

<b>Country/entity</b>	Philippines Mindanao
<b>Region</b>	Asia and Pacific
<b>Agreement name</b>	Joint Communique
<b>Date</b>	2 Mar 2000
<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

<b>Stage</b>	Pre-negotiation/process
<b>Conflict nature</b>	Government/territory
<b>Peace process</b>	Philippines - Mindanao process
<b>Parties</b>	Lt. Gen. Edgardo E. Batenga, AFP (Ret.), GRP Peace Panel Chairman; Bro. Mohagher Iqbal, MILF Peace Panel Acting Chairman
<b>Third parties</b>	Witnessed by: Edir. Alma R. Evangelista, GRP Technical Committee Chairperson; Sheikh Moner Bajunaid, MILF Technical Committee Chairman
<b>Description</b>	Agreement that informs on 2nd Round of Formal Peace Talks between the GRP and MILF Peace Panels, in which the Parties heard reports from the QRT, IFFC, and the CCCh on incidents in Maguindanao and the implementation of the cessation of hostilities. The Peace Panels agreed to cluster the nine Agenda Items, presented by MILF for discussion in the Formal Talks, into six aggrupations consisting of Ancestral domain, Destruction of Properties and Victims of War, Human Rights Issues, Social and Cultural Discrimination, Economic Inequities, and Exploitation of Natural Resources. Additionally, the Technical Committees were directed to discuss proposed organization and specific tasks of the Technical Working Groups on Agenda Items, a MILF Draft on Immunity and Security Guarantees, and a MILF Draft on the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and Humanitarian Laws. The Panels concluded to meet the following week, March 6-7, 2000, for the 3rd Round of Formal Peace Talks.

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**Agreement document**      [PH\\_000302\\_Joint Communiqué.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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**Groups**

<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/national group</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Religious groups</b>	No specific mention.

**Indigenous people** Groups→Indigenous people→Rhetorical  
Page 1, The GRP and MILF Peace Panels agreed to cluster the nine (9) Agenda Items presented by the MILF for discussion in the Formal Peace Talks into six (6) groupings, namely: [...] 2. Destruction of Properties and Victims of War / Displaced and Landless Bangsamoro

**Other groups** No specific mention.

**Refugees/displaced persons** Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical  
Page 1, The GRP and MILF Peace Panels agreed to cluster the nine (9) Agenda Items presented by the MILF for discussion in the Formal Peace Talks into six (6) groupings, namely: [...] 2. Destruction of Properties and Victims of War / Displaced and Landless Bangsamoro

**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** No specific mention.

**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** Page 1, The GRP and MILF Peace Panels agreed to cluster the nine (9) Agenda Items presented by the MILF for discussion in the Formal Peace Talks into six (6) groupings, namely:

3. Human Rights Issues
4. Social and Cultural Discrimination

Page 2, The Technical Committees of both Panels were directed to discuss the following, for submission to the Peace Panels:

4. MILF Draft on the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and Humanitarian Laws.

**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.

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### Rights related issues

**Citizenship** No specific mention.

**Democracy** No specific mention.

**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.

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## **Rights institutions**

**NHRI** No specific mention.

**Regional or international human rights institutions** No specific mention.

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## **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** Page 1, The GRP and MILF Peace Panels agreed to cluster the nine (9) Agenda Items presented by the MILF for discussion in the Formal Peace Talks into six (6) aggrupations, namely:  
1. Ancestral Domain / Agrarian Related Issues

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## **Socio-economic reconstruction**

**Development or socio-economic reconstruction** Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development  
Page 1, The GRP and MILF Peace Panels agreed to cluster the nine (9) Agenda Items presented by the MILF for discussion in the Formal Peace Talks into six (6) aggrupations, namely:  
2. Destruction of Properties and Victims of War / Displaced and Landless Bangsamoro  
5. Economic Inequities and Widespread Poverty

**National economic plan** No specific mention.

**Natural resources** Page 1, The GRP and MILF Peace Panels agreed to cluster the nine (9) Agenda Items presented by the MILF for discussion in the Formal Peace Talks into six (6) aggrupations, namely: 6. Exploitation of Natural Resources

**International funds** No specific mention.

**Business** No specific mention.

**Taxation** No specific mention.

**Banks** No specific mention.

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**Land, property and environment**

**Land reform/rights** Land, property and environment→Land reform/rights→Property return and restitution  
Page 1, The GRP and MILF Peace Panels agreed to cluster the nine (9) Agenda Items presented by the MILF for discussion in the Formal Peace Talks into six (6) groupings, namely:  
2. Destruction of Properties and Victims of War / Displaced and Landless Bangsamoro  
Land, property and environment→Land reform/rights→Other land rights  
Page 1, The GRP and MILF Peace Panels agreed to cluster the nine (9) Agenda Items presented by the MILF for discussion in the Formal Peace Talks into six (6) groupings, namely:  
1. Ancestral Domain / Agrarian Related Issues

**Pastoralist/  
nomadism rights** No specific mention.

**Cultural heritage** No specific mention.

**Environment** No specific mention.

**Water or riparian  
rights or access** No specific mention.

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**Security sector**

**Security  
Guarantees** Page 1, The Technical Committees of both Panels were directed to discuss the following, for submission to the Peace Panels:  
4. MILF Draft on Immunity and Security Guarantees, and GRP counter-proposal; and

**Ceasefire** Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision  
Page 1, During this meeting, both the QRT/IFFC and the CCCH presented their respective reports on the incidents in Carmen, Cotabato and Shariff Aguak, Datu Piang and Talayan, all in Maguindanao. The CCCH of the GRP and the MILF likewise presented their respective reports on the status of the implementation of the GRP-MILF Agreements on September 2, 1999 and January 12, 2000.

**Police** No specific mention.

**Armed forces** No specific mention.

**DDR** No specific mention.

<b>Intelligence services</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Withdrawal of foreign forces</b>	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**

<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>	Page 1, The GRP and MILF Peace Panels agreed to cluster the nine (9) Agenda Items presented by the MILF for discussion in the Formal Peace Talks into six (6) groupings, namely: [...] 2. Destruction of Properties and Victims of War / Displaced and Landless Bangsamoro
<b>Missing persons</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Reparations</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Reconciliation</b>	No specific mention.

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**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.

**Related cases** No specific mention.

**Source** GRP-MILF Peace Process: Compilation of Signed Agreements & other related Documents (1997-2010); (MILF Peace Panel/Asia Foundation, 2010), pp. 86-87.

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