Country/entity	Philippines Mindanao
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Agreement to Sustain the Quest for Peace (II)
Date	11 Mar 1998
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	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Philippines - Mindanao process
Parties	ASec. Jovenal F. Lazaga, GRP Technical Committee Chairman; MGen. Joselin B. Nazareno, GRP SCCH Chairman; Atty. Lanang S. Ali, MILF Technical Committee Acting Chairman; Atty. Omar B. Umpar, MILF SCCH Acting Chairman
Third parties	-
Description	Agreed on the location, composition and operation of the Quick Response Team (QRT). QRT to immediately address a reported conflict/confrontation between the GRP and MILF Panel and GRP and MILF CCCH to convene immediately to assess and respond to the reports and findings of the QRT.

Agreement document	PH_980311_Agreement Creating a QRT.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	Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical Page 1, Preamble [...] Whereas, there is an urgent need to address these conflicts/confrontations immediately as they occur in order to avoid further exacerbation of the conflict that may create displacement and destruction to both human lives and properties.
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, 2. The QRT shall be composed of the following: 2.3 IFFC Principals – one representative each from the Notre Dame University (NDU), Maguindanaon Professionals and Employees Association Inc. (MAPEA) and Cotabato City Media Multi-Purpose Cooperative (CCMMPC). Additional membership to the IFFC may be made upon joint approval by the GRP and MILF Panels through their respective CCCH. The names of the alternate members to the QRT will be submitted as soon as possible.
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	Power sharing→Military power sharing→Proportionality Page 1, Preamble Whereas, the Quick Response Team (QRT) is conceptualized on account of the confrontations/conflicts on the ground between the elements of the GRP and the MILF despite the Agreement on the General Cessation of Hostilities (AGCH) signed by the GRP and the MILF Panels on July 18, 1997 on Cagayan de Oro City. Page 1, Preamble [...] Now, therefore, the GRP and the MILF have agreed to create as they hereby create a Quick Response Team, which shall be hereinafter referred to as QRT composed of representatives from the GRP, MILF and the IFFC to immediately address alleged violations of the AGCH. The QRT shall be chaired by the IFFC Chairman, or in his absence, by the IFFC Vice-Chairman. Page 1, 2. The QRT shall be composed of the following: 2.1 GRP Representatives – three (3) permanent members from the Secretariat of the GRP CCCH, three (3) alternate members; 2.2 MILF Representatives - three (3) permanent members from the Secretariat of the MILD CCCH, three (3) alternate members; Page 2, 2. The QRT can avail itself of assistance from the following in the performance of its duties: a) The AFP Commander in the area concerned; b) The PNP Provincial Director of the Province concerned; c) The MILF Commander or any other officers operating in the area; and 4. Upon receipt of the report, the QRT Chairman shall immediately convene the QRT, make proper representation to the two principals and coordinate with the local commanders through the official representatives of both the GRP and the MILF regarding the quick response. It may conduct ocular inspections to assess and defuse the tension of the conflict.

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→Other Page 2, 2. The QRT shall be composed of the following: 2.3 IFFC Principals: one representative each from the Notre Dame University (NDU), Maguindanao Professionals and Employees Association Inc. (MAPEA) and Cotabato City Media Multi-Purpose Cooperative (CCMMPC). [...]
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	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
Page 1, Preamble
Whereas, the Quick Response Team (QRT) is conceptualized on account of the confrontations/conflicts on the ground between the elements of the GRP and the MILF despite the Agreement on the General Cessation of Hostilities (AGCH) signed by the GRP and the MILF Panels on July 18, 1997 on Cagayan de Oro City.

Page 1, Preamble
[…] Whereas, there is an urgent need to address these conflicts/confrontations immediately as they occur in order to avoid further exacerbation of the conflict that may create displacement and destruction to both human lives and properties.

Page 1, Preamble
[…] Whereas, under normal conditions and terms of the AGCH, the Coordinating Committee on the Cessation of Hostilities (CCCH) is the body primarily tasked to settle and address these incidents and alleged violations of the Ceasefire Agreement between the GRP and the MILF. However, the CCCH is formally constituted and does observe due protocols and other formalities required of any official body. As such, the CCCH is not capable of immediate response to conflicts and confrontations on the ground. The CCCH meets when conflicts/confrontations have reached a crisis level or after unnecessary casualties and destruction have been inflicted against each other and on the civilian populace.

Page 1, Preamble
[…] WHEREAS, the Independent Fact Finding Committee (IFFC) cannot immediately respond to a crisis situation because its very nature is passive. It acts only on matters that the CCCH cannot mutually agree on. The IFFC enters into the scene when there is no agreement in the CCCH on what actually happened on the ground. In short, the IFFC becomes involved when the conflict/confrontation has reached a level of mutual disagreement between the GRP and the MILF.

Page 2, The Operationalization of the QRT.
3. The QRT shall immediately address a reported conflict/confrontation between the GRP and the MILF forces. The reports may come from any of the following sources: GRP Panel, MILF Panel, and the IFFC.

Page 2, The Operationalization of the QRT.
4. Upon receipt of the report, the QRT Chairman shall immediately convene the QRT, make proper representation to the two principals and coordinate with the local commanders through the official representatives of both the GRP and the MILF regarding the quick response. It may conduct ocular inspections to assess and defuse the tension of the conflict.

Page 2, The Operationalization of the QRT.
5. The GRP and MILF CCCH shall convene immediately to assess and respond to the reports and findings of the QRT.

Police	Page 2, 2. The QRT can avail itself of assistance from the following in the performance of its duties: b) The PNP Provincial Director of the Province concerned;
Armed forces	Page 2, 2. The QRT can avail itself of assistance from the following in the performance of its duties: a) The AFP Commander in the area concerned; Page 2, 3. The QRT shall immediately address a reported conflict/confrontation between the GRP and MILF forces. The reports may come from any of the following sources: GRP Panel, MILF Panel and the IFFC. Page 2, 4. Upon receipt of the report, the QRT Chairman shall immediately convene the QRT, make proper representation to the two principals and coordinate with the local commanders through the official representatives of both the GRP and the MILF regarding the quick response. It may conduct ocular inspections to assess and defuse the tension of the conflict.
DDR	No specific mention.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	Page 2, 2. The QRT shall be composed of the following: [...] The QRT can avail itself of assistance from the following in the performance of its duties: c) The MILF Commander or any other Officers operating in the area, [...] Page 2, 3. The QRT shall immediately address a reported conflict/confrontation between the GRP and MILF forces. The reports may come from any of the following sources: GRP Panel, MILF Panel and the IFFC. Page 2, 4. Upon receipt of the report, the QRT Chairman shall immediately convene the QRT, make proper representation to the two principals and coordinate with the local commanders through the official representatives of both the GRP and the MILF regarding the quick response. It may conduct ocular inspections to assess and defuse the tension of the conflict.
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	Page 1, Preamble Whereas, the Independent Fact Finding Committee (IFFC) cannot immediately respond to a crisis situation because its very nature is passive. It acts only on matters that the CCCH cannot mutually agree on. The IFFC enters into the scene when there is no agreement in the CCCH on what actually happened on the ground. In short, the IFFC becomes involved when the conflict/confrontation has reached a level of mutual disagreement between the GRP and the MILF.
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.