AGREEMENT FOR GENERAL CESSION OF HOSTILITIES

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

WHEREAS, peace talks are now being undertaken between representatives of the Government of the Philippines (GRP) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front ( MILF);

WHEREAS, while an informal ceasefire has been observed between the GRP and the MILF, with the end in view of finding a just and lasting solution to the centuries old problem of the Bonggasisanos and native inhabitants of Mindanao, it becomes necessary that peace and order be assured;

WHEREAS, in view of the foregoing, it becomes imperative for the GRP and the MILF to enter into an agreement for general cessation of hostilities and to agree to continue the formal peace talks;

NOW, THEREFORE, the GRP and the MILF, through their undersigned authorised representatives, agree, as they hereby agreed on the following:

1. To commit the armed forces of the GRP and the MILF to a General Cessation of Hostilities;
2. To direct their respective Sub-Committee on Cessation of Hostilities to meet on 30 July 1997, and on such dates thereafter, but not to exceed two (2) months, to draw and finalize the guidelines and ground rules for the implementation of this Agreement and
3. To resume and proceed with the formal peace talks in a venue to be mutually agreed upon between the GRP and the MILF Panels.

This Agreement shall take effect on the 21st day of July 1997.

SO AGREED.

DONE in the City of Cagayan de Oro, Philippines, this 18th day of July 1997.

For the GRP:

[Signature]
Chairman, GRP Panel

[Signature]
Vice-Chair for Political Affairs
Central Committee, MILF
Chairman, MILF Panel

For the MILF:

[Signature]
Chairman, Sub-Committee on Cessation of Hostilities

[Signature]
Member, Central Committee

[Signature]
Deputy Chief of Staff, BIAF

[Signature]
Chairman, Technical Committee

[Signature]
Member, Central Committee

[Signature]
Director, Office of the President

[Signature]
Executive Director, NPUVC

[Signature]
Chairman, Secretariat

[Signature]
MILF Legal Counselor

WITNESSES:

For the GRP:

For the MILF:

[Signature]
[Signature]

[Signature]
[Signature]

[Signature]
[Signature]

[Signature]
[Signature]
IN THE NAME OF GOD
THE BENEFICENT, THE MERCIFUL

AGREEMENT FOR GENERAL CESSION OF HOSTILITIES

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

WHEREAS, peace talks are now being undertaken between representative of the Government of the Philippines (GRP) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF);

WHEREAS, while an informal ceasefire has been observed between the GRP and the MILF, with the end in view of finding a just and lasting solution to the centuries old problem of the Bongassamoro and native inhabitants of Mindanao, it becomes necessary that peace and order be assured;

WHEREAS, in view of the foregoing, it becomes imperative for the GRP and the MILF to enter into an agreement for general cession of hostilities and to agree to continue the formal peace talks;

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1. To commit the armed forces of the GRP and the MILF to a General Cession of Hostilities;

2. To direct their respective Sub-Committee on Cession of Hostilities to meet on 30 July 1997, and on such dates thereafter, but not to exceed two (2) months, to draw and finalize the guidelines and ground rules for the implementation of this Agreement and

3. To resume and proceed with the formal peace talks in a venue to be mutually agreed upon between the GRP and the MILF Panels.

This Agreement shall take effect on the 21st day of July 1997.

SO AGREED.

DONE in the City of Cagayan de Oro, Philippines, this 18th day of July 1997.

For the GRP:

DSP. FORTUNATO D. ABAT
Chairman, GRP Panel

For the MILF:

ABDURRAPH AN NAJAF
Vice-Chair for Political Affairs
Central Committee, MILF
Chairman, MILF Panel

For the GRP:

ATTY. GRACE B. TAN
Directo, Office of the President

For the MILF:

ABDURRAPH AN NAJAF
Chairman, Secretariat
MILF, Technical Committee

ATTY. ALBERTO A. BERNARDO
Executive Director, NPUCD

ATTY. OMAR B. UMAR
MILF Legal Counselor

ATT. KAREM B. DE VILLA
Dept. of National Defense