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Country/ entity	Philippines Mindanao
Region	Asia and Pacific Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Protocol on the Implementation of the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Independent Decommissioning Body (IDB)
Date	29 Jan 2015
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/ conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict ( Philippine Insurgencies (1968 - ) )
Stage	Implementation/renegotiation
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Philippines - Mindanao process
Parties	For the GPH: Professor Miriam Coronel-Ferrer, GPH Panel Chair; For the MILF: Mohagher Iqbal, MILF Panel Chair
Third parties	Signed in the presence of: H.E. Haydar Berk, IDB Chair; Tengku Dato' Ab Ghafar Tengku Mohamed, Malaysian Facilitator
Description	The agreement provides the functions, composition, and processes, which are to be completed in 4 phases, for implementing the Terms of Reference for the Independent Decommissioning Body (IDB) for the decommissioning and normalization of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.

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Agreement document [PH\\_150129\\_Protocol Implementation for ToR of IDB.pdf](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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## 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.

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## Gender

Women, girls and gender	<p>Page 2, II. Definitions: MILF Combatants. For purposes of these implementing guidelines, refers to both regular and guerrilla members of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF). To ensure that the socio-economic initiatives and the decommissioning process will be gender-sensitive and inclusive, the term shall include Women Auxiliary forces.</p> <p>Page 8, V. The Process, 2. Assembly and Processing Area (APA) 2.5. Registration and verification of MILF weapons and combatants at APA - All MILF combatants will include the following information: name, age, sex, rank, responsibilities within the unit/formation, date of entry into service and will provide the basis for a complete list of personnel. [...]</p>
Men and boys	No specific mention.
LGBTI	No specific mention.
Family	<p>Page 1, II. Definitions Socio-economic development - refers to programs and other initiatives for the MILF combatants, their families and communities in accordance with the Annex on Normalization.</p>

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## 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.

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## **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.

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### **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.

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### **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.

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### **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  
Page 9, VII. Communication Plan - The IDB shall formulate a communication plan on the decommissioning process.

Mobility/  
access Page 5, V. The Process, Phase 3  
b. Joint Normalization Committee - Joint Peace and Security Committee (JNC - JPSC) shall facilitate the movements of such MILF forces to the assembly areas.

Page 6, V. The Process, Phase 4  
b. Joint Normalization Committee - Joint Peace and Security committee (JNC-JPSC) shall facilitate the movements of such MILF forces to the APAs.

Page 6, V. The Process, 1. Movement and Concentration of Forces  
For this purpose, comprehensive plans, timelines and routes for the movement and concentration of forces shall be provided by MILF to the IDB. The GPH shall give information to the IDB on the comprehensive plans and timeline for the redeployment of the AFP. The movement of all MILF combatants and weapons to the APAs shall be carried out in consultation with the IDB and in coordination with the ceasefire mechanisms. The Parties shall undertake measures to promote and guarantee free movement and create an environment free of fear and intimidation.

Page 6, V. The Process, 2. Assembly and Processing Area (APA)  
2.1. In accordance with the commitment referred to in the Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro (FAB) and relevant documents (see References), MILF combatants and their weapons shall, in a sequence agreed upon between the MILF and the IDB, be confined within designated APA sites for registration, verification and decommissioning of forces and weapons. The APA shall be based on comprehensive planning and preparation before implementation. The GPH shall provide services to the combatants in the APA. To ensure implementation there shall be good communication and available supplies and logistics. The IDB shall have access to any and all APA sites for the purposes of verification and monitoring. To ensure the safety of both monitors and MILF forces, no improvised explosive devices or crude bombs shall be brought inside the APA sites.

Protection  
measures No specific mention.

Other No specific mention.

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## Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions

No specific mention.

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## **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.

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**Socio-economic reconstruction**

Development or socio-economic reconstruction    Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development  
Page 1, II. Definitions  
Socio-economic development - refers to programs and other initiatives for the MILF combatants, their families and communities in accordance with the Annex on Normalization.

