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**Country/entity** Philippines

**Region** Asia and Pacific

**Agreement name** Joint Statement to Resume Formal Talks in the GRP-NDFP Peace Negotiations

**Date** 13 Jan 2004

**Agreement status** Multiparty signed/agreed

**Interim** Yes

arrangement

### 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 graphing adayolution of power to the provinces of Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi. Following the establishment of the ARMM, the

**Stage** Pre-negotiation/process

**Conflict nature** Government

**Peace process** Philippines-NDF process

Parties SILVESTRE H. BELLO III, GRP Panel Chairman

LUIS G. JALANDONI, NDFP Panel Chairman

Third parties -

**Description** In this agreement the Philippines (GRP) and the National Democratic Front of the

Philippines (NDFP) agree to resume the formal talks in their peace negotiations and complete the formation of the Joint Monitoring Committee. The agreement commits to resolve the outstanding issue of the "terrorist" listing of the CPP/NPA and the NDFP Chief Political Consultant, in consonance of previous agreements and undertake measure for the release of all the prisoners and detainees whose release was recommended by the GRP in 2001. Furthermore, the GRP shall undertake appropriate legal measures for indemnification of victims of human rights violations and provide reparation. The agreement forms a pre-negotiating agreement, with confidence-building measures, for

the resumption of talks.

Agreement document

PH\_040113\_Joint Statement to resume 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** No specific mention.

**Other groups** No specific mention.

 $\textbf{Refugees/displaced} \ \ \text{No specific mention}.$ 

persons

**Social class** No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and

No specific mention.

gender

**Men and boys** No specific mention.

**LGBTI** No specific mention.

**Family** No specific mention.

**State definition** 

Nature of state

No specific mention.

(general)

**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/

No specific mention.

unification

**Border delimitation** No specific mention.

**Cross-border** 

provision

NO

No specific mention.

### Governance

**Political** No specific mention.

institutions (new or

reformed)

**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 1,

2. To resolve the oustanding issue of the "terrorist" listing of the CPP/NPA and the NDFP Chief Political Consultant, effective measures shall be undertaken in consonance with The Hague Joint Declaration, the JASIG, the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (CAR-HR/IHL) and other bilateral agreements. The panelists, consultants, staffers, and other duly-authorized participants of said negotiations shall thereby be fully protected by the pertinent provisions of The Hague Joint Declaration, the JASIG, and the CAR-HR/IHL as well as the Amado V, Hernandez doctrine on political offense.

Page 1, Article 6. The GRP shall undertake confidence-building measures as follows: 6.1 The GRP shall undertake measures for the release of all the prisoners and detainees whose release was recommended by the GRP in 2001 and shall take appropriate action on the updated list submitted by KARAPATAN and other human rights organizations. 6.2 The GRP shall undertake appropriate legal measures in support of the claims for indemnification of the victims of human rights violations of the Marcos dictatorship, including a proposal to Congress to pass a law appropriating the minimum amount of at least P8 billion from the approximately \$680 million recovered from the Marcos ill-gotten wealth for the indemnification of the bona fide victims of human rights violations of the Marcos dictatorship. The two Panels shall discuss and agree during the formal talks on specific and effective measures to protect the rights of the successful plaintiffs in the Marcos human rights litigation and expedite payment of compensation to them on a best effort basis.

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty

No specific mention.

incorporation

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

No specific mention.

communication

**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** No specific mention. **emergency law** 

**State of emergency** No specific mention. **provisions** 

Judiciary and

No specific mention.

courts

Prisons and detention

No specific mention.

Traditional Laws

No specific mention.

### **Socio-economic reconstruction**

Development or

No specific mention.

socio-economic reconstruction

National economic No specific mention.

plan

**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/

No specific mention.

nomadism rights
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** No specific mention.

**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** Page 1,

2. To resolve the oustanding issue of the "terrorist" listing of the CPP/NPA and the NDFP Chief Political Consultant, effective measures shall be undertaken in consonance with The Hague Joint Declaration, the JASIG, the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (CAR-HR/IHL) and other bilateral agreements. The panelists, consultants, staffers, and other duly-authorized participants of said negotiations shall thereby be fully protected by the pertinent provisions of The Hague Joint Declaration, the JASIG, and the CAR-HR/IHL as well as the Amado V, Hernandez doctrine on political offense.

**Transitional justice** 

Transitional justice No specific mention.

general

**Amnesty/pardon** No specific mention.

**Courts** No specific mention.

**Mechanism** No specific mention.

**Prisoner release** Page 1, Article 6. The GRP shall undertake confidence-building measures as follows:

6.1 The GRP shall undertake measures for the release of all the prisoners and detainees whose release was recommended by the GRP in 2001 and shall take appropriate action on the updated list submitted by KARAPATAN and other human rights organizations.

**Vetting** No specific mention.

**Victims** Page 1, Article 6. The GRP shall undertake confidence-building measures as follows:

... 6.2 The GRP shall undertake appropriate legal measures in support of the claims for indemnification of the victims of human rights violations of the Marcos dictatorship, including a proposal to Congress to pass a law appropriating the minimum amount of at least P8 billion from the approximately \$680 million recovered from the Marcos ill-gotten wealth for the indemnification of the bona fide victims of human rights violations of the Marcos dictatorship. The two Panels shall discuss and agree during the formal talks on specific and effective measures to protect the rights of the successful plaintiffs in the Marcos human rights litigation and expedite payment of compensation to them on a best effort basis.

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**Missing persons** No specific mention.

**Reparations** Transitional justice→Reparations→Material reparations

Page 1, Article 6.

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effort basis.

**Reconciliation** No specific mention.

**Implementation** 

**UN signatory** No specific mention.

 $\label{thm:condition} \textbf{Other international} \ \ \text{No specific mention}.$ 

signatory

Referendum for

agreement

No specific mention.

International

mission/force/

similar

No specific mention.

**Enforcement** 

mechanism

No specific mention.

Related cases

No specific mention.

**Source** The GRP-NDFP Peace Negotiations: Major Written Agreements & Outstanding Issues, pp.

56-57.