

Country/entity	Philippines Mindanao
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Second Joint Acknowledgment of MILF Camps
Date	6 Oct 1999
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	USec. Orlando V. Soriano, GRP Negotiating Panel Chairman; Ghazali Jaafar, MILF Political Affairs Vice Chairman
Third parties	Witnesses: BGen. Jose P. Torrelavega, GRP CCCH Chairman; Atty. Zosimo Jesus M. Paredes III, GRP Negotiating Panel Legal Consultant; Mohagher Iqbal, MILF Negotiating Panel Member; Shiekh Abuhailil Yahya, MILF Majlis As-Shura Chairman
Description	Agreement by the Parties to effectively implement the cessation of hostilities by acknowledging the size and location of MILF camps/positions and that said camps/positions will be limited to those areas throughout the Peace Talks. Additionally, police and military actions and administrative activities will continue, but will avoid confrontational situations with MILF forces through prior coordination with the latter.

Agreement document [PH_991006_Second Joint Acknowledgement.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	No specific mention.
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 No specific mention.

**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	No specific mention.
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 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.

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

No specific mention.

Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision

To effectively implement the General Cessation of Hostilities and thus avoid armed encounters or confrontations between the GRP and MILF Forces, respectively, we, the undersigned, have agreed to acknowledge the following camps/positions of MILF: [...]

This acknowledgement shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

A. That the sizes of the above-mentioned camps/positions shall be limited to those areas where the MILF forces are actually situated;

B. That the effectivity of this acknowledgement shall be for the duration of the GRP-MILF Peace Talks.

C. That all concerned government agencies shall be consulted in the verification process of said areas;

D. Police and military actions and administrative activities shall continue to be undertaken by the GRP throughout Mindanao and the entire country. In pursuit thereof, confrontational situation between the GRP and MILF Forces shall be avoided by prior coordination with the latter.

Police

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Armed forces

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DDR

No specific mention.

Intelligence services

No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces

To effectively implement the General Cessation of Hostilities and thus avoid armed encounters or confrontations between the GRP and MILF Forces, respectively, we, the undersigned, have agreed to acknowledge the following camps/positions of MILF:

1. Camp Bilal in Lanao Norte and Lanao Sur;
2. Camp Rajamuda in North cotabato and Maguindanao;
3. Camp Darapanan/Usama Bin Zaid in Maguindanao; and
4. Camp Badre in Maguindanao

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- A. That the sizes of the above-mentioned camps/positions shall be limited to those areas where the MILF forces are actually situated;
- B. That the effectivity of this acknowledgement shall be for the duration of the GRP-MILF Peace Talks.
- C. That all concerned government agencies shall be consulted in the verification process of said areas;
- D. Police and military actions and administrative activities shall continue to be undertaken by the GRP throughout Mindanao and the entire country. In pursuit thereof, confrontational situation between the GRP and MILF Forces shall be avoided by prior coordination with the latter.

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), p. 70.
