AGREEMENT ON AN INTERIM JOINT CEASEFIRE

The Negotiating Panels of the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) hereby agree on an Interim Joint Ceasefire (IJC) and for this purpose:

1. To direct their respective Ceasefire Committees to meet even in-between formal talks, to discuss, formulate, and finalize the guidelines and ground rules for the implementation of this agreement.

2. To put into effect the ceasefire upon the approval and signing of the guidelines and ground rules as referred hereunder.

They further agreed on the following objectives:

1. To generate goodwill and trust in the GRP-NDFP peace negotiations.

2. To encourage the forging of a more stable and comprehensive Joint Ceasefire Agreement.

3. To provide an enabling environment for eventual and early signing of the Comprehensive Agreement on Social and Economic Reforms.

The said guidelines and ground rules shall include:

a) Rules governing the presence of armed units and elements of both Parties in local communities and the creation of buffer zones;

b) An agreement on prohibited, hostile, and provocative acts; and

c) The ceasefire monitoring and verification mechanisms in relation to the implementation of the ceasefire and the handling of complaints and alleged violations.

Matters regarding a single governmental authority and taxation shall be discussed and resolved in forging the Comprehensive Agreement on Political and Constitutional Reforms within the framework of the proposed Federal Republic of the Philippines.

The interim joint ceasefire agreement shall be effective until a permanent ceasefire agreement is forged as part of the Comprehensive Agreement on End of Hostilities and Disposition of Forces (Final Peace Agreement).
Signed on the 5th day of April 2017 in Noordwijk aan Zee, The Netherlands.

Signatories:

Sec. Silvestre H. Bello III  
Chairperson of the GRP Panel

Fidel V. Agcaoili  
Chairperson of the NDFP Panel

Hernani A. Braganza  
Member, GRP Panel

Julieta S. de Lima  
Member, NDFP Panel

Rene V. Sarmiento  
Member, GRP Panel

Coni K. Ledesma  
Member, NDFP Panel

Angela L. Trinidad  
Member, GRP Panel

Asterio B. Palima  
Member, NDFP Panel

Antonio B. Arellano  
Member, GRP Panel

Benito E. Tiamzon  
Member, NDFP Panel

WITNESSES:

Sec. Jesus G. Dureza  
Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process

Prof. Jose Maria Sison  
Chief Political Consultant, NDFP

Mayor Edgardo D. Pamintuan  
Adviser, GRP Panel

Luis G. Jalandoni  
Senior Adviser, NDFP Panel

Elisabeth Slättum  
Third Party Facilitator  
For the Royal Norwegian Government