

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

Country/ entity	Philippines Mindanao
Region	Asia and Pacific Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Agreement for General Cessation of Hostilities
Date	18 Jul 1997
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/ conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict ( Philippine Insurgencies (1968 - ) )
Stage	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Philippines - Mindanao process
Parties	Amb. Fortunato Il Abat, GRP Panel Chairman; Ghazail Jafar, MILF Political Affairs Central Committee Vice Chair, MILF Panel Chairman
Third parties	Attested: Ruben D. Torres, Executive Secretary; Sec. Renato S. De Villa, Dept. of National Defense  Witnesses for GRP: Maj. Gen. Joselin B. Nazareno, GRP Sub-Committee on Cessation of Hostilities Chairman Lt. Gen. Edgardo E. Batenga (Ret.), GRP Technical Committee Member ASec. Jovenal F. Lazaga, GRP Technical Committee on Agenda Setting Chairman Atty. Grace M. Tan, Office of the President Director Atty. Alberto A. Bernardo, NPUDC Executive Director;  Witnesses for the MILF: Mohagher Iqbal, MILF Central Committee Member Sammy Al Mansour, MILF-BIAF Deputy Chief of Staff Omar Habas, MILF Central Committee Member Abdulmanaf Mantawil, MILF Secretariat, Technical Committee Chairman Atty. Omar B. Umpar, MILF Legal Counselor

Description This is a ceasefire agreement that mandates further meetings to discuss implementation of this Agreement, and the overall resumption of formal peace talks.

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Agreement document

[PH\\_970718\\_Agreement for General Cessation of Hostilities.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 Groups→Indigenous people→Rhetorical  
Page 1, Preamble  
Whereas, while an informal ceasefire has been observed between the GRP and the MILF, with and end in view of finding a just and lasting solution to the centuries old problem of the Bangsamoro and native inhabitants of Mindanao, it becomes necessary that peace and order be assured;

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      No specific mention.

Men and  
boys      Gender→Men and boys→Gender neutral wording  
Page 1, Preamble  
Know all men by these presents:

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.
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Democracy	No specific mention.
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Detention procedures	No specific mention.
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Media and communication	No specific mention.
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Mobility/access	No specific mention.
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Protection measures	No specific mention.
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Other	No specific mention.
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## **Rights institutions**

NHRI	No specific mention.
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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      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 No specific mention.

Water or  
riparian  
rights or  
access No specific mention.

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## **Security sector**

Security  
Guarantees No specific mention.



Ceasefire	<p>Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision Page 1, Preamble Whereas, while an informal ceasefire has been observed between the GRP and the MILF, with and end in view of finding a just and lasting solution to the centuries old problem of the Bangsamoro and native inhabitants of Mindanao, it becomes necessary that peace and order be assured;</p> <p>Page 1, Preamble Whereas, in view of the foregoing, it becomes imperative for the GRP and the MILF to enter into an agreement for general cessation of hostilities and to agree to continue the formal peace talks;</p> <p>Page 1, 1. To commit the armed forces of the GRP and the MILF to a General Cessation of Hostilities;</p> <p>Page 1, 2. To direct their respective Sub-Committee on Cessation of Hostilities to meet on 20 July 1997, and on such dates thereafter, but not to exceed two (2) months, to draw and finalise the guidelines and ground rules for the implementation of this Agreement;</p>
Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	Page 1, 1. To commit the armed forces of the GRP and the MILF to a General Cessation of Hostilities;
DDR	No specific mention.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/ rebel and opposition group forces	Page 1, 1. To commit the armed forces of the GRP and the MILF to a General Cessation of Hostilities;
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.

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 <https://peacemaker.un.org/philippines-generalcessationhostilities97>

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