

Country/entity	Philippines Mindanao
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Joint Statement - 10th GRP-MILF Exploratory Talks
Date	7 Feb 2006
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	Silvestre C. Afable Jr., GRP Panel Chair; Mohagher Iqbal, MILF Panel Chair
Third parties	-
Description	Agreement by the Panels, informing on the 10th round of GRP-MILF Exploratory Talks, in which the Parties successfully concluded consensus points on the ancestral domain issue, including determination of the scope of the Bangsamoro homeland, measures to address the Bangsamoro people's grievances, the Bangsamoro people's right to utilize and develop their ancestral domain, and economic cooperation arrangements. The Parties agreed to setup an overall framework for forthcoming formal talks on crucial issues and a timeline for the signing of a comprehensive agreement. Concluding, the Parties agreed on the need for capacity-building programs and the participation of civil society, as well as recognizing the Malaysian Government for the facilitation of the peace process.

Agreement document [PH_060207_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 Groups→Indigenous people→Substantive
Page 1,
...Among the consensus points reached were:
-Measures to address the legitimate grievances of the Bangsamoro people arising from their unjust dispossession and/or marginalization;
-Bangsamoro's people's right to utilize and develop their ancestral domain and ancestral lands;
-Economic cooperation arrangements for the benefit of the entire Bangsamoro people...

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 Among the consensus points reached were:
-Joint determination of the scope of the Bangsamoro homeland based on the technical maps and data submitted by both sides;

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 The panels agreed to conduct joint advocacy drives on the ancestral domain issue to broaden public understanding and support for the GRP-MILF peace process. To achieve this objective, a joint committee was formed to draw up the guidelines, plan the advocacy campaign, and seek the participation of non-government organizations, people's organizations and civil society groups in advocacy activities.

Both parties reaffirmed the need to intensify capacity-building programs with the assistance and support of international community and donor institutions, and they agreed in principle to the establish of a Bangsamoro Leadership and Management Institute in Cotabato City as a capacity building center for emerging leaders and professionals.

**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 Power sharing→Territorial power sharing→Autonomous regions
Page 1, Among the consensus points reached were:
-Joint determination of the scope of the Bangsamoro homeland based on the technical maps and date submitted by both sides;
Power sharing→Territorial power sharing→Other
Page 1, The 10th round of GRP-MILF Exploratory Talks ended today in Port Dickson, Malaysia with both Parties successfully wrapping up the consensus points of the ancestral domain issue, and placing the peace process on track for concluding the Ancestral Domain Aspect of the GRP-MILF Tripoli Agreement on Peace of June 22, 2001. The Ancestral Domain Agreement may be signed by late March 2006. Simultaneously with the inception of the formal talks.
Among the consensus points reached were:
-Joint determination of the scope of the Bangsamoro homeland based on the technical maps and date submitted by both sides;

Economic power sharing Power sharing→Economic power sharing→Sharing of resources
Among the consensus points reached were:
-Bangsamoro's people's right to utilize and develop their ancestral domain and ancestral lands;
-Economic cooperation arrangements for the benefit of the entire Bangsamoro people.

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 Human rights and equality→Socio-economic rights→Property
Among the consensus points reached were:
-Measures to address the legitimate grievances of the Bangsamoro people arising from their unjust dispossession and/or marginalization;
-Bangsamoro's people's right to utilize and develop their ancestral domain and ancestral lands;
Human rights and equality→Socio-economic rights→Cultural life
Among the consensus points reached were:
-Measures to address the legitimate grievances of the Bangsamoro people arising from their unjust dispossession and/or marginalization;
-Bangsamoro's people's right to utilize and develop their ancestral domain and ancestral lands;

Rights related issues

Citizenship	No specific mention.
Democracy	No specific mention.
Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles The panels agreed to conduct joint advocacy drives on the ancestral domain issue to broaden public understanding and support for the GRP-MILF peace process. To achieve this objective, a joint committee was formed to draw up the guidelines, plan the advocacy campaign, and seek the participation of non-government organizations, people's organizations and civil society groups in advocacy activities.
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 Page 1, Among the consensus points reached were:
... -Bangsamoro's people's right to utilize and develop their ancestral domain and ancestral lands;

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development
Both parties reaffirmed the need to intensify capacity-building programs with the assistance and support of international community and donor institutions, and they agreed in principle to the establish of a Bangsamoro Leadership and Management Institute in Cotabato City as a capacity building center for emerging leaders and professionals.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds Both parties reaffirmed the need to intensify capacity-building programs with the assistance and support of international community and donor institutions, and they agreed in principle to the establish of a Bangsamoro Leadership and Management Institute in Cotabato City as a capacity building center for emerging leaders and professionals.

Business No specific mention.

Taxation No specific mention.

Banks No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights Land, property and environment→Land reform/rights→Other land rights
Page 1, Among the consensus points reached were:
... -Bangsamoro's people's right to utilize and develop their ancestral domain and ancestral lands;

**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	No specific mention.
Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	No specific mention.
DDR	No specific mention.
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	Among the consensus points reached were: -Measures to address the legitimate grievances of the Bangsamoro people arising from their unjust dispossession and/or marginalization;
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. 172-173.
