JOINT STATEMENT

The Chairmen of the GRP and the MILF Peace Panels formally announce the establishment of the International Contact Group (ICG) for the GRP-MILF peace process.

The ICG is initially composed of the United Kingdom, Japan, and Turkey as member countries, and The Asia Foundation, the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, the Conciliation Resources and the <u>Muhammadiyah</u> as international nongovernmental organization (INGO) members.

The first organizational meeting of the ICG will be held on December 4, 2009 in Manila.

The formation of the ICG finally clears the way for the formal resumption of the peace talks, and the Panels agreed to resume the conduct of the peace negotiations on December 8-9, 2009 in Kuala Lumpur.

Done this 2nd day of December 2009.

FOR THE GRP:

RAFAEL E. SEGUIS
GRPLanel Chairman

FOR THE MILF:

MOHAGHER IQBAL MILF Panel Chairman