

**Country/entity** Philippines

**Region** Asia and Pacific

**Agreement name** Joint Statement on the Second Round of Talks between the GRP and the NDFP

**Date** 9 Oct 2016

**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

**Peace process** Philippines-NDF process

**Parties**

Sec. Silvestre H. Bello III

Chairperson of the GRP Panel

Hernani A. Braganza

Member, GRP Panel

Rene V. Sarmiento

Member, GRP Panel

Angela L. Trinidad

Member, GRP Panel

Antonio B. Arellano

Member, GRP Panel

Fidel V. Agcaoili

Chairperson of the NDFP Panel

Julieta S. de Lima

Member, NDFP Panel

Coni K. Ledesma

Member, NDFP Panel

Asterio B. Palima

Member, NDFP Panel

**Third parties**

Page 4:  
Expression of Gratitude to RNG

Both Panels reiterated their appreciation and gratitude to the Royal Norwegian Government for its steadfast support to the GRP-NDFP peace negotiations and acknowledged the facilitation of Special Envoy to the Philippine Peace Process Elisabeth Slattum and her team.

Elisabeth Slattum

Third Party Facilitator

For the Royal Norwegian Government

**Description**

-

---

**Agreement document**

[PH\\_161009\\_Joint Statement on the Second Round of Talks Between the GRP and the NDFP.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

---

**Women, girls and gender**

**Participation** No specific mention.

**Equality** No specific mention.

**Particular groups of women** No specific mention.

**International law** No specific mention.

**New institutions** No specific mention.

**Violence against women** No specific mention.

**Transitional justice** No specific mention.

**Institutional reform** No specific mention.

**Development**

Development→Education

Page 7, Annex A GRP AND NDFP RWCs-SER COMMON DRAFT CASER FRAMEWORK AND OUTLINE:

Part III. DESIRED OUTCOMES

4. Social, economic and cultural rights (footnote: The rights to self-determination, work, just and favorable work conditions, unionize, social security, of families to protection and assistance, adequate standard of living, food, housing, health, and education are to be included in appropriate parts.) of the working people upheld and discrimination eliminated (footnote: Covering women, children and youth, the urban and rural poor, migrant workers, ethnic and national minorities, the elderly, persons with disability, and other exploited, disadvantaged and discriminated sectors.);

PART IX. GENDER EQUALITY AND REPRESENTATION

Development→Health (general)

Page 7, Annex A GRP AND NDFP RWCs-SER COMMON DRAFT CASER FRAMEWORK AND OUTLINE:

Part III. DESIRED OUTCOMES

4. Social, economic and cultural rights (footnote: The rights to self-determination, work, just and favorable work conditions, unionize, social security, of families to protection and assistance, adequate standard of living, food, housing, health, and education are to be included in appropriate parts.) of the working people upheld and discrimination eliminated (footnote: Covering women, children and youth, the urban and rural poor, migrant workers, ethnic and national minorities, the elderly, persons with disability, and other exploited, disadvantaged and discriminated sectors.);

PART IX. GENDER EQUALITY AND REPRESENTATION

**Implementation**

No specific mention.

**Other**

No specific mention.