Page 1, II. Definitions

Decommissioning is the process of putting the weapons of the MILF beyond use and the process of allowing a smooth transition for the MILF combatants to productive civilian life which shall be parallel and commensurate with the redeployment of AFP and dismantling of Private Armed Groups (PAGs) and other aspects of the peace agreements.

Page 3, IV. The IDB

[...] The IDB will:

6. Coordinate with the Joint Normalization Committee (JNC) on the other aspects of normalization.

Page 4, V. The Process, Phase 1

c. The Institute of Bangsmaoro Studies (IBS) shall undertake the needs assessment survey for the members of the BIAF as basis for financial assistance and sustainable socio-economic programs for the decommissioned BIAF members and their communities.

Page 5, V. The Process, Phase 1

d. Consolidation of previous needs and skills assessment of MILF forces and communities.

Page 5, V. The Process, Phase 2

d. The IBS shall conduct additional needs and skills assessment for the MILF forces and their communities.

e. The JNC shall conduct on-site verification of the implementation and delivery of the socio-economic programs extended by the GPH and other donors for the decommissioned MILF forces and their communities.

f. The IDB shall program the next 35% of the verified, validated and registered MILF forces and weapons for Phase 3 after the assessment and evaluation of the implementation of the normalization processes.

Page 6, V. The Process, Phase 3,

d. The JNC shall conduct on-site verification of the implementation and delivery of the sustainable socio-economic programs extended by the GPH and other donors for the decommissioned MILF forces and their communities.

Page 6, V. The Process, Phase 4

c. The remaining stage of decommissioning shall take place after the evaluation of the panels with the participation of the Third Party Monitoring Team (TPMT) and Facilitator that all the commitments of the parties have been completed.

e. The JNC shall conduct on-site verification of the implementation and delivery of the socio-economic programs extended by the GPH and other donors for the decommissioned BIAF members and their communities.

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.

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## **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.

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## Security sector

Security Guarantees	<p>Page 9, Page 8, V. The Process, 2. Assembly and Processing Area (APA) 2.6. [...] the IDB shall periodically review the security requirements of the temporary storage area on the basis of a shared security threat or when appropriate the transfer to a more permanent storage area. The IDB shall monitor these commitments with a full-time presence at the secured arms storage area.</p>
Ceasefire	<p>Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision Page 1, II. Definitions Redeployment is the repositioning of units and troops of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), including weapons, ammunitions, equipment and installations in accordance with the Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro, the Annex on Normalization and its Attachment (Program for normalization in the Bangsamoro).</p> <p>Page 1, II. Definitions Decommissioning is the process of putting the weapons of the MILF beyond use and the process of allowing a smooth transition for the MILF combatants to productive civilian life which shall be parallel and commensurate with the redeployment of AFP and dismantling of Private Armed Groups (PAGs) and other aspects of the peace agreements.</p> <p>Page 6, V. The Process, 1. Movement and Concentration of Forces [...] The movement of all MILF combatants and weapons to the APAs shall be carried out in consultation with the IDB and in coordination with the ceasefire mechanisms. The Parties shall undertake measures to promote and guarantee free movement and create an environment free of fear and intimidation.</p>
Police	<p>No specific mention.</p>
Armed forces	<p>Page 6, V. The Process, 1. Movement and Concentration of Forces For this purpose, comprehensive plans, timelines and routes for the movement and concentration of forces shall be provided by MILF to the IDB. The GPH shall give information to the IDB on the comprehensive plans and timeline for the redeployment of the AFP. The movement of all MILF combatants and weapons to the APAs shall be carried out in consultation with the IDB and in coordination with the ceasefire mechanisms. The Parties shall undertake measures to promote and guarantee free movement and create an environment free of fear and intimidation.</p>

DDR

Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes

Page 1, II. Definitions

Assembly and Processing Area (APA) - a designated and a clearly defined geographical area identified by the IDB for purposes of assembly, inventory, registration, verification, and validation of MILF combatants and weapons scheduled for decommissioning.

