

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

Country/ entity	Philippines Mindanao
Region	Asia and Pacific Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Joint Press Statement
Date	7 Feb 1998
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	Asec. Jovenal F. Lazaga, GRP SCAS Chairman; MGen. Joselin B. Nazareno, GRP SCCH; Shiekh Moner Bajunaid, MILF SCAS Chairman; Atty. Omar B. Umbar, MILF SCCH Chairman
Third parties	-
Description	Joint Press Statement informing on the third GRP-MILF Technical Committee meeting on February 4-6, 1998, in which the Parties agreed that in order to maintain the momentum in the quest for peace, the GRP will reposition forces five (5) kilometers away from the Banganan River in the Buldon, Maguindanao area and the MILF will not occupy the newly deserted area, in addition the GRP will suspend all logging operations in the area. In order to effectively implement the Agreement on the General Cessation of Hostilities, the Parties agreed to the operationalization of the monitoring office of the GRP-MILF CCCH and its sub-offices, the expansion of the IFFC, and the formation of a Quick Response Team (QRT) to be chaired by the IFFC.

**Agreement
document** [PH_980207_Joint Press Statement.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 Page 1, 2. The GRP shall immediately exert its utmost efforts to resolve the watershed issue involving Upper Minabay-Bagangan-Ambal River in Buldon, Maguindanao. In Consultation with concerned parties and coordinating with appropriate government agencies, the GRP shall cause the proposed immediate suspension of logging operations of the Cotabato Timber Company, Inc. and other logging concessionaires in the area until final resolution of the conflict in the Bagangan-Ambal area.

International funds No specific mention.

Business Page 1, 2. The GRP shall immediately exert its utmost efforts to resolve the watershed issue involving Upper Minabay-Bagangan-Ambal River in Buldon, Maguindanao. In Consultation with concerned parties and coordinating with appropriate government agencies, the GRP shall cause the proposed immediate suspension of logging operations of the Cotabato Timber Company, Inc. and other logging concessionaires in the area until final resolution of the conflict in the Bagangan-Ambal area.

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

Page 1, 2. The GRP shall immediately exert its utmost efforts to resolve the watershed issue involving Upper Minabay-Bagangan-Ambal River in Buldon, Maguindanao. In Consultation with concerned parties and coordinating with appropriate government agencies, the GRP shall cause the proposed immediate suspension of logging operations of the Cotabato Timber Company, Inc. and other logging concessionaires in the area until final resolution of the conflict in the Bagangan-Ambal area.

Security sector

Security
Guarantees

No specific mention.

Ceasefire	<p>Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision</p> <p>Page 1, The third GRP-MILF Technical Committee meeting was held on February 4-6, 1998 at Samporna Hall, Marawi Resort Hotel , Marawi City to resume the peace negotiations pursuant to the Agreement on the General Cessation of Hostilities signed by the GRP and MILF Peace Panesl on July 18, 1997.</p> <p>Page 1, 1. To keep the momentum in the quest for peace by the GRP and MILF, and to defuse the tension created by unfortunate incidents in the recent past, it is agreed that the GRP shall immediately commence to reposition its forces in Buldon, Magundanao, at least five kilometers away from Banganan River to be completed not later than February 20, 1998; provided that the MILF shall not occupy vacated areas to this end, the GRP and the MILF hereby reaffirm to strictly adhere to the Implementing Operational Guidelines of the GRP and MILF Agreement on Operational Guidelines of the GRP and MILF Agreement on the General Cessation of Hostilities signed on 14 November 1997.</p> <p>Page 1, 3. In order to effectively observe and implement the Terms and Conditions of the Agreement on the General Cessation of Hostilities, the GRP and MILF Technical Committees agreed on the following: 3.A. Operationalization of the monitoring office of the GRP-MILF Coordinating Committees on Cessation of Hostilities, in Cotabato City and Sub-Offices in Marawi City and other areas to be determined later;</p> <p>Page 2, 3.C. Formation of a Quick-Response Team (QRT) composed of representatives from the GRP, MILF and the Independent Fact-Finding Committee to immediately address alleged violations of the Agreement on the General Cessation of Hostilities; provided, that the QRT is chaired by the IFFC.</p>
Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	<p>Page 1, 1. To keep the momentum in the quest for peace by the GRP and MILF, and to defuse the tension created by unfortunate incidents in the recent past, it is agreed that the GRP shall immediately commence to reposition its forces in Buldon, Magundanao, at least five kilometers away from Banganan River to be completed not later than February 20, 1998; provided that the MILF shall not occupy vacated areas to this end, the GRP and the MILF hereby reaffirm to strictly adhere to the Implementing Operational Guidelines of the GRP and MILF Agreement on Operational Guidelines of the GRP and MILF Agreement on the General Cessation of Hostilities signed on 14 November 1997.</p>
DDR	No specific mention.

Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/ rebel and opposition group forces	Page 1, 1. To keep the momentum in the quest for peace by the GRP and MILF, and to defuse the tension created by unfortunate incidents in the recent past, it is agreed that the GRP shall immediately commence to reposition its forces in Buldon, Magundanao, at least five kilometers away from Banganan River to be completed not later than February 20, 1998; provided that the MILF shall not occupy vacated areas to this end, the GRP and the MILF hereby reaffirm to strictly adhere to the Implementing Operational Guidelines of the GRP and MILF Agreement on Operational Guidelines of the GRP and MILF Agreement on the General Cessation of Hostilities signed on 14 November 1997.
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), pp. 36-37.
