

NATIONAL TASK FORCE TO END LOCAL COMMUNIST ARMED CONFLICT

GUIDELINES FOR THE CONDUCT OF LOCAL PEACE ENGAGEMENTS

I. BACKGROUND

President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Executive Order (E.O.) No. 70 – "Institutionalizing the Whole-of-Nation Approach in Attaining Inclusive and Sustainable Peace, Creating a National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict and Directing the Adoption of a National Peace Framework" on 4 December 2018 in cognizance of the need to reframe and refocus the government policy for achieving an inclusive and sustainable peace.

Towards this, a National Task Force to End the Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC) was created with the President as Chair, the National Security Adviser as Vice-Chair, and members from 18 government agencies¹ and 2 representatives from the private sector. The NTF-ELCAC will provide an efficient mechanism and structure for the implementation of the Whole-of-Nation Approach aimed towards prioritizing and harmonizing the delivery of basic services and social development packages in conflict-affected areas and vulnerable communities, and ensuring the active participation of all sectors of society in the pursuit of the country's peace agenda.

E.O. No. 70 likewise provides for the establishment of a mechanism for local peace engagements or negotiations or interventions that is nationally orchestrated, directed and supervised, while being locally implemented.

On 15 April 2019, the NTF-ELCAC convened its first meeting where the President approved the National Plan for the implementation of said EO, as well as the Implementation Plans (Implans) of each of the 12 Clusters/Lines of Effort that were formed by the NTF-ELCAC to help them in carrying out their mandate. These Plans resulted from a series of intensive meetings/workshops that were convened by the NTF-

¹ 18 member agencies are National Security Council (NSC), Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Department of Budget Management (DBM), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of National Defense (DND), Department of Finance (DOF), Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP), Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), National Intelligence Coordinating Agency (NICA), National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), and the Philippine National Police (PNP)

ELCAC Vice-Chair and Executive Director from January to April 2019.

The Implan of the Local Peace Engagement (LPE) Cluster provides, among others, for the issuance of Guidelines for the Conduct of Local Peace Engagements as part of the policy framework for this initiative.

II. PURPOSE

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This issuance seeks to provide the principles, policy framework, operating structures, and mechanics/phases of localization, to serve as guide to all peace stakeholders in the conduct of nationwide local peace engagements which will be done in conflict- affected and conflict-vulnerable communities through community consultations and problem-solving sessions, as well as through local peace dialogues with Communist Terrorist Group.

The LPE efforts are envisioned to:

- 1. strengthen capacities of national and local governance actors to effectively address socio-economic divides; create modalities and strengthen capacities of communities to resist violence and participate in peace building and development in order to achieve community resiliency and cultural harmony;
- 2. contribute towards institutionalizing a platform in changing mindset and for genuine good governance to improve the lives and welfare of the people; and,
- 3. effectively address the insurgency issues and contribute to the promotion of a culture of peace in conflict-affected and conflict-vulnerable communities and thus, create the environment conducive to human and national development.

III. LEGAL BASES

The key policies are as follows:

- 1. Joint Memorandum Circular No.01 series of 2019 on "Guidelines on the Operationalization of Executive Order No. 70 (s. 2018)"
- 2. EO 70 dated 4 December 2018 on "Institutionalizing the Whole-of-Nation Approach in Attaining Inclusive and Sustainable Peace, Creating a National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict and Directing the Adoption of a National Peace Framework"
- 3. AO 10 dated 3 April 2018 on "Centralizing All Government Efforts for the Reintegration of Former Rebels and Creating for the Purpose an Inter-Agency Task Force"
- 4. Proclamation 374 dated 5 December 2017 on "Declaring the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP)-New People's Army (NPA') as a designated/identified Terrorist Organization under Republic Act No.10168
- 5. Proclamation 360 dated 23 November 2017 on "Declaring the Termination of Peace Negotiations with the National Democratic Front-Communist Party of the

Philippines-New People's Army"

- 6. AFP-PNP Joint Letter Directive No. 3 as amended (series of 2016)
- 7. NDRRMC- NSC JMC No. 1 s 2016 approved on 30 August 2016 on the "Guidelines on the Formulation of Contingency Plans for Natural and Human-Induced Hazards and Adoption of the Contingency Planning Guidebook"
- 8. RA 10121 dated 27 May 2010 entitled the "Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010"
- 9. EO 3 dated 28 February 2001on "Defining Policy and Administrative Structure for Government's Comprehensive Peace Efforts"
- EO 115 dated 21 June 1999 on "Providing for the Mechanics and Operational Structure for the Localization of Peace Efforts to Address the Communist Insurgency"
- 11. EO 125 dated 15 September 1993 on "Defining Policy and administrative Structure for Government's Comprehensive Peace Efforts"
- 12. RA 7160 dated entitled 10 October 1991 on the "Local Government Code of 1991"
- 13. Other policy issuances that ensure the protection of the rights and the promotion of the interests of vulnerable sectors.

