

**Peace Agreement Access Tool PA-X** <https://pax.peaceagreements.org/>

<b>Country/ entity</b>	Philippines Mindanao
<b>Region</b>	Asia and Pacific Asia and Pacific
<b>Agreement name</b>	Joint Statement - 5th GRP-MILF Exploratory Talks (March 28 2003)
<b>Date</b>	28 Mar 2003
<b>Agreement status</b>	Multiparty signed/agreed
<b>Interim arrangement</b>	Yes
<b>Agreement/ conflict level</b>	Intrastate/intrastate conflict ( Philippine Insurgencies (1968 - ) )
<b>Stage</b>	Pre-negotiation/process
<b>Conflict nature</b>	Government/territory
<b>Peace process</b>	Philippines - Mindanao process
<b>Parties</b>	PA. Jesus G. Dureza, GRP Representative; Atty. Lanang S. Ali, MILF Representative
<b>Third parties</b>	Unsigned Members of Delegation: Sec. Norberto D. Gonzales, GRP; Sec. Corazon Juliano-Soliman, GRP; USec. Antonio C. Santos, GRP; Edir. Diosita T. Andot, GRP; Atty. Michael O. Mastura, MILF; Atty. Musib M. Buat, MILF; Mohajirin T. Ali, MILF
<b>Description</b>	Parties reaffirm commitment to peace process, providing for improved implementation mechanism, and commitment to agreeing new arrangement for refugee return.

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**Agreement  
document** [PH\\_030328\\_Joint Statement.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	Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Substantive Page 1, 4. To normalize the situation and facilitate the early return of evacuees to their places of origin and allow rehabilitation to proceed, a new arrangement on the ground will be forged by both parties;
Social class	No specific mention.

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## Gender

Women, girls and gender	No specific mention.
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Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

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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      No specific mention.

Mobility/access      No specific mention.

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, 4. To normalize the situation and facilitate the early return of evacuees to their places of origin and allow rehabilitation to proceed, a new arrangement on the ground will be forged by both parties;

Page 1, 5. The Philippine Government takes note of the activation of the Bangsamoro Development Agency;

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 Page 1, 3. Both parties agree to exercise mutual restraint to minimize, if not put an end to, violence in Mindanao;

Page 1, 8. The parties reaffirm the provision on the grant of Safety and Security Guarantees to MILF leaders and members who are directly and principally involved in the GRP-MILF peace talks.

Ceasefire Security sector→Ceasefire→General commitments

Page 1, 3. Both parties agree to exercise mutual restraint to minimize, if not put an end to, violence in Mindanao;

Page 1, 6. Both parties agree to direct their respective Technical Committees to work on the Implementing Guidelines of the Joint Communiqué signed on May 6, 2002 to ensure that the peace process is not adversely affected by the presence of criminal groups in Mindanao. The Technical Committees will meet within two (2) weeks from today;

Page 1, 7. The Parties agree to improve the existing mechanism for monitoring of the cessation of hostilities including the composition of an observer/monitoring group as provided for in the Implementing Guidelines on the Security Aspect of the Tripoli Agreement on Peace of 2001;

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	Page 1, 6. Both parties agree to direct their respective Technical Committees to work on the Implementing Guidelines of the Joint Communiqué signed on May 6, 2002 to ensure that the peace process is not adversely affected by the presence of criminal groups in Mindanao. The Technical Committees will meet within two (2) weeks from today;
Drugs	No specific mention.
Terrorism	No specific mention.

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## **Transitional justice**

Transitional justice general	No specific mention.
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.

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## **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 Accord, GRP-MILF Peace Process: Compilation of Signed Agreements & other related Documents (1997-2010); (MILF Peace Panel/Asia Foundation, 2010), pp. 129-130.

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