


**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE
GPH-MILF JOINT COORDINATION, MONITORING AND ASSISTANCE CENTER
(JCMAC) V2.0**

I. BACKGROUND


On 29 May 2017, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte approved the creation of a Peace Corridor after his meeting with key MILF officials headed by Chairman Al Haj Murad Ebrahim and key government officials headed by Undersecretary Nabil A. Tan, representing Secretary Jesus G. Dureza.

The objectives of the peace corridor were to provide:

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1. A safe and secure corridor for women, children and men trapped inside the conflict zone in Marawi City; and
 2. A reliable space for humanitarian assistance to pass through affected municipalities in the Province of Lanao del Sur.

The Peace Corridor was jointly implemented and supervised by the Peace Implementing Panels of both the Government of the Philippines (GPH) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF). This is a testament to how far the Bangsamoro peace process has come and the partnership that has been established between the two Parties.

The GPH-MILF Peace Corridor was operationalized through the Joint Coordination, Monitoring and Assistance Center (JCMAC) in Marawi City and Malabang, Lanao del Sur consisting of a composite team from the GPH, MILF, local volunteers from the Nonviolent Peaceforce – Philippines (NP), Moslem Organization of Government Officials and Professionals (MOGOP), the Ulama and the community.



The Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP), through the Cotabato Operations Office and the Combined Secretariat of the GPH Coordinating Committee on the Cessation of Hostilities (CCCH) and the Ad Hoc Joint Action Group (AHJAG), ensured that technical and administrative support was provided to the JCMACs.

During its one hundred and seventy two (172) days of operations, the GPH-MILF Peace Corridor – JCMAC was able to:

1. Rescue/retrieve two hundred fifty five (255) civilians from the conflict zone in Marawi City; and
2. Secure and coordinate the passage of one hundred sixty five (165) humanitarian and relief assistance through the Malabang peace corridor.

As the Marawi City crisis ended on 23 October 2017 and the JCMAC has achieved its objectives, its operations folded on 24 November 2017. However, both the GPH and the MILF Peace Implementing Panels agreed to retain the Peace Corridor initiative.

II. MANDATE

JCMAC v2.0 derives its mandate from the GPH and MILF Peace Implementing Panels. The Implementing Panels shall undertake periodic review of the JCMAC v2.0 to determine the continuance of its operations.

III. OBJECTIVES

The continuance of the Peace Corridor will provide the MILF a formal platform as an approachable and neutral mechanism for the people of Marawi City and the Lanao areas to raise their concerns to the government and participate in the efforts to rehabilitate and rebuild Marawi City and the Lanao areas, where MILF strongholds and communities are situated. The mechanism will also address emerging needs and challenges, particularly on the security situation on the ground and the rise of violent extremism.

Specifically, the JCMAC v2.0 shall have the following objectives:

1. The Peace Corridor shall link the GPH and MILF Implementing Panels to other government agencies involved in the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Marawi City and neighboring areas.
2. The JCMAC v2.0 shall serve as a sounding board, connector and response mechanism of the people with the government by listening to their grievances and issues, which cannot be brought directly to local authorities due to intense political differences, endorsing these to the concerned agencies and providing feedback.
3. The JCMAC v2.0 shall assist and/or partner with government agencies and other entities in programs to address the issue of violent extremism.

IV. ROLES

The role of JCMAC v2.0 stands on three (3) pillars: (1) Response, (2) Protection, and (3) Prevention.

1. **Response** calls for establishing a contact center that is accessible to the public. The contact center becomes the venue where the public can bring their concerns or grievances for proper referral to appropriate agencies. These include but are not limited to peace, security, rehabilitation and recovery. Process flow is as follows: JCMAC v2.0 receives and validates grievances; JCMAC v2.0 coordinates with the relevant MILF and GPH agencies to determine appropriate actions within 5 days turn-around time. At the same time, the JCMAC v2.0 can also be the recipient of suggestions and recommendations on how to better serve the people of Marawi City and surrounding areas.
2. **Protection** is assisting entities that work on promoting the safety and welfare of the people and the protection of their rights and properties. The focus shall be on building capacities of communities to protect themselves. The JCMAC v2.0 shall engage agencies, institutions, organizations or mechanisms to support activities on civilian protection.
3. **Prevention** is working toward peaceful communities. The JCMAC v2.0 will play the role of an intermediary that can assist parties to address emerging conflicts

and support them to become preventive agents. The assistance provided by the JCMAC v2.0 can be the basis for longer term reconciliation, forgiveness and restorative justice.

V. COMPOSITION

The JCMAC v2.0 shall be composed of ten (10) representatives each from the GPH and the MILF, including the Focal Person from each Party as designated by their respective Panel chairpersons.

The daily operational activities of the JCMAC v2.0 shall be handled by their respective Coordinators who shall report directly to the Focal Persons.

There shall be a Joint Secretariat, two (2) members from each side that will provide support to the activities of the JCMAC v2.0. The CCCH and AHJAG of both Parties will play a vital role in JCMAC v2.0 activities.

The OPAPP, through its Cotabato Operations Office and supported by the Combined Secretariat of the GPH CCCH and AHJAG, shall extend the necessary technical, financial and administrative assistance in the establishment and operations of the JCMAC v2.0.


VI. LOCATION

The JCMAC v2.0 shall be domiciled in Marawi City at a location based on security and public accessibility considerations, as agreed upon by both Parties.

Satellite offices may be established as needed.


VII. SUPPORTING STAKEHOLDERS

The JCMAC v2.0 shall engage the support of the following:

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- International and Local Non-Government Organizations (NGOs)
 - Civil Society Organizations(CSO) involved in civilian protection
 - Local Traditional and Religious Leaders
 - Women and Youth Organizations
 - Development Partners
 - Private Sector
 - Other interested entities

VIII. MEETINGS

All meetings will be chaired by both focal persons from the GPH and the MILF.



The Joint Secretariat shall prepare the meeting agenda and other supporting papers as needed. It shall also document the proceeding and provide the Executive Summary/Minutes of Meeting to the members.

The JCMAC v2.0 shall meet monthly, to be scheduled on any day of the last week of the month. Special meetings may be called as the need arises.

IX. REPORTING

The JCMAC v2.0 shall submit periodic reports to the Implementing Panels on the progress of its operations.

X. EFFECTIVITY


This Terms of Reference is effective upon approval by the GPH and MILF Peace Implementing Panels and shall continue until terminated by said Panels.

XI. AMENDMENT, MODIFICATION OR VARIATION

This Terms of Reference may be amended, varied or modified in writing after consultation and agreement by members of JCMAC v2.0 and approved by the GPH and MILF Peace Implementing Panels.

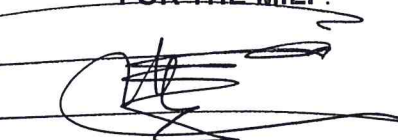
Done this 09th day of August 2018 in Cotabato City.

FOR THE GPH:



USEC. NABIL A. TAN
Chair, GPH Implementing Panel

FOR THE MILF:



MOHAGHER IQBAL
Chair, MILF Implementing Panel

Annex "A"

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART OF THE JCMAC v2.0

