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|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Country/entity</b>      | Philippines<br>Mindanao  |
| <b>Region</b>              | Asia and Pacific         |
| <b>Agreement name</b>      | Joint Statement          |
| <b>Date</b>                | 17 Feb 1999              |
| <b>Agreement status</b>    | Multiparty signed/agreed |
| <b>Interim arrangement</b> | 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

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| <b>Stage</b>           | Pre-negotiation/process  |
| <b>Conflict nature</b> | Government/territory   |
| <b>Peace process</b>   | Philippines - Mindanao process   |
| <b>Parties</b>         | FOR GRP: BGen. Jose Proceso T. Torrelavega, AFP, GRP CCCH Chairperson;<br>FOR THE MILF: Sultan Saifudin Tomawis, MILF CCCH Chairperson; MEMBERS FOR GRP: S/<br>Supt. Jainal H. Jamasali, PNP; Lt. Alfredo D. Bunga, PA; Lt. Calixto A. Saquin, PA; Lt.<br>Ricardo B. Torrevillas, PA; Maj. Policaprio Zacarias, PA; MEMBER FOR MILF:<br>Badawi Hasim; Jerry Abubakar; Diego Silang; Abu Mujahid Pahlawan; Hadji Abdulkarim<br>Mutia  |
| <b>Third parties</b>   | -  |
| <b>Description</b>     | Joint Statement by the GRP-MILF Coordinating Committees on Cessation of Hostilities that affirms that the Committees jointly commit to fully implementing the Agreement on the General Cessation of Hostilities, and to support the continuance of the peace negotiations. The Committees also agreed on the prioritization of the MILF camps for verification, in addition to the location of the Joint Secretariat Office and the establishment of sub-committees/work groups to undertake administrative arrangements, formulation guidelines for MILF camp verification, and agenda preparation and coordination for cessation of hostilities. |

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**Agreement document** [PH\\_990217\\_Joint Statement.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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## Groups

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|--|----------------------|
| <b>Children/youth</b>                    | No specific mention. |
| <b>Disabled persons</b>                  | No specific mention. |
| <b>Elderly/age</b>                       | No specific mention. |
| <b>Migrant workers</b>                   | No specific mention. |
| <b>Racial/ethnic/<br/>national group</b> | No specific mention. |
| <b>Religious groups</b>                  | No specific mention. |
| <b>Indigenous people</b>                 | No specific mention. |
| <b>Other groups</b>                      | No specific mention. |

**Refugees/displaced persons** No specific mention.

**Social class** No specific mention.

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## **Gender**

**Women, girls and gender** No specific mention.

**Men and boys** No specific mention.

**LGBTI** No specific mention.

**Family** No specific mention.

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## **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.

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## **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, [...] Both Committees agreed that the Joint Secretariat will be established at the NDU Peace Center, Cotabato City, and that there shall be three (3) Sub-Committees/Work Groups to be created which shall tackle the following: [...]

**Traditional/religious leaders** No specific mention.

**Public administration** No specific mention.

**Constitution** No specific mention.

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## **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.

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## **Human rights and equality**

**Human rights/RoL general** No specific mention.

**Bill of rights/similar** No specific mention.

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|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Treaty incorporation</b> | No specific mention. |
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|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Civil and political rights</b> | No specific mention. |
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| <b>Socio-economic rights</b> | No specific mention. |
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## **Rights related issues**

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| <b>Citizenship</b> | No specific mention. |
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| <b>Democracy</b> | No specific mention. |
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|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Detention procedures</b> | No specific mention. |
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| <b>Media and communication</b> | No specific mention. |
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| <b>Mobility/access</b> | No specific mention. |
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| <b>Protection measures</b> | No specific mention. |
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| <b>Other</b> | No specific mention. |
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## **Rights institutions**

|             |                      |
|-------------|----------------------|
| <b>NHRI</b> | No specific mention. |
|-------------|----------------------|

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| <b>Regional or international human rights institutions</b> | No specific mention. |
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## **Justice sector reform**

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| <b>Criminal justice and emergency law</b> | No specific mention. |
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|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>State of emergency provisions</b> | No specific mention. |
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|------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Judiciary and courts</b>  | No specific mention. |
| <b>Prisons and detention</b> | No specific mention. |
| <b>Traditional Laws</b>      | No specific mention. |

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#### **Socio-economic reconstruction**

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|---|----------------------|
| <b>Development or socio-economic reconstruction</b> | No specific mention. |
| <b>National economic plan</b>                       | No specific mention. |
| <b>Natural resources</b>                            | No specific mention. |
| <b>International funds</b>                          | No specific mention. |
| <b>Business</b>                                     | No specific mention. |
| <b>Taxation</b>                                     | No specific mention. |
| <b>Banks</b>  | No specific mention. |

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#### **Land, property and environment**

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| <b>Land reform/rights</b>                 | No specific mention. |
| <b>Pastoralist/nomadism rights</b>        | No specific mention. |
| <b>Cultural heritage</b>                  | No specific mention. |
| <b>Environment</b>                        | No specific mention. |
| <b>Water or riparian rights or access</b> | No specific mention. |

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## **Security sector**

### **Security Guarantees**

No specific mention.

