

**Country/entity** Philippines

**Region** Asia and Pacific

**Agreement name** Joint Statement on the Second Round of Talks between the GRP and the NDFP

**Date** 9 Oct 2016

**Agreement status** Multiparty signed/agreed

**Interim arrangement** 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

**Stage** Pre-negotiation/process

**Conflict nature** Government

**Peace process** Philippines-NDF process

**Parties**

Sec. Silvestre H. Bello III

Chairperson of the GRP Panel

Hernani A. Braganza

Member, GRP Panel

Rene V. Sarmiento

Member, GRP Panel

Angela L. Trinidad

Member, GRP Panel

Antonio B. Arellano

Member, GRP Panel

Fidel V. Agcaoili

Chairperson of the NDFP Panel

Julieta S. de Lima

Member, NDFP Panel

Coni K. Ledesma

Member, NDFP Panel

Asterio B. Palima

Member, NDFP Panel

**Third parties**

Page 4:  
Expression of Gratitude to RNG

Both Panels reiterated their appreciation and gratitude to the Royal Norwegian Government for its steadfast support to the GRP-NDFP peace negotiations and acknowledged the facilitation of Special Envoy to the Philippine Peace Process Elisabeth Slattum and her team.

Elisabeth Slattum

Third Party Facilitator

For the Royal Norwegian Government

**Description**

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**Agreement document**

[PH\\_161009\\_Joint Statement on the Second Round of Talks Between the GRP and the NDFP.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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**Groups****Children/youth**

Groups→Children/youth→Rhetorical  
Page 7, Annex A GRP AND NDFP RWCs-SER COMMON DRAFT CASER FRAMEWORK AND OUTLINE:  
Part III. DESIRED OUTCOMES  
4. Social, economic and cultural rights (footnote: The rights to self-determination, work, just and favorable work conditions, unionize, social security, of families to protection and assistance, adequate standard of living, food, housing, health, and education are to be included in appropriate parts.) of the working people upheld and discrimination eliminated (footnote: Covering women, children and youth, the urban and rural poor, migrant workers, ethnic and national minorities, the elderly, persons with disability, and other exploited, disadvantaged and discriminated sectors.);

**Disabled persons**

Groups→Disabled persons→Rhetorical  
Page 7, Annex A GRP AND NDFP RWCs-SER COMMON DRAFT CASER FRAMEWORK AND OUTLINE:  
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**Elderly/age** Groups→Elderly/age→Rhetorical  
 Page 7, Annex A GRP AND NDFP RWCs-SER COMMON DRAFT CASER FRAMEWORK AND OUTLINE:  
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**Migrant workers** Groups→Migrant workers→Rhetorical  
 Page 7, Annex A GRP AND NDFP RWCs-SER COMMON DRAFT CASER FRAMEWORK AND OUTLINE:  
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**Racial/ethnic/national group** Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Rhetorical  
 Page 7, Annex A GRP AND NDFP RWCs-SER COMMON DRAFT CASER FRAMEWORK AND OUTLINE:  
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 Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Substantive  
 Page 9, ANNEX B: III POLITICAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS  
 ...  
 • Self-determination, National Minorities, Indigenous Peoples, and Bangsamoro  
 ...

**Religious groups** No specific mention.

**Indigenous people** Groups→Indigenous people→Substantive  
 Page 9, ANNEX B: III POLITICAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS  
 ...  
 • Self-determination, National Minorities, Indigenous Peoples, and Bangsamoro  
 ...

**Other groups** No specific mention.

**Refugees/displaced persons** No specific mention.

**Social class** Groups→Social class→Rhetorical  
Page 7, Annex A GRP AND NDFP RWCs-SER COMMON DRAFT CASER FRAMEWORK AND OUTLINE:  
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**Gender**

**Women, girls and gender** Women signatories on both the GRP and NDFP side, as well as third party representative. Women are also present as delegation members (see full agreement text).

Page 7, Annex A GRP AND NDFP RWCs-SER COMMON DRAFT CASER FRAMEWORK AND OUTLINE:  
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PART IX. GENDER EQUALITY AND REPRESENTATION

**Men and boys** No specific mention.

**LGBTI** No specific mention.

**Family** No specific mention.

**State definition**

**Nature of state (general)** No specific mention.

**State configuration** No specific mention.

**Self determination** Page 9, ANNEX B:  
ANNEX B

PREAMBLE

I DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

II BASES, SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

III POLITICAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS

- National Sovereignty and Self-determination
- Economic Sovereignty and National Patrimony
- Self-determination, National Minorities, Indigenous Peoples, and Bangsamoro
- Social Justice
- Form/System of Government
- Electoral and Political Party Reforms
- Constitutional Bodies
- Accountability and Good Governance
- Judicial Reform
- Fiscal Policy and Management
- Security Reform

- International Relations

IV.MECHANISMS

- Council for Unity

V. FINAL PROVISIONS

**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.





**Governance**

**Political institutions (new or reformed)** Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→General references  
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**Elections**

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**Electoral  
commission**

No specific mention.

