

<b>Country/entity</b>	Philippines Mindanao
<b>Region</b>	Asia and Pacific
<b>Agreement name</b>	Joint Communique between United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF)
<b>Date</b>	12 Mar 2007
<b>Agreement status</b>	Multiparty signed/agreed
<b>Interim arrangement</b>	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

<b>Stage</b>	Implementation/renegotiation
<b>Conflict nature</b>	Government/territory
<b>Peace process</b>	Philippines - Mindanao process
<b>Parties</b>	<p>For UNICEF</p> <p>Dr. Nicholas K. Alipui</p> <p>Representative, UNICEF Philippines</p> <p>For MILF</p> <p>Chairman Al Haj Murad Ebrahim</p> <p>Chairman, MILF</p>
<b>Third parties</b>	IMT
<b>Description</b>	In the Joint Communique, UNICEF and MILF agree on the importance of rights of women and children and agree to deliver basic services (immunisation, birth registration, micronutrient supplementation, etc.) in an event called Days of Peace, with MILF tasked with providing security.
<b>Agreement document</b>	<a href="#">PH_070212_Joint Communique between UNICEF and MILF.pdf (opens in new tab)</a>   <a href="#">Download PDF</a>

## Groups

### Children/youth

Groups→Children/youth→Substantive

This whole agreement concerns children and services for children.

Page1 :

1. Both parties agree that the rights of children and women should be upheld at all times and that essential services must be provided without interruption;
2. Both parties recognize the need to undertake deliberate extra-ordinary efforts to reach children and women living in conflict-affected and hard-to-reach communities;
3. Both parties acknowledge that political negotiations at the highest levels should be complemented by peace-building efforts at the grassroots to ensure support and participation of communities in the peace process;
4. To help improve the situation of children and women and contribute to the enhancement of the social condition for peace, UNICEF will launch a “Days of Peace” campaign designed to deliver basic social services in conflict-affected areas in Mindanao;
5. UNICEF will use its own resources as well as mobilise support from international organizations, the Philippine government and civil society organisations to deliver these services;
6. The initial round of Days of Peace will commence on April 16 and will consist of immunization, micronutrient supplementation, de-worming and breastfeeding counselling in selected barangays; follow-up rounds will occur in June/July and October in 2007 and beyond with additional basic services that will be added on, i.e. birth registration, malaria control, control of communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, etc.; the establishment of community-based health programmes in selected areas will also be initiated during this period;
7. UNICEF will work with the Bangsamoro Development Agency (BDA) for the identification of target barangays giving priority to those that have been affected by armed conflict and internal displacements, most inaccessible and with substantial number of children and women;

Page 2:

8. The BDA who will act as the co-convenor of the Management Team of the campaign together with the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP) will help organise and prepare the target communities through their Regional Project Management Offices (RPMOs);
9. The Days of Peace campaign requires a commitment to full cessation of hostilities from all parties to facilitate maximum delivery of services for children; the MILF will be in charge of providing access and guaranteeing security for the service delivery teams;

### Disabled persons

No specific mention.

### Elderly/age

No specific mention.

### Migrant workers

No specific mention.

### Racial/ethnic/ national group

No specific mention.

<b>Religious groups</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Indigenous people</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Other groups</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Refugees/displaced persons</b>	Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Substantive Page 1: 7. UNICEF will work with the Bangsamoro Development Agency (BDA) for the identification of target barangays giving priority to those that have been affected by armed conflict and internal displacements, most inaccessible and with substantial number of children and women;
<b>Social class</b>	No specific mention.

