

Country/entity	Philippines Mindanao
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Agreement on the General Framework for the Resumption of Peace Talks between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front
Date	24 Mar 2001
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/territory
Peace process	Philippines - Mindanao process
Parties	For the GRP: Eduardo R. Ermita, Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process for the Government of the Republic of the Philippines; For the MILF: Al Haj Murad Ebrahim, MILF Panel Chairman
Third parties	-
Description	Parties reaffirm earlier ceasefire agreements and commit to resume stalled peace negotiations immediately after signing the agreement until reaching a resolution of the Bangsamoro problem. MILF to organize its own Peace Panel to meet with GRP counterpart, and will reciprocate the GRP's suspension of military operations.

Agreement document [PH_010324_Agreement for Resumption of Peace Talks.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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
Recognizing the need to resume their stalled peace talks in order to end the armed hostilities between them and achieve a negotiated political settlement of the conflict in Mindanao and of the Bangsamoro problem, thereby promoting peace and stability in this part of the world;

Page 1, Preamble
Determined to pursue a solution to the Bangsamoro problem with honor, justice and dignity for all concern;

Page 1, Article I
The Parties agree to resume the stalled peace negotiations immediately after the signing of this Agreement, and continue the same from where it had stopped before April 27, 2000 until they shall have reached a negotiated political settlement of the Bangsamoro problem.

Other groups No specific mention.

Refugees/displaced persons Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Substantive
Page 2, Article VI
To pave the way for the immediate normalization of the situation in Mindanao, the Parties agree to undertake relief and rehabilitation measure for evacuees, and joint development projects in the conflict affected areas.

Social class No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender No specific mention.

Men and boys Gender→Men and boys→Other
Page 1, Preamble
Holding a common belief that the resumption of the peace negotiation should go hand in hand with relief, rehabilitation and development efforts in the men affected by the armed conflict;

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

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.



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.

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.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general Page 2, Article VII
The Parties commit themselves to negotiate with sincerity and mutual trust, justice and freedom, and respect for their identity, culture and aspirations of all peoples of Mindanao.

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.

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.

Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions No specific mention.

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.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development
Page 1, Preamble
Aware of the need to create an atmosphere conducive to the resumption of the peace negotiation through the normalization of the situation of the communities affected by armed conflict in Mindanao;

Page 1, Preamble
Acknowledging the ascendancy of moral and spiritual development as the primary foundation of socio-economic and political development of all the people in Mindanao;

Page 1, Preamble
Holding a common belief that the resumption of the peace negotiation should go hand in hand with relief, rehabilitation, and development efforts in the men affected by the armed conflict;

Page 2, Article VI
To pave the way for the immediate normalization of the situation in Mindanao, the Parties agree to undertake relief and rehabilitation measure for evacuees, and joint development projects in the conflict affected areas.

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.

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.

Security sector

Security Guarantees

No specific mention.

Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→General commitments

Page 1, Preamble

Recognizing the need to resume their stalled peace talks in order to end the armed hostilities between them and achieve a negotiated political settlement of the conflict in Mindanao and of the Bangsamoro problem, thereby promoting peace and stability in this part of the world;

Page 1, Preamble

Aware of the need to create an atmosphere conducive to the resumption of the peace negotiation through the normalization of the situation of the communities affected by armed conflict in Mindanao;

Page 1, Preamble

Noting the Agreement on General Cessation of Hostilities entered into by the Parties on July 18, 1997 and the General Framework of Agreement of Intent between the Parties dated August 27, 1998;

Page 1, Preamble

Holding a common belief that the resumption of the peace negotiation should go hand in hand with relief, rehabilitation, and development efforts in the men affected by the armed conflict;

Page 1, Article I

The Parties agree to resume the stalled peace negotiations immediately after the signing of this Agreement, and continue the same from where it had stopped before April 27, 2000 until they shall have reached a negotiated political settlement of the Bangsamoro problem.

Page 2, Article III

In conjunction with its formation of its Peace Panel, the MILF shall reciprocate the GRP's Suspension of Offensive Military Operations (SOMO) with the declaration of its own SOMO.

Police

No specific mention.

Armed forces

Page 2, Article III

In conjunction with its formation of its Peace Panel, the MILF shall reciprocate the GRP's Suspension of Offensive Military Operations (SOMO) with the declaration of its own SOMO.

DDR

No specific mention.

Intelligence services

No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	<p>Page 2, Article II The MILF shall organize its own Peace Panel forthwith to meet with its GRP counterpart, and this shall be announced to the public at the soonest time possible.</p> <p>Page 2, Article III In conjunction with its formation of its Peace Panel, the MILF shall reciprocate the GRP's Suspension of Offensive Military Operations (SOMO) with the declaration of its own SOMO.</p>
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.

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.

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 UN Peacemaker <http://peacemaker.un.org/philippines-resumptiontalks2001>
