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| Country/entity | Philippines Mindanao |
| Region | Asia and Pacific |
| Agreement name | Joint Statement - 6th GRP-MILF Exploratory Talks (December 21 2004) |
| Date | 21 Dec 2004 |
| 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

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| Stage | Pre-negotiation/process |
| Conflict nature | Government/territory |
| Peace process | Philippines - Mindanao process |
| Parties | Silvestre C. Afable, Jr., GRP Panel Chair; Mogagher Iqbal, MILF Panel Chair |
| Third parties | - |
| Description | Agreement by the GRP and MILF Panels informing on the 6th Round of GRP-MILF Exploratory Talks, in which both Parties reaffirmed their commitment to the peace process with the facilitation of the Malaysian Government, acknowledged the significant contribution of the International Monitoring Team (IMT), and adopted a set up interim guidelines to immediately operationalize the Ad Hoc Joint Action Group (AHJAG). Additionally, the Parties agreed to prepare for upcoming discussion on Ancestral Domain, with the next round of informal talks scheduled for the beginning of February, 2005. |

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| Agreement document | PH_041221_Joint Statement.pdf (opens in new tab) Download PDF |
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Groups

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| 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

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|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Women, girls and gender | No specific mention. |
| Men and boys | No specific mention. |
| LGBTI | No specific mention. |
| Family | No specific mention. |

State definition

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| 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 Power sharing→Territorial power sharing→Other
Page 1, [...] In preparation for the discussion on the Ancestral Domain aspect of the GRP-MILF peace process in the formal peace talks, both Parties agree to activate their respective technical committees into four technical working groups (TWG) to meet and draw up a working paper to be presented to both Panels.

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.

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| Protection measures | No specific mention. |
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| Other | No specific mention. |
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Rights institutions

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| NHRI | No specific mention. |
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| Regional or international human rights institutions | No specific mention. |
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Justice sector reform

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| Criminal justice and emergency law | No specific mention. |
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| State of emergency provisions | No specific mention. |
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| Judiciary and courts | No specific mention. |
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| Prisons and detention | No specific mention. |
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| Traditional Laws | No specific mention. |
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Socio-economic reconstruction

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| Development or socio-economic reconstruction | No specific mention. |
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| National economic plan | No specific mention. |
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| Natural resources | No specific mention. |
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| International funds | No specific mention. |
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| Business | No specific mention. |
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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, [...] Both sides acknowledge the significant contribution of the International Monitoring Team (IMT) in strengthening further the ongoing ceasefire on the ground. The Parties express their appreciation for participation of Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam and Libya in the IMT.

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.

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| Corruption | No specific mention. |
| Crime/organised crime | No specific mention. |
| Drugs | No specific mention. |
| Terrorism | No specific mention. |

Transitional justice

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| 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

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| UN signatory | No specific mention. |
| Other international signatory | No specific mention. |
| Referendum for agreement | No specific mention. |

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| 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. 146. |