Page 1, II. Definitions

Socio-economic development - refers to programs and other initiatives for the MILF combatants, their families and communities in accordance with the Annex on Normalization.

Page 1, II. Definitions

Secured Arms Storage Areas - are sites used for storage of weapons, munitions and explosives, or storage containers established in special perimeters, controlled and guarded by the responsible unit as agreed upon by both Parties and monitored by the IDB.

Page 1, II. Definitions

Decommissioning is the process of putting the weapons of the MILF beyond use and the process of allowing a smooth transition for the MILF combatants to productive civilian life which shall be parallel and commensurate with the redeployment of AFP and dismantling of Private Armed Groups (PAGs) and other aspects of the peace agreements.

Page 2, II. Definitions

The Independent Decommissioning Body (IDB) is the body tasked to oversee the decommissioning of the MILF weapons and forces, chaired by the expert from the Republic of Turkey with members made up of one expert each from the Kingdom of Norway and Burnei Darussalam, and four (4) local experts jointly nominated by the Parties. The IDB shall conduct verification, registration, validation and inventory of weapons and forces of the MILF.

Page 2, IV. The IDB

The Independent Decommissioning Body (IDB), tasked to oversee the process of decommissioning of the MILF forces and weapons, is composed of three (3) foreign experts from states that have been mutually agreed upon by the Panels and four (4) local experts that were nominated by the parties. [...]

Page 3, IV. The IDB

[...] The IDB will:

1. Conduct inventory, verification and validation of Bangsmaoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF) members, arms and weapons.
2. Develop and implement schedule of decommissioning of BIAF members.
3. Plan, design, and implement techniques and technologies for weapons collection or retrieval, transport and storage and putting weapons beyond use in accordance with the agreements of the Parties.
4. Ensure that all necessary steps and processes for decommissioning are complied with by the Parties;
5. Report on the progress of its work and submit its terminal report to the GPH and MILF Panels; and
6. Coordinate with the Joint Normalization Committee (JNC) on the other aspects of normalization

Intelligence services No specific mention.

Parastatal/  
rebel and  
opposition  
group  
forces

Page 1, II. Definitions

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Page 3, IV. The IDB

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1. Conduct inventory, verification and validation of Bangsmaoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF) members, arms and weapons.
2. Develop and implement schedule of decommissioning of BIAF members.

Page 4, V. The Process, Phase 1

- a. The MILF shall conduct internal validation and registration of its weapons and combatans.
- b. the MILF shall submit initial lists of validated and registered weapons and combatants to the IDB.
- c. The Institute of Bangsmaoro Studies (IBS) shall undertake the needs assessment survey for the members of the BIAF as basis for financial assistance and sustainable socio-economic programs for the decommissioned BIAF members and their communities.

Page 5, V. The Process, Phase 1 of 17

- d. Consolidation of previous needs and skills assessment of MILF forces and

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.

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## **Transitional justice**

Transitional justice general No specific mention.

Amnesty/pardon Transitional justice→Amnesty/pardon→Amnesty/pardon proper  
Page 1, II. Definitions  
Amnesty and Pardon - are legal forms of confidence building measures which shall be immediately undertaken as agreed upon in the Annex on Normalization by the Government of the Philippines (GPH) towards the speedy resolution of cases of persons charged with or convicted of crimes or offenses connected to the armed conflict in Mindanao.

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.

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## Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory Signed in the presence of: H.E. Haydar Berk, IDB Chair; Tengku Dato' Ab Ghafar Tengku Mohamed, Malaysian Facilitator

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism Page 6, V. The Process, Phase 4  
c. The remaining stage of decommissioning shall take place after the evaluation of the panels with the participation of the Third Party Monitoring Team (TPMT) and Facilitator that all the commitments of the parties have been completed.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source <http://opapp.gov.ph/milf/signed-agreements>

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