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## Gender

<b>Women, girls and gender</b>	Page1 :  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both parties agree that the rights of children and women should be upheld at all times and that essential services must be provided without interruption;</li> <li>Both parties recognize the need to undertake deliberate extra-ordinary efforts to reach children and women living in conflict-affected and hard-to-reach communities;</li> <li>Both parties acknowledge that political negotiations at the highest levels should be complemented by peace-building efforts at the grassroots to ensure support and participation of communities in the peace process;</li> <li>To help improve the situation of children and women and contribute to the enhancement of the social condition for peace, UNICEF will launch a “Days of Peace” campaign designed to deliver basic social services in conflict-affected areas in Mindanao;</li> <li>UNICEF will use its own resources as well as mobilise support from international organizations, the Philippine government and civil society organisations to deliver these services;</li> <li>The initial round of Days of Peace will commence on April 16 and will consist of immunization, micronutrient supplementation, de-worming and breastfeeding counselling in selected barangays; follow-up rounds will occur in June/July and October in 2007 and beyond with additional basic services that will be added on, i.e. birth registration, malaria control, control of communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, etc.; the establishment of community-based health programmes in selected areas will also be initiated during this period;</li> <li>UNICEF will work with the Bangsamoro Development Agency (BDA) for the identification of target barangays giving priority to those that have been affected by armed conflict and internal displacements, most inaccessible and with substantial number of children and women;</li> </ol>
<b>Men and boys</b>	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.

<b>Civil society</b>	<p>Page 1:</p> <p>3. Both parties acknowledge that political negotiations at the highest levels should be complemented by peace-building efforts at the grassroots to ensure support and participation of communities in the peace process;</p> <p>Page 1:</p> <p>5. UNICEF will use its own resources as well as mobilise support from international organizations, the Philippine government and civil society organisations to deliver these services;</p>
<b>Traditional/ religious leaders</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Public administration</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Constitution</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Power sharing**

<b>Political power sharing</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Territorial power sharing</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Economic power sharing</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Military power sharing</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Human rights and equality**

<b>Human rights/RoL general</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Bill of rights/similar</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Treaty incorporation</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Civil and political rights</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Socio-economic rights</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Rights related issues**

<b>Citizenship</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Democracy</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Detention procedures</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Media and communication</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Mobility/access</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Protection measures</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Other</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Rights institutions**

<b>NHRI</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Regional or international human rights institutions</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Justice sector reform**

<b>Criminal justice and emergency law</b>	No specific mention.
<b>State of emergency provisions</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Judiciary and courts</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Prisons and detention</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Traditional Laws</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Socio-economic reconstruction**

**Development or socio-economic reconstruction** No specific mention.

**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** Page 1:  
6. The initial round of Days of Peace will commence on April 16 and will consist of immunization, micronutrient supplementation, de-worming and breastfeeding counselling in selected barangays; follow-up rounds will occur in June/July and October in 2007 and beyond with additional basic services that will be added on, i.e. birth registration, malaria control, control of communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, etc.; the establishment of community-based health programmes in selected areas will also be initiated during this period;

**Water or riparian rights or access** No specific mention.

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## **Security sector**

**Security Guarantees** No specific mention.

**Ceasefire** Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision  
Page 2:  
The Days of Peace campaign requires a commitment to full cessation of hostilities from all parties to facilitate maximum delivery of services for children; the MILF will be in charge of providing access and guaranteeing security for the service delivery teams; [Note: cessation of hostilities must at least cover the duration of the Days of Peace activities, From April 16 2007, at least through to October 2007]

**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** 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** No specific mention.

**Courts** No specific mention.

<b>Mechanism</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Prisoner release</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Vetting</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Victims</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Missing persons</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Reparations</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Reconciliation</b>	No specific mention.

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## Implementation

<b>UN signatory</b>	For UNICEF  Dr. Nicholas K. Alipui  Representative, UNICEF Philippines
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**Other international signatory** No specific mention.

**Referendum for agreement** No specific mention.

**International mission/force/ similar** Page 2:  
10. This agreement shall be implemented in cooperation and coordination with other stakeholders including, but not limited to, the International Monitoring Team (IMT), Joint Coordinating Committees for the Cessation of Hostilities (JCCCH), Local Government Units (LGUs) and Department of Health (DOH).

**Enforcement mechanism** No specific mention.

**Related cases** No specific mention.

**Source** [http://theirwords.org/media/transfer/doc/sc\\_ph\\_milf\\_biaf\\_2007\\_11-14e7ff5ce8f6fa9889db8977cb6fc434.pdf](http://theirwords.org/media/transfer/doc/sc_ph_milf_biaf_2007_11-14e7ff5ce8f6fa9889db8977cb6fc434.pdf)

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