

Country/entity	Philippines Mindanao
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	The Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro
Date	27 Mar 2014
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: Miriam Coronel Ferrer, GPH Panel Chairperson, Senen C. Bacani, Panel Member, Yasmin Busran-Lao, Panel Member, Mehol K. Sadain, Panel Member, Zenonida Brosas, Panel Consultant; For the MILF: Mohagher Iqbal, MILF Panel Chairperson, Datu Michael Mastura, Panel Member, Maulana "Bobby" Alonto, Panel Member, Abould Syed Lingga, Panel Member, Abdulla Camlian, Panel Member
Third parties	Witnessed by: Tengku Dato' Ab Ghafar Tengku Mohamed, Malaysian Facilitator; Signed in the Presence of: Teresita Quintos-Deles, Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process, Al Haj Murad Ebrahim, Chair of MILF, Benigno Simeon Aquino III, President of the Republic of the Philippines, Dato' Sri Hj. Mohd Najib Bin Tun Hj. Abdul Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia
Description	The Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro underlines the overall peace process between the GPH and the MILF. The Parties acknowledge the various roles of the international community and civil society that provided support throughout the process, list the integral agreements of the process, and provide principles of implementation that will be pursued for the agreements. Previous agreements (see 'Other agreements section) constitute integral parts of this Comprehensive Agreement but are coded as separate agreements.

Agreement document [PH_140327_CAB.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 Groups→Indigenous people→Rhetorical
Page 1, Untitled Introduction
Underlying the CAB is the recognition of the justness and legitimacy of the cause of the Bangsamoro people and their aspiration to chart their political future through a democratic process that will secure their identity and posterity and allow for meaningful self-governance.

Page 1, Untitled Introduction
The Parties acknowledge their responsibilities to uphold the principles of justice. They commit to protect and enhance the right of the Bangsamoro people and other inhabitants in the Bangsamoro to human dignity; reduce social, economic and political inequalities; correct historical injustice committed against the Bangsamoro; and remove cultural inequities through the agreed modalities aimed at equitably diffusing wealth and political power for the common good.

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) Page 4, Principles of Implementation
Working with other groups and sectors, the two Parties shall ensure the establishment of a new Bangsamoro political entity that will protect individual and collective rights, and be truly democratic, representatives of the diversity of the populace, and accountable to the communities therein.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination	Page 1, Untitled Introduction Underlying the CAB is the recognition of the justness and legitimacy of the cause of the Bangsamoro people and their aspiration to chart their political future through a democratic process that will secure their identity and posterity and allow for meaningful self-governance.
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)

Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→Temporary new institutions
Page 2, The Agreements - The following agreements between the Parties appended hereto constitute integral parts of this Comprehensive Agreement:
8. Annex on Transitional Arrangements and Modalities signed on 27 February 2013 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Page 3, Acknowledgement

The Parties express their gratitude to the very important role of: [...] They [The parties] also commend the Bangsamoro Transition Commission as they earnestly work towards completing the draft Bangsamoro Basic Law.

Page 4, Principles of Implementation

Working with other groups and sectors, the two Parties shall ensure the establishment of a new Bangsamoro political entity that will protect individual and collective rights, and be truly democratic, representatives of the diversity of the populace, and accountable to the communities therein.

Page 4, Principles of Implementation

The mechanisms and modalities for the actual implementation of this Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro, including the ratification of the Bangsamoro Basic Law pursuant to Article V. Territory of the Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro , are spelled out herein. The Parties shall mutually take steps for its full implementation leading to the establishment of the Bangsamoro Transition Authority and the regular Bangsamoro Government, the gradual normalization of the previously conflict-affected areas and their transformation into peaceful and progressive communities. The Parties commit to faithfully abide by, honor, respect, implement, and entrench these agreements, and nurture the integrity of the whole peace process.

Elections

No specific mention.

Electoral commission

No specific mention.

Political parties reform

No specific mention.

Civil society

Page 3, Acknowledgement

The Parties express their gratitude to the very important role of:

2. The International Contact group composed of [...] The International Contact Group composed of Japan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, they United Kingdom, Center for Humanitarian Dialogue, Community of San'Egidio, Conciliation Resources, Muhammadiyah, and the Asia Foundation

Page 3, Acknowledgement

The Parties express their gratitude to the very important role of:

3. Members of IMT, namely, Brunei, Indonesia, Japan, Libya, Norway and the European Union; and its Civilian Protection Component composed of the Mindanao Human Rights Action Center, Mindanao People's Caucus, Moslem Organization of Government Officials and Professionals, and Nonviolent Peaceforce

Page 3, Acknowledgement

The Parties express their gratitude to the very important role of:

5. The Third Party Monitoring Team chaired by an eminent person from EU, with members from The Asia Foundation and the Turkish Humanitarian Relief Foundation, and two leaders of local civil society organizations

Page 3, Acknowledgement

The Parties express their gratitude to the very important role of:

[...] The Parties also thank the international community and local and national civil society organizations for the steadfast support that they have extended to the peace process in their different capacities.