### **Ceasefire**

Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision

Page 1, Pursuant to the Implementing Administrative Guidelines to the GRP-MILF Agreement on the General Cessation of Hostilities (AGCH), dated September 12, 1997, and the GRP-MILF Agreement "To Reaffirm the Pursuit of Peace", dated February 10, 1998, the GRP-MILF Coordinating Committees on Cessation of Hostilities (CCCH) jointly commit themselves to work for the total and full implementation of the AGCH.

Page 1, [...] Both Committees also commit themselves to fully support the continuance and success of the peace negotiations.

Page 1, [...] Likewise, said committees subscribe to formulate and institute pre-emptive and pro-active measures to ensure the observance of the AGCH and to fully support the Independent Fact Finding Committee (IFFC)/Quick Response Team (QRT) in their mandated task and functions.

Page 1, [...] Both Committees agreed that the Joint Secretariat will be established at the NDU Peace Center, Cotabato City, and that there shall be three (3) Sub-Committees/Work Groups to be created which shall tackle the following:

3. Cessation of hostilities and coordination and agenda preparation.

Page 2, These sub-committees shall submit within one (1) week their recommendations or proposals to the Joint CCCH en banc.

Page 2, [...] It was finally agreed that immediately after the finalization and adoption of the guidelines/procedures on the identification/verification of MILF camps/positions, the Joint CCCH shall commence actual inspection of the said areas.

### **Police**

No specific mention.

### **Armed forces**

No specific mention.



**DDR**

Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions

Page 1, [...] Likewise, said committees subscribe to formulate and institute pre-emptive and pro-active measures to ensure the observance of the AGCH and to fully support the Independent Fact Finding Committee (IFFC)/Quick Response Team (QRT) in their mandated task and functions. It was also agreed that the following are the priorities for verification pursuant to the Rule V of the Implementing Administrative Guidelines:

1. Camp Oman Ibn Al Khatab (Maguindanao)
2. Camp Badre (Maguindanao)
3. Camp Bilal (Lano del Norte)
4. Camp Rajahmuda (Cotabato/Maguindanao)
5. Camp Darapanan (Maguindanao)

Page 1, [...] Both Committees agreed that the Joint Secretariat will be established at the NDU Peace Center, Cotabato City, and that there shall be three (3) Sub-Committees/Work Groups to be created which shall tackle the following:

2. Formulation of Guidelines in the conduction of ocular inspections/verification of MILF Camps/Positions;
3. Cessation of hostilities and coordination and agenda preparation.

Page 2, [...] It was finally agreed that immediately after the finalization and adoption of the guidelines/procedures on the identification/verification of MILF camps/positions, the Joint CCCH shall commence actual inspection of the said areas.

**Intelligence services**

No specific mention.

**Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces**

Page 1, [...] Likewise, said committees subscribe to formulate and institute pre-emptive and pro-active measures to ensure the observance of the AGCH and to fully support the Independent Fact Finding Committee (IFFC)/Quick Response Team (QRT) in their mandated task and functions. It was also agreed that the following are the priorities for verification pursuant to the Rule V of the Implementing Administrative Guidelines:

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**Withdrawal of foreign forces**

No specific mention.

|                              |                      |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Corruption</b>            | No specific mention. |
| <b>Crime/organised crime</b> | No specific mention. |
| <b>Drugs</b>                 | No specific mention. |
| <b>Terrorism</b>             | No specific mention. |

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## **Transitional justice**

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| <b>Transitional justice general</b> | No specific mention. |
| <b>Amnesty/pardon</b>               | No specific mention. |
| <b>Courts</b>                       | No specific mention. |
| <b>Mechanism</b>                    | No specific mention. |
| <b>Prisoner release</b>             | No specific mention. |
| <b>Vetting</b>                      | No specific mention. |
| <b>Victims</b>                      | No specific mention. |
| <b>Missing persons</b>              | No specific mention. |
| <b>Reparations</b>                  | No specific mention. |
| <b>Reconciliation</b>               | No specific mention. |

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## **Implementation**

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|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>UN signatory</b>                  | No specific mention. |
| <b>Other international signatory</b> | No specific mention. |
| <b>Referendum for agreement</b>      | No specific mention. |

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| <b>International mission/force/similar</b> | No specific mention.   |
| <b>Enforcement mechanism</b>               | No specific mention.   |
| <b>Related cases</b>                       | No specific mention.   |
| <b>Source</b>                              | GRP-MILF Peace Process: Compilation of Signed Agreements & other related Documents (1997-2010); (MILF Peace Panel/Asia Foundation, 2010), pp. 55-56. |

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