

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

Country/ entity	Philippines Mindanao
Region	Asia and Pacific Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	GRP and MILF Joint Press Release
Date	21 Oct 1997
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/ conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict (Philippine Insurgencies (1968 -))
Stage	Pre-negotiation/process
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Philippines - Mindanao process
Parties	MGen. Joselin B. Nazareno, GRP Panel Representative; Atty. Lanang S. Ali, MILF Panel Representative
Third parties	-
Description	Joint Press Release to inform on an urgent meeting held to discuss recent developments which were decidedly adverse to the ongoing peace negotiations. Both GRP and MILF Panels agreed to refer the recent incident to the Independent Fact-Finding Committee, in addition to closely monitoring the situation in the Barira, Buldon, Matanog and adjacent areas, with the decision to further discuss the situation in the upcoming talks on November 12-13, 1997. The Committee Chairmen also expressed their continuing adherence to spirit and the intent of the Agreement on the General Cessation of Hostilities.

**Agreement
document** [PH_971021_GRP-MILF Joint Press Release.pdf](#)  | [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.
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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

Major General Joselin B. Nazerno and Atty. Lanang Ali, Chairman of the GRP-MILF Coordinating Committees on the General Cessation of Hostilities held an urgent meeting today, October 21, 1997, in Cotabato City in connection with recent developments in Barira, Buldon, Matanog and adjacent areas brought about by incidents which may adversely affect the ongoing peace negotiations.

[...] Both Chairmen likewise agreed to refer the incident involving the attack at Camp Siongco, Awan, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao on October 14, 1997 to the Independent Fact-Finding Committee chaired by Fr. Eliseo Mercado, for inquiry.

[...] The Committee Chairmen also took the opportunity to express their continuing adherence to the spirit and intent of the provisions of the General Cessation of Hostilities Agreement signed by the GRP and MILF in Cagayan de Oro City on July 18, 1997. Furthermore, they agreed to continue the talks as previously scheduled on November 12 and 13, 1997 in Marawi City.

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces [...] The GRP and MILF Committees are closely monitoring the situation in the area with the view to easing the tension thereat specially in Maguindanao and its adjacent provinces. The GRP Panel has assured the MILF of the repositioning of the AFP forces, to its October 16, 1997.

DDR	No specific mention.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/ rebel and opposition group forces	[...] After the meeting, the GRP and the MILF Panels have noted the MILF assurance that there will be no death Execution before the November 12-13, 1997 GRP-MILF Peace Talks in Marawi City and the same issue shall be the subject of further discussion during the said talks.
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 GRP-MILF Peace Process: Compilation of Signed Agreements & other related Documents (1997-2010); (MILF Peace Panel/Asia Foundation, 2010), p. 27.