Page 4, Principles of Implementation

Both parties pledge to continue to conduct multisectoral dialogues and consultations, take into account the concerns of the stakeholders, generate broad-based support, and ensure wide participation in the various mechanisms and processes that shall be instituted.

Page 4, Principles of Implementation

Working with other groups and sectors, the two Parties shall ensure the establishment of a new Bangsamoro political entity that will protect individual and collective rights, and be truly democratic, representatives of the diversity of the populace, and accountable to the communities therein.

**Traditional/
religious leaders**

No specific mention.

**Public
administration**

No specific mention.

Constitution

Governance→Constitution→Constitutional reform/making
Page 3, Acknowledgement

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Page 4, Principles of Implementation

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Power sharing

Political power sharing

Power sharing→Political power sharing→General State level

Summary: Implements previous agreements, notably Annex on Power Sharing (23 December 2013).

Territorial power sharing

Power sharing→Territorial power sharing→Autonomous regions

Summary: The agreement incorporates earlier agreements which provide in detail for Autonomy for Bangsamoro, see below.

Page 1, Untitled Introduction

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Page 1, Untitled Introduction

The Parties acknowledge their responsibilities to uphold the principles of justice. They commit to protect and enhance the right of the Bangsamoro people and other inhabitants in the Bangsamoro to human dignity; reduce social, economic and political inequalities; correct historical injustice committed against the Bangsamoro; and remove cultural inequities through the agreed modalities aimed at equitably diffusing wealth and political power for the common good.

Page 2, The Agreements - The following agreements between the Parties appended hereto constitute integral parts of this Comprehensive Agreement:

6. GPH-MILF Decision Point on Principles as of April 2012 signed on 24 April 2012 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Page 2, The Agreements - The following agreements between the Parties appended hereto constitute integral parts of this Comprehensive Agreement:

7. Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro initialed on 12 October 2012 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and signed on 15 October 2012 in Manila, Philippines

Page 2, The Agreements - The following agreements between the Parties appended hereto constitute integral parts of this Comprehensive Agreement:

8. Annex on Transitional Arrangements and Modalities signed on 27 February 2013 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Page 2, The Agreements - The following agreements between the Parties appended hereto constitute integral parts of this Comprehensive Agreement:

10. Annex on Power Sharing signed on 8 December 2013 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Page 2, The Agreements - The following agreements between the Parties appended hereto constitute integral parts of this Comprehensive Agreement:

11. Annex on Normalization signed on 25 January 2014 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Page 2, The Agreements - The following agreements between the Parties appended hereto constitute integral parts of this Comprehensive Agreement:

12. Addendum on the Bangsamoro Waters and Zones of Joint Cooperation signed on 25 January 2014 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Page 2, The Agreements - [...] Supplementary to the CAB are the various agreements, guidelines, terms of reference, and joint statements duly signed and acknowledged by the Parties in the course of the negotiations between the two Parties beginning in 1997. The Parties commit to honor, respect, and implement all these past agreements and supplementary documents signed by them and as further elaborate in the Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro and its Annexes.

Economic power sharing

Power sharing→Economic power sharing→Sharing of resources

Page 1, Untitled Introduction

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Page 2, The Agreements - The following agreements between the Parties appended hereto constitute integral parts of this Comprehensive Agreement:

9. Annex on Revenue Generation and Wealth Sharing signed on 13 July 2013 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Military power sharing

