

Country/entity	Philippines Mindanao
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Highlights of the Meeting of the Joint Technical Group on Concept
Date	6 Feb 2006
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	Framework/substantive - partial
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Philippines - Mindanao process
Parties	Mr. Tapa Umal, GRP Technical Working Group on Concept Chairman; Prof. Habib Macaayong, MILF Technical Working Group on Concept Chairman
Third parties	-
Description	One page agreement that highlights the meeting of the Technical Working Groups (TWGs) on the Strand of Concept, in which the Parties affirmed that 'the Bangsamoro Judicial Entity shall have the authority and the jurisdiction over the ancestral domain and ancestral land'.

Agreement document [PH_060206_Highlights of TWG on Concept.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 Groups→Indigenous people→Rhetorical
P
Groups→Indigenous people→Substantive
age 1, 2. The remaining unresolved issue under the Strand on Concept concerns the question of delineation. After a thorough and lengthy discussion by the GRP and MILF TWGs, both parties agree to put on record that the Bangsamoro Judicial Entity (BJE) shall have the authority and the jurisdiction over the ancestral domain and ancestral land, including both the alienable and nonalienable within the Bangsamoro homeland. The delineation of ancestral domain/land that has been agreed by the Strand on Territory rests with the BJE.

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 Page 1, 2. The remaining unresolved issue under the Strand on Concept concerns the question of delineation. After a thorough and lengthy discussion by the GRP and MILF TWGs, both parties agree to put on record that the Bangsamoro Judicial Entity (BJE) shall have the authority and the jurisdiction over the ancestral domain and ancestral land, including both the alienable and nonalienable within the Bangsamoro homeland. The delineation of ancestral domain/land that has been agreed by the Strand on Territory rests with the BJE.

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) Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→General references
Page 1, 2. The remaining unresolved issue under the Strand on Concept concerns the question of delineation. After a thorough and lengthy discussion by the GRP and MILF TWGs, both parties agree to put on record that the Bangsamoro Judicial Entity (BJE) shall have the authority and the jurisdiction over the ancestral domain and ancestral land, including both the alienable and nonalienable within the Bangsamoro homeland. The delineation of ancestral domain/land that has been agreed by the Strand on Territory rests with the BJE.

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→Autonomous regions Page 1, 2. The remaining unresolved issue under the Strand on Concept concerns the question of delineation. After a thorough and lengthy discussion by the GRP and MILF TWGs, both parties agree to put on record that the Bangsamoro Judicial Entity (BJE) shall have the authority and the jurisdiction over the ancestral domain and ancestral land, including both the alienable and nonalienable within the Bangsamoro homeland. The delineation of ancestral domain/land that has been agreed by the Strand on Territory rests with the BJE.
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 Page 1, 2. The remaining unresolved issue under the Strand on Concept concerns the question of delineation. After a thorough and lengthy discussion by the GRP and MILF TWGs, both parties agree to put on record that the Bangsamoro Judicial Entity (BJE) shall have the authority and the jurisdiction over the ancestral domain and ancestral land, including both the alienable and nonalienable within the Bangsamoro homeland. The delineation of ancestral domain/land that has been agreed by the Strand on Territory rests with the BJE.

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 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 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. 156.
