

<b>Country/entity</b>	Philippines Mindanao
<b>Region</b>	Asia and Pacific
<b>Agreement name</b>	Revised Implementing Guidelines on the Joint Communique of 6 May 2002
<b>Date</b>	14 Dec 2017
<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>	Renewal
<b>Conflict nature</b>	Government/territory
<b>Peace process</b>	Philippines - Mindanao process
<b>Parties</b>	FOR THE GPH: USEC. NABIL A. TAN Chair, GPH Peace Implementing Panel  FOR THE MILF: MOHAGHER IQBAL Chair, MILF Peace Implementing Panel
<b>Third parties</b>	SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF DATO' KAMARUDIN BIN MUSTAFA Malaysian Facilitator and/or Special Adviser
<b>Description</b>	Largely deals with cooperation between the parties in how to approach organised crime.

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**Agreement document** [PH\\_171214\\_Revised Implementing Guidelines of Joint Communique May 6 2002.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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#### 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** 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.

<b>Electoral commission</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Political parties reform</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Civil society</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Traditional/religious leaders</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Public administration</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Constitution</b>	No specific mention.

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#### **Power sharing**

<b>Political power sharing</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Territorial power sharing</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Economic power sharing</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Military power sharing</b>	No specific mention.

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#### **Human rights and equality**

<b>Human rights/RoL general</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Bill of rights/similar</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Treaty incorporation</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Civil and political rights</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Socio-economic rights</b>	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** Rights related issues→Protection measures→Protection of civilians  
Page 4, VII. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTING UNIT

1. In the process of implementing its functions, the implementing units of the GPH-MILF, shall ensure the safety of the life of the civilians and the protection of their properties.

**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** No specific mention.

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**Socio-economic reconstruction**

**Development or socio-economic reconstruction** No specific mention.

**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.

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**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.

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**Security sector**

**Security Guarantees** No specific mention.

**Ceasefire** No specific mention.

**Police** No specific mention.

<b>Armed forces</b>	No specific mention.
<b>DDR</b>	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.

This set of guidelines is adopted to implement the provision of the Joint Communique dated 06 May 2002 between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front related to the isolation and interdiction of all criminal syndicates, drug syndicates, kidnap for ransom groups and other criminal groups including the so called "Lost Commands" operating in Mindanao

III. SCOPE

These Implementing Guidelines apply only to operations against criminal syndicates, drug syndicates, kidnap-for-ransom groups, lost commands and other criminal elements within MILF areas/ communities.

Page 1, IV. DEFINITION OF TERMS

A. Lost Commands - groups which are not under the command and control of the BIAF and the AFP/PNP as verified by the Ad Hoc Joint Action Group (AHJAG).

B. Criminal Syndicates/Kidnap-for-Ransom Groups refer to a group or aggregation of persons who engage in criminal activities as verified by AHJAG.

C. Criminal Elements - within the purview of AHJAG, refers to a leader/elements of a criminal syndicate or kidnap for ransom group as distinguished from common criminals.

D. Isolation - refers to the act of dissociating/segregating criminal elements from the general public as a mode to monitor and counter their criminal activities.

E. Interdiction - refers to the act of apprehending criminal elements as defined in paragraphs A and B and turning them over to the AHJAG.

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G. Wanted List - refers to the list of wanted persons prepared by the AFP/PNP as verified by the AHJAG.

Page 3, VI. MECHANICS OF IMPLEMENTATION

1. The AFP/PNP shall convey to the MILF through the AHJAG the Wanted List as defined in Paragraph IV, E containing the names and identities of the criminal elements as provided in the Paragraph 3 of the Joint Communique of 6 May 2002.

2. The MILF through the AHJAG shall validate and subsequently act on the information as contained in the Wanted List.

3. The MILF further shall provide information, as available, on other suspected criminal elements in their areas/communities that come to their attention.

4. The AHJAG shall coordinate with AFP/PNP and MILF/BIAF to effect the apprehension and arrest of the suspected criminal elements.

5. To avoid unnecessary armed confrontations, the displacement of communities and damage to properties, the Joint Coordinating Center (JCC) composed of the GRP, MILF and the IMT shall convene prior to law enforcement operations

**Drugs** No specific mention.

**Terrorism** Page 1, DEFINITION OF TERMS

l. High Value Target - refers to individuals which includes, but not limited to, foreign and local terrorists, to be mutually identified by the Parties.

Page 3, MECHANICS OF OPERATION

6. The AHJAG shall inform the GPH and the MILF CCCH at least 24 hours prior to the conduct of AFP/PNP operations in order to allow sufficient time for evacuation of civilians and to avoid armed confrontation between the GPH and MILF forces.

For high value targets, a list of which shall be provided by the GPH implementing Panel to the MILF implementing Panel, prior coordination of 24 hours or less shall be done.

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**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.

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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** SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF  
DATO' KAMARUDIN BIN USTAF  
Malaysian Facilitator and/or Adviser

**Enforcement mechanism** No specific mention.

**Related cases** No specific mention.

**Source** <https://peace.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/2017-12-14-Revised-Implementing-Guidelines-of-Joint-Communique-May-6-2002.pdf>

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