No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general	<p>Page 1, Untitled Introduction</p> <p>This Comprehensive Agreement is a product of the pursuit for a solution to the Bangsamoro Question with honor, justice, and dignity for all concerned. It ends the armed hostilities between the two Parties and provides for the negotiated political settlement of the Bangsamoro Question, thereby ending the armed conflict between the GPH and the MILF, and promoting peace and stability in this part of the world.</p> <p>Page 1, Untitled Introduction</p> <p>The Parties acknowledge their responsibilities to uphold the principles of justice. They commit to protect and enhance the right of the Bangsamoro people and other inhabitants in the Bangsamoro to human dignity; reduce social, economic and political inequalities; correct historical injustice committed against the Bangsamoro; and remove cultural inequities through the agreed modalities aimed at equitably diffusing wealth and political power for the common good.</p> <p>Page 4, Principles of Implementation</p> <p>The Parties acknowledge the identity and legitimate grievances of the Bangsamoro. In the same vein, they affirm the commitment to mutually respect the right to one's identity and the parity of esteem of everyone in the political community.</p> <p>Page 4, Principles of Implementation</p> <p>Working with other groups and sectors, the two Parties shall ensure the establishment of a new Bangsamoro political entity that will protect individual and collective rights, and be truly democratic, representatives of the diversity of the populace, and accountable to the communities therein.</p>
Bill of rights/similar	No specific mention.
Treaty incorporation	No specific mention.
Civil and political rights	<p>Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Equality</p> <p>Page 1, Untitled Introduction</p> <p>The Parties acknowledge their responsibilities to uphold the principles of justice. They commit to protect and enhance the right of the Bangsamoro people and other inhabitants in the Bangsamoro to human dignity; reduce social, economic and political inequalities; correct historical injustice committed against the Bangsamoro; and remove cultural inequities through the agreed modalities aimed at equitably diffusing wealth and political power for the common good.</p> <p>Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Thought, opinion, conscience and religion</p> <p>Page 4, Principles of Implementation</p> <p>The Parties acknowledge the identity and legitimate grievances of the Bangsamoro. In the same vein, they affirm the commitment to mutually respect the right to one's identity and the parity of esteem of everyone in the political community.</p>
Socio-economic rights	No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship	No specific mention.
Democracy	Page 1, Untitled Introduction Underlying the CAB is the recognition of the justness and legitimacy of the cause of the Bangsamoro people and their aspiration to chart their political future through a democratic process that will secure their identity and posterity and allow for meaningful self-governance. Page 4, Principles of Implementation Working with other groups and sectors, the two Parties shall ensure the establishment of a new Bangsamoro political entity that will protect individual and collective rights, and be truly democratic, representatives of the diversity of the populace, and accountable to the communities therein.
Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	No specific mention.
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
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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** Page 2, The Agreements - The following agreements between the Parties appended hereto constitute integral parts of this Comprehensive Agreement:
12. Addendum on the Bangsamoro Waters and Zones of Joint Cooperation signe don 25 January 2014 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Security sector

**Security
Guarantees**

Page 1, Untitled Introduction

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Page 3, Acknowledgement

[...] They acknowledge the crucial role played by the two Parties' Coordinating Committees on Cessation of Hostilities and the Ad-Hoc Joint Action Group in preventing hostilities, supporting the efforts to keep the peace on the ground, and maintaining an environment conducive to continuing negotiations.

Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→General commitments

Page 1, Untitled Introduction

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1. Agreement for the General Cessation of Hostilities signed on 18 July 1997 in Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines

Page 2, The Agreements - The following agreements between the Parties appended hereto constitute integral parts of this Comprehensive Agreement

2. General Framework on Intent between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front signed on 27 August 1998 in Sultan Kudarat, Maguindanao, Philippines

Page 2, The Agreements - The following agreements between the Parties appended hereto constitute integral parts of this Comprehensive Agreement:

3. Agreement on the General Framework on the Resumption of Peace Talks signed on 24 March 2001 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Page 2, The Agreements - The following agreements between the Parties appended hereto constitute integral parts of this Comprehensive Agreement:

4. Agreement on Peace between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front signed on 22 June 2001 in Tripoli, Libya

Page 2, The Agreements - The following agreements between the Parties appended hereto constitute integral parts of this Comprehensive Agreement:

5. Declaration on Continuity for Peace Negotiations between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front signed on 3 June 2010 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Page 3, Acknowledgement

[...] They acknowledge the crucial role played by the two Parties' Coordinating Committees on Cessation of Hostilities and the Ad-Hoc Joint Action Group in preventing hostilities, supporting the efforts to keep the peace on the ground, and maintaining an environment conducive to continuing negotiations.

Police

Page 2, The Agreements - The following agreements between the Parties appended hereto constitute integral parts of this Comprehensive Agreement:

11. Annex on Normalization signed 25 January 2014 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Page 3, Acknowledgement

The Parties express their gratitude to the very important role of:

6. The Independent Commission on Policing composed of international experts from Canada, Australia, Japan and local experts selected by the Parties.

Armed forces	No specific mention.
DDR	No specific mention.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	No specific mention.
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, Untitled Introduction The Parties acknowledge their responsibilities to uphold the principles of justice. They commit to protect and enhance the right of the Bangsamoro people and other inhabitants in the Bangsamoro to human dignity; reduce social, economic and political inequalities; correct historical injustice committed against the Bangsamoro; and remove cultural inequities through the agreed modalities aimed at equitably diffusing wealth and political power for the common good.
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 Witnessed by: Tengku Dato' Ab Ghafar Tengku Mohamed, Malaysain Facilitator;
Signed in the Presence of: Dato' Sri Hj. Mohd Najib Bin Tun Hj. Abdul Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.
