

Country/entity	Philippines Mindanao
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Agreement for Field Commanders of both Parties to Immediately and Strictly Observe the Ceasefire Agreement
Date	6 Oct 1999
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	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Philippines - Mindanao process
Parties	USec. Orlando V. Soriano, GRP Negotiating Panel Chairman; Ghazali Jaafar, MILF Political Affairs Vice Chairman;
Third parties	Witness: BGen. Jose P. Torrelavega, GRP CCCH Chairman; Atty. Zosimo Jesus M. Paredes II, GRP Negotiating Panel Legal Consultant; Mohagher Iqbal, MILF Negotiating Panel Member; Shiekh Abuhailil Yahya, MILF Majlis As-Shura Chairman
Description	Agreement that, in identifying the need of the GRP-MILF Peace Panel to give more substance and authority to the cessation of hostilities, provides the GRP-MILF Coordinating Committees on Cessation of Hostilities (CCCH) the authorization to relay orders to military Field Commanders of both parties, and for the Field Commanders to strictly observe the orders relayed to them by the CCCH from the Peace Panels. The Agreement also provides that the CCCH will inform the Peace Panels of any violations by the forces, to which the Peace Panels will take immediate and necessary action to stop any violation, as well as punish accordingly the forces or Field Commanders who violate this Agreement.

Agreement document [PH_991006_Agreement for Field Commanders.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	No specific mention.

Other groups No specific mention.

Refugees/displaced persons No specific mention.

Social class No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender No specific mention.

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 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 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.

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 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.

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→Ceasefire provision

Page 1, Preamble

WHEREAS, the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) signed the Implementing Administrative and Operational Guidelines of the GRP-MILF Agreement on the General Cessation of Hostilities (AGCH);

Page 1, Preamble

WHEREAS, there is a need for the GRP-MILF Peace Panel to give more authority and substance to the general cessation of hostilities by authorizing the GRP-MILF Coordinating Committee on Cessation of Hostilities (CCCH) to relay orders to the military Field Commanders of both parties once the GRP-MILF Peace Panels have agreed to a cessation of hostilities.

Page 1, Preamble

WHEREAS, the military Field Commanders of both parties shall immediately and strictly observe the orders of the GRP-MILF Peace Panels relayed to them by the GRP-MILF CCCH.

Page 1, NOW THEREFORE, the parties agree, as they hereby agree on the following:

1. The GRP-MILF CCCH is hereby authorized, as an extension of the authority of the GRP-MILF Peace Panels, to relay orders to military Field Commanders of both parties once they have agreed to a cessation of hostilities.

Page 1, 2. The military Field Commanders of both parties shall immediately and strictly observe the orders of the GRP-MILF Peace Panels relayed to them by the GRP-MILF CCCH.

Page 1, 3. The GRP-MILF CCCH shall inform the GRP-MILF Peace Panels of any GRP-MILF forces or field commanders violating this agreement. It shall be the responsibility of the GRP-MILF Peace Panels to take immediate and necessary action to stop any violation and punish respective forces or military Field Commanders who violate this agreement.

Page 1, [...] This agreement is an addendum to the powers and functions of the GRP-MILF CCCH stipulated in the Implementing Administrative and Operational Guidelines of the GRP-MILF AGCH.

Police

No specific mention.

Armed forces

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DDR

No specific mention.

Intelligence services

No specific mention.

**Parastatal/rebel
and opposition
group forces**

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**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 Page 1, 3. The GRP-MILF CCCH shall inform the GRP-MILF Peace Panels of any GRP-MILF forces or field commanders violating this agreement. It shall be the responsibility of the GRP-MILF Peace Panels to take immediate and necessary action to stop any violation and punish respective forces or military Field Commanders who violate this agreement.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source GRP-MILF Peace Process: Compilation of Signed Agreements & other related Documents (1997-2010); (MILF Peace Panel/Asia Foundation, 2010), pp. 68-69.
