

Country/entity	Philippines Mindanao
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Joint Statement (April 21 2010)
Date	21 Apr 2010
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	Pre-negotiation/process
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Philippines - Mindanao process
Parties	Amb. Rafael E. Seguis, GRP Panel Chairman; Mohagher Iqbal, MILF Panel Chairman
Third parties	Witness and Facilitator: Datuk Othman Bin Abdul Razak, Third Party Facilitator
Description	Agreement by the Parties informing on the 18th Round of Exploratory Talks, in which the Parties acknowledged the 600,000 displaced persons and the 500,000 displaced who have returned. The Parties discussed measures to assist in the safe return of the remaining 100,000 displaced, as well as strengthening capacity-building mechanisms for socio-economic reconstruction in Bangsamoro.

Agreement document [PH_100421_Joint Statement.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	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.

Refugees/displaced persons Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Substantive
Page 1, Since the resumption of Formal Talks on 8-9 December 2009, the representatives of the GRP and the MILF Peace Panels have successfully resumed the peace process after the devastating fighting that displaced 600,000 persons in Mindanao. They have steadily strengthened the peace process through effectively suspending hostilities, helping return over 500,000 IDPs out of which approximately 100,00 are still in evacuation centers, introducing additional international and local bodies to bolster the Talks and improve security on the ground and most critically initiated talks on a final Comprehensive Compact and the steps towards achieving it.

Page 1, In Kuala Lumpur, the two parties met to review drafts on arrangements transitioning towards a Comprehensive Compact as well as to discuss the return of remaining IDPs, terms of reference for the Civilian Protection Component, Implementing Guidelines on the clearing of landmines and unexploded ordnance, support for the Bangsamoro Leadership and Management Institute (BLMI) and administrative support for the Coordinating Committees on the Cessation of Hostilities (CCCH) and Ad Hoc Joint Action Group (AHJAG).

Page 1, Both Parties agreed to work together for the swift return of the remaining internally displaced persons (IDPs) in conflict-affected areas in Mindanao. To this end, the Parties tasked the CCCH to help ensure the safety and security of returning evacuees by accompanying them to their respective areas of origin, in close coordination with local government units concerned, the International Monitoring Team (IMT) and other concerned agencies. The Parties also called on other civil society groups and NGOs to assist.

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) 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.

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 Parties agreed to work together for the swift return of the remaining internally displaced persons (IDPs) in conflict-affected areas in Mindanao. To this end, the Parties tasked the CCCH to help ensure the safety and security of returning evacuees by accompanying them to their respective areas of origin, in close coordination with local government units concerned, the International Monitoring Team (IMT) and other concerned agencies. The Parties also called on other civil society groups and NGOs to assist.

Page 1, The Parties discussed the implementing guidelines of the project on the clearing of landmines and unexploded ordnance in conflict-affected to be undertaken jointly by the GRP and MILF CCCH, the Philippine Campaign to Ban Landmines (PCBL) and Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD).

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

Public administration No specific mention.

Constitution No specific mention.

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.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general No specific mention.

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.

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 Rights related issues→Protection measures→Protection of civilians
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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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Page 1, The Parties agreed to mobilize technical and administrative resources including a facility for the Bangsamoro Leadership and Management Institute (BLMI) to fulfill its role as a capacity building center for emerging Bangsamoro leaders and professionals.

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** No specific mention.

Security sector

**Security
Guarantees** Page 1, Since the resumption of Formal Talks on 8-9 December 2009, the representatives of the GRP and the MILF Peace Panels have successfully resumed the peace process after the devastating fighting that displaced 600,000 persons in Mindanao. They have steadily strengthened the peace process through effectively suspending hostilities, helping return over 500,000 IDPs out of which approximately 100,00 are still in evacuation centers, introducing additional international and local bodies to bolster the Talks and improve security on the ground and most critically initiated talks on a final Comprehensive Compact and the steps towards achieving it.

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Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→General commitments

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Page 1, The Parties reached a consensus to enhance operational support arrangements for the CCCH and the AHJAG.

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces	No specific mention.
DDR	<p>Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions</p> <p>Page 1, In Kuala Lumpur, the two parties met to review drafts on arrangements transitioning towards a Comprehensive Compact as well as to discuss the return of remaining IDPs, terms of reference for the Civilian Protection Component, Implementing Guidelines on the clearing of landmines and unexploded ordnance, support for the Bangsamoro Leadership and Management Institute (BLMI) and administrative support for the Coordinating Committees on the Cessation of Hostilities (CCCH) and Ad Hoc Joint Action Group (AHJAG).</p> <p>Page 1, Both Parties agreed to work together for the swift return of the remaining internally displaced persons (IDPs) in conflict-affected areas in Mindanao. To this end, the Parties tasked the CCCH to help ensure the safety and security of returning evacuees by accompanying them to their respective areas of origin, in close coordination with local government units concerned, the International Monitoring Team (IMT) and other concerned agencies. The Parties also called on other civil society groups and NGOs to assist.</p> <p>Page 1, The Parties discussed the implementing guidelines of the project on the clearing of landmines and unexploded ordnance in conflict-affected to be undertaken jointly by the GRP and MILF CCCH, the Philippine Campaign to Ban Landmines (PCBL) and Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD).</p>
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 No specific mention.

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 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. 295-296.