**Political parties reform**

Governance→Political parties reform→Other political parties reform  
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**Civil society**

No specific mention.

**Traditional/  
religious leaders**

No specific mention.

**Public administration**

No specific mention.

**Constitution**

Governance→Constitution→Constitutional reform/making  
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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** Page 3, section d:  
...  
The JMC likewise agreed to develop the monitoring system and promote human rights by conducting fora and trainings which will be planned by the Joint Secretariats.

The JMC will recommend the inclusion of the study of human rights and international humanitarian law in the curriculum of schools.

**Bill of rights/similar** No specific mention.

**Treaty incorporation** No specific mention.



**Civil and political rights** No specific mention.

**Socio-economic rights**

Human rights and equality→Socio-economic rights→Work

Page 7, Annex A GRP AND NDFP RWCs-SER COMMON DRAFT CASER FRAMEWORK AND OUTLINE:

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Human rights and equality→Socio-economic rights→Health

Page 7, Annex A GRP AND NDFP RWCs-SER COMMON DRAFT CASER FRAMEWORK AND OUTLINE:

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Human rights and equality→Socio-economic rights→Education

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Human rights and equality→Socio-economic rights→Adequate standard of living

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Human rights and equality→Socio-economic rights→Shelter/housing

Page 7, Annex A GRP AND NDFP RWCs-SER COMMON DRAFT CASER FRAMEWORK AND OUTLINE:

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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**

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ANNEX B

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**Prisons and detention**

No specific mention.

**Traditional Laws**

No specific mention.

## Socio-economic reconstruction

<b>Development or socio-economic reconstruction</b>	<p>Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development</p> <p>Page 7, Annex A, Part III GRP AND NDFP RWCs-SER COMMON DRAFT CASER FRAMEWORK AND OUTLINE:</p> <p>PART III.DESIRED OUTCOMES</p> <p>Section 1. The Parties forge this comprehensive agreement on social and economic reforms with the overall objective of eradicating Philippine poverty and reducing inequality in all their aspects and dimensions to have productive, decent and dignified lives. Towards achieving this, the outcomes of the comprehensive reforms shall include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Rural equality and development to achieve food self-sufficiency and security;</li><li>2. A sovereign, self-reliant and Industrialized national economy;</li><li>3. Protected and rehabilitated environment, just compensation for affected populations, and sustainable development;</li><li>4. Social, economic and cultural rights (footnote: The rights to self-determination, work, just and favorable work conditions, unionize, social security, of families to protection and assistance, adequate standard of living, food, housing, health, and education are to be included in appropriate parts.) of the working people upheld and discrimination eliminated (footnote: Covering women, children and youth, the urban and rural poor, migrant workers, ethnic and national minorities, the elderly, persons with disability, and other exploited, disadvantaged and discriminated sectors.);</li><li>5. Sustainable living Incomes for all;</li><li>6. Affordable, accessible and quality social services and utilities;</li><li>7. Sovereign foreign economic policies and trade relations supporting rural development and national Industrialization; and</li><li>8. Monetary and fiscal policy regime for national development.</li></ol> <p>PART IV. AGRARIAN REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>PART V. NATIONAL INDUSTRIALIZATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>PART XII. FOREIGN ECONOMIC AND TRADE RELATIONS</p> <p>PART XIII. MONETARY AND FISCAL POLICIES</p>
<b>National economic plan</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Natural resources</b>	No specific mention.
<b>International funds</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Business</b>	No specific mention.

**Taxation**

Socio-economic reconstruction→Taxation→Other  
PAGE 7, ANNEX A GRP AND NDFP RWCs-SER COMMON DRAFT CASER FRAMEWORK AND  
OUTLINE:  
PART XIII. MONETARY AND FISCAL POLICIES

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**Banks**

Socio-economic reconstruction→Banks→Central bank  
PAGE 7, ANNEX A GRP AND NDFP RWCs-SER COMMON DRAFT CASER FRAMEWORK AND  
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PART XIII. MONETARY AND FISCAL POLICIES

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## **Land, property and environment**

**Land reform/rights** Land, property and environment→Land reform/rights→Land reform and management  
Page 7, Annex A GRP AND NDFP RWCs-SER COMMON DRAFT CASER FRAMEWORK AND OUTLINE:  
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1. Rural equality and development to achieve food self-sufficiency and security;

### PART IV. AGRARIAN REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Land, property and environment→Land reform/rights→Other land rights  
Page 7, Annex A GRP AND NDFP RWCs-SER COMMON DRAFT CASER FRAMEWORK AND OUTLINE:

