full-time presence at the secured arms storage area.
Ceasefire	Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision Page 1, II. Definitions Redeployment is the repositioning of units and troops of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), including weapons, ammunitions, equipment and installations in accordance with the Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro, the Annex on Normalization and its Attachment (Program for normalization in the Bangsamoro). Page 1, II. Definitions Decommissioning is the process of putting the weapons of the MILF beyond use and the process of allowing a smooth transition for the MILF combatants to productive civilian life which shall be parallel and commensurate with the redeployment of AFP and dismantling of Private Armed Groups (PAGs) and other aspects of the peace agreements. Page 6, V. The Process, 1. Movement and Concentration of Forces [...] The movement of all MILF combatants and weapons to the APAs shall be carried out in consultation with the IDB and in coordination with the ceasefire mechanisms. The Parties shall undertake measures to promote and guarantee free movement and create and environment free of fear and intimidation.
Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	Page 6, V. The Process, 1. Movement and Concentration of Forces For this purpose, comprehensive plans, timelines and routes for the movement and concentration of forces shall be provided by MILF to the IDB. The GPH shall give information to the IDB on the comprehensive plans and timeline for the redeployment of the AFP. The movement of all MILF combatants and weapons to the APAs shall be carried out in consultation with the IDB and in coordination with the ceasefire mechanisms. The Parties shall undertake measures to promote and guarantee free movement and create and environment free of fear and intimidation.

DDR

Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes
Page 1, II. Definitions
Assembly and Processing Area (APA) - a designated and a clearly defined geographical area identified by the IDB for purposes of assembly, inventory, registration, verification, and validation of MILF combatants and weapons scheduled for decommissioning.

Page 1, II. Definitions
Socio-economic development - refers to programs and other initiatives for the MILF combatants, their families and communities in accordance with the Annex on Normalization.

Page 1, II. Definitions
Secured Arms Storage Areas - are sites used for storage of weapons, munitions and explosives, or storage containers established in special perimeters, controlled and guarded by the responsible unit as agreed upon by both Parties and monitored by the IDB.

Page 1, II. Definitions
Decommissioning is the process of putting the weapons of the MILF beyond use and the process of allowing a smooth transition for the MILF combatants to productive civilian life which shall be parallel and commensurate with the redeployment of AFP and dismantling of Private Armed Groups (PAGs) and other aspects of the peace agreements.

Page 2, II. Definitions
The Independent Decommissioning Body (IDB) is the body tasked to oversee the decommissioning of the MILF weapons and forces, chaired by the expert from the Republic of Turkey with members made up of one expert each from the Kingdom of Norway and Burnei Darussalam, and four (4) local experts jointly nominated by the Parties. The IDB shall conduct verification, registration, validation and inventory of weapons and forces of the MILF.

Page 2, IV. The IDB
The Independent Decommissioning Body (IDB), tasked to oversee the process of decommissioning of the MILF forces and weapons, is composed of three (3) foreign experts from states that have been mutually agreed upon by the Panels and four (4) local experts that were nominated by the parties. [...]

Page 3, IV. The IDB
[...] The IDB will:
1. Conduct inventory, verification and validation of Bangsmaoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF) members, arms and weapons.
2. Develop and implement schedule of decommissioning of BIAF members.
3. Plan, design, and implement techniques and technologies for weapons collection or retrieval, transport and storage and putting weapons beyond use in accordance with the agreements of the Parties.
4. Ensure that all necessary steps and processes for decommissioning are complied with by the Parties;
5. Report on the progress of its work and submit its terminal report to the GPH and MILF Panels; and
6. Coordinate with the Joint Normalization Committee (JNC) on the other aspects of normalization.

Page 4, IV. The IDB
2. IDB Verification and Monitoring Assistance Teams (IDB-VMAT) - The Independent Decommissioning Body Verification and Monitoring Assistance Teams (IDB-VMAT) shall

Intelligence services	No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces

Page 1, II. Definitions
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Page 3, IV. The IDB
[...] The IDB will:
1. Conduct inventory, verification and validation of Bangsmaoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF) members, arms and weapons.
2. Develop and implement schedule of decommissioning of BIAF members.

Page 4, V. The Process, Phase 1
a. The MILF shall conduct internal validation and registration of its weapons and combatans.
b. the MILF shall submit initial lists of validated and registered weapons and combatants to the IDB.
c. The Institute of Bangsmaoro Studies (IBS) shall undertake the needs assessment survey for the members of the BIAF as basis for financial assistance and sustainable socio-economic programs for the decommissioned BIAF members and their communities.

Page 5, V. The Process, Phase 1
d. Consolidation of previous needs and skills assessment of MILF forces and communities.
e. Ceremonial turnover of 20 crew-served weapons and 55 high-powered firearms to the IDB.
f. The IDB shall program the first 30% of the verified, validated and registered MILF forces

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	Transitional justice→Amnesty/pardon→Amnesty/pardon proper Page 1, II. Definitions Amnesty and Pardon - are legal forms of confidence building measures which shall be immediately undertaken as agreed upon in the Annex on Normalization by the Government of the Philippines (GPH) towards the speedy resolution of cases of persons charged with or convicted of crimes or offenses connected to the armed conflict in Mindanao.
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: H.E. Haydar Berk, IDB Chair; Tengku Dato' Ab Ghafar Tengku Mohamed, Malaysian Facilitator
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/ similar	No specific mention.
Enforcement mechanism	Page 6, V. The Process, Phase 4 c. The remaining stage of decommissioning shall take place after the evaluation of the panels with the participation of the Third Party Monitoring Team (TPMT) and Facilitator that all the commitments of the parties have been completed.