

General Framework of Agreement of Intent Between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF)

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), herein referred to as the Parties:

Recognizing the need for a negotiated political settlement to bring an end to the armed conflict in Mindanao;

Desiring to contribute toward that end and to promote an enduring peace and stability in Mindanao;

Noting the Agreement on General Cessation of Hostilities of July 18, 1997, signed at Cagayan de Oro City, between the Parties;

Have agreed as follows:

Article I

The Parties commit to pursue the peace negotiations on the substantive issues as soon as possible, and resolutely continue the negotiations until the Parties reach a negotiated political settlement.

Article II

The Parties affirm their commitment to protect and respect human rights in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Article III

The Parties negotiate with sincerity in its resolution and pacific settlement of the conflict, and hereby pledge to implement the joint agreements/arrangements previously signed by the Parties' representatives, such as the Agreement for General Cessation of Hostilities signed on July 18, 1997 at Cagayan de Oro City and other supplementary agreements.

Article IV

The Parties pledge to refrain from the use or threat of force to attain undue advantage while peace negotiations on the substantive issues are on-going.

Article V

The Parties recognize that there will be lasting peace in Mindanao when there is mutual trust, justice, freedom, and tolerance for the identity, culture, way of life and aspirations of all the peoples of Mindanao.

Article VI

This Agreement shall enter into force upon signature.

Done at the Dawah Center, Crossing Simuay, Sultan Kudarat, Maguindanao, this 27th day of August 1998.

For the GRP:

Lt. Gen. Orlando V. Soriano (Ret.)
Chairman, GRP Negotiating Panel

For the MILF:

Aleem Abdulaziz Mimbantas
Chairman, MILF Negotiating Panel