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Section 1. The Parties forge this comprehensive agreement on social and economic reforms with the overall objective of eradicating Philippine poverty and reducing inequality in all their aspects and dimensions to have productive, decent and dignified lives. Towards achieving this, the outcomes of the comprehensive reforms shall include:

1. Rural equality and development to achieve food self-sufficiency and security;

**Pastoralist/  
nomadism rights** No specific mention.

**Cultural heritage** No specific mention.

**Environment** Page 7, Annex A GRP AND NDFP RWCs-SER COMMON DRAFT CASER FRAMEWORK AND OUTLINE:  
Part III. DESIRED OUTCOMES  
3. Protected and rehabilitated environment, just compensation for affected populations, and sustainable development;

### PART VI. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, REHABILITATION AND COMPENSATION

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

**Security sector**



**Security  
Guarantees**

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**Ceasefire**

Security sector→Ceasefire→General commitments

Page 4, section e:

e. Respective ceasefire committees

The Parties renewed their commitment to work through their respective ceasefire committees to reconcile and develop their separate unilateral ceasefire orders into a single unified bilateral document within 60 days from August 26, 2016.

The Parties engaged in preliminary discussions on different drafts for a potential bilateral ceasefire, took note of concerns on issues related thereto, and relayed alleged incidents vis-a-vis their separate unilateral ceasefire orders.

The Parties stressed that they are exerting best efforts to develop a single unified document of a bilateral ceasefire agreement within a desired period.

The Parties have likewise reaffirmed their declarations of their respective unilateral indefinite ceasefires.

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ANNEX C

GRP-NDF Common Outline on EHDF

7 October 2016

I. Preamble

II. Declaration of Principles

III. Bases, Scope and Applicability

IV. Definition of Terms

V. End of Hostilities

VI. Disposition of Forces

VII. Mechanisms

VIII. Concluding Provisions

**Police**

No specific mention.

**Armed forces**

No specific mention.

**DDR**

Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions

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ANNEX C

GRP-NDF Common Outline on EHDF

7 October 2016

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II. Declaration of Principles

III. Bases, Scope and Applicability

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**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** Transitional justice→Amnesty/pardon→Amnesty/pardon proper  
Page 2, Section 2:  
2. Amnesty Proclamation

The Panels reviewed the circumstances and status of the proposed amnesty proclamation since the first round of talks on August 27, 2016.

The GRP Panel said that the amnesty proclamation has already been drafted and endorsed to the Office of the President. The NDFP Panel requested a copy of the said proclamation. The GR Panel assured the NDFP that it shall have a copy in due time.

**Courts** No specific mention.

**Mechanism** No specific mention.

**Prisoner release** Page 2, section 1  
 The Parties reviewed the Joint Oslo Statements dated June 15 and August 26, 2016 on the issue of the immediate release of detained prisoners listed by the NDFP, giving premium on those prisoners who will be released based on humanitarian grounds. They also reviewed the circumstances and status of JASIG-protected NDFP consultants.

They took good note of the positive steps so far taken, including the finalization of the Revised Guidelines on the Presidential Committee on Bail, Recognizance and Pardon, and agreed to accelerate the process consistent with the Parties' common resolve.

They also agreed that the presidential clemency for and release of three remaining JASIG-protected consultants, Eduardo Sarmiento, Emeterio Antalan and Leopoldo Caloza, shall be expedited. The GRP shall release the prisoners who are listed by the NDFP in accordance with the CARHRIHL pending the approval of the proposed amnesty for their benefit.

The GRP Panel affirms its commitment to work for the release of these prisoners in expeditious and acceptable modes.

**Vetting** No specific mention.

**Victims** No specific mention.

**Missing persons** No specific mention.

**Reparations** No specific mention.

**Reconciliation** No specific mention.

**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**

Page 3, section d:  
d. Joint Monitoring Committee

The JMC discussed and agreed to undertake joint activities including the distribution of CARHRIHL in several local languages, brochures, poster-making contest and calendar.

The JMC likewise agreed to develop the monitoring system and promote human rights by conducting fora and trainings which will be planned by the Joint Secretariats.

The JMC will recommend the inclusion of the study of human rights and international humanitarian law in the curriculum of schools.

They had extended discussions and clarifications on documentation and investigation.

The Joint Secretariat shall finalize the coverage of the Joint Education and Capacity Building.

The JMC shall correspondingly amend the budget to cover the various joint activities and submit it to the RNG.

The JMC discussed the Draft Common Supplemental Guidelines initiated in April 2011 including further amendments by the NDFP MC to which the GRP MC asked for more time to study and comment.

The JMC discussed its budget and agreed that the coverage is for fifteen months, beginning October 2016 to December 2017.

**Related cases**

No specific mention.

**Source**

Originally obtained in hard copy. Currently also available from the NDFP:  
<https://ndfp.org/joint-statement-second-round-talks-grp-ndfp/>

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