

**IN THE NAME OF GOD
THE MOST BENEFICENT, THE MOST MERCIFUL**

JOINT STATEMENT

The 8th Round of Exploratory Talks between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) through the facilitation of the Government of Malaysia held at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on June 20-21, 2005 was marked with a high level of mutual trust and confidence.

The Parties, while expressing satisfaction with the positive achievements of the Ad Hoc Joint Action Group (AHJAG), agreed to the extension of the Interim Guidelines of the AHJAG for a period of one (1) year from June 21, 2005, subject to further discussions on proposed amendments to its guidelines.

The Malaysian Secretariat joined hands with the GRP Panel in congratulating the successful holding of the MILF General Consultation at Darapanan, Sultan Kudarat, Maguindanao, a tribute to the leadership of the MILF and a reflection of its clear mandate from the Bangsamoro People to negotiate with the Philippine Government toward a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive political solution to the Bangsamoro problem.

Both Parties agreed to forge clear parameters and principles to be pursued on the strand on Governance of the Ancestral Domain aspect of the negotiations. In this context, the Parties agreed to resume talks in July 2005.

Finally, both Parties express their gratitude to the Malaysian Government for the continuing support to ensure the success of the GRP-MILF Peace Process.

Done on the 21st of June 2005 at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

For the GRP


SEC. SILVESTRE C. AFABLE, JR.
Chairman, GRP Peace Panel

For the MILF


MOHAGHER M. IQBAL
Chairman, MILF Peace Panel