IV. POLICY FRAMEWORK AND GUIDELINES

A. OPERATING FRAMEWORK

The Framework for Local Peace Engagements and initiatives of the government shall be guided by the following principles:

- 1. The LPE mechanism and the government peace and development programs shall be nationally orchestrated, centrally directed, and locally supervised and implemented;
- 2. The country's constitutional integrity and sovereignty shall not be compromised;
- 3. There must be a complete and genuine resolution of the Local Armed Conflict, involving the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP); New People's Army (NPA), its organs of political power and its "Militia ng Bayan";
- 4. In the event of a ceasefire, the constitutional mandate of the State to ensure public safety, protect critical infrastructure and private properties; maintain peace and order and the rule of law, shall be maintained unconditionally;
- 5. As part of the Government peace incentive programs, a full amnesty program and a normalization process shall be implemented;
- 6. The agenda of the Local Peace Engagements shall be based on the flash point issues raised in the target priority areas, the local development plans and the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022; and,
- 7. The human rights principles of inclusive participation, accountability and transparency shall guide the overall directions of local peace engagements. The State shall actively encourage its citizens to be involved in the pursuit of peace at the level of their communities, especially in determining the appropriate agenda, the results of which shall be truly responsive to their needs.

The LPE efforts shall also be guided by the principles underlying the comprehensive peace process, as previously laid down by the National Unification Commission (NUC) under EO 125 (series of 1993) "Defining Policy and administrative Structure

for Government's Comprehensive Peace Efforts" and subsequently reaffirmed under EO No. 3 (with same title issued in 2001). Thus, the localization of the peace process shall:

- 1. Be community-based, reflecting the sentiments, values and principles important to all Filipinos.
- 2. Seek to forge a new social compact for a just, equitable, humane and pluralistic society.
- 3. Seek a principled and peaceful resolution of the armed conflict, with neither blame nor surrender, but with dignity for all concerned.

The localization of the peace process shall be done to generate a positive impact that shall revitalize and complement the "six paths to peace", which are integral parts of the government's comprehensive peace process and are provided for in EO No. 3 Defining Policy and administrative Structure for Government Peace Efforts (s.2001):

- 1. Pursuit of social, economic and political reforms that address the root causes of the armed conflicts;
- 2. Building consensus and empowerment for peace;
- 3. Pursuit of a peaceful, negotiated settlement with the different armed rebel groups;
- 4. Establishment of programs for reconciliation and reintegration into mainstream society;
- 5. Addressing concerns that arise out of the continuing armed hostilities; and,
- 6. Nurturing a positive climate for peace.

B. OPERATING STRUCTURES

1 National Task Force to End the Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC)

These structures shall serve as the venue for integrating and coordinating national efforts to localize the peace efforts. They shall be responsible for overseeing and supervising the conduct of local peace engagements. They shall perform the following duties and responsibilities:

- a. Provide policy directions and operational guidelines for efficient and effective implementation of local peace efforts;
- Identify national issues that bear directly on the insurgency, including issues and concerns that may be referred by the Regional Task Forces to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (RTFs-ELCAC) composed of the Joint RPOCs-RDCs and Local Task Forces-ELCAC (LTF-ELCAC Provincial/City/Municipal/Barangay-P/C/M/B);
- c. Identify and recommend to the President, on a continuing basis, specific areas in the country that may be ready for local peace dialogues, after convening the RTF-ELCAC and LTFs-ELCAC (P/C/M/B);

- d. Formulate a Basic Reform Agenda for Peace that shall pave the way for lasting peace settlements with the insurgents;
- e. Coordinate and monitor the activities of the RTF-ELCAC and LTFs-ELCAC (P/C/M/B) to ensure sustainability of peace efforts;
- f. Develop and oversee the implementation of an appropriate Information, Education and Communication Plan for localizing the peace process;
- g. Submission of regular reports to the President to sustain movement and progress of the ELCAC work; and,
- h. Undertake other tasks that the President may deem necessary

The NTF-ELCAC shall adopt the following guidelines to assist them in carrying out their mandated tasks:

- a. Focus on issues of injustice that are (potential) causes of armed conflict in the affected barangays and vulnerable communities, also referred to as conflict areas.
- b. Work on social, economic and political reforms whether local, sectoral or institutional that address the root causes of the armed conflicts.
- c. Begin with those that are quickly and effectively implementable to build confidence in the process. The basis will be the recommendations of local or sectoral interclusters' assessments and decisions.
- d. Adopt a conflict-sensitive² and peace-promoting approach in the development, planning and implementation of policies, programs, projects and activities in support of the local peace engagements;
- e. Use the imaginative problem-solving approach, cutting, where legally feasible, through the bureaucratic maze. For this purpose, close coordination and effective working relationship with concerned government agencies, the private sector and civil society groups shall be undertaken to ensure the implementation of a Whole-of-Nation Approach.
- f. Initiate programs to empower communities to participate in developing a culture of peace.
- g. After the proper security clearances, involve a wide range of individuals and groups from civil society, church, and private sector and ensure their active participation, for everyone to own the process.
- h. Adopt modalities of interventions that will ensure timely, responsive and sustained action to address issues of unpeace.

2. RTFs-ELCAC (Joint RPOCs-RDCs), supervised by the Cabinet Officers for Regional Development and Security (CORDS)

These are the structures responsible for coordinating the local peace engagements at the regional and local levels. Localization operationalizes the principle that genuine peace should be anchored on the sentiments and aspirations of the people, because the people are both the prime movers and beneficiaries of the peace process. The RTFs-ELCAC and LTFs-ELCAC (P/C/M/B)-shall be guided by the operating principles

² **Conflict sensitivity** refers to the ability of an organization to: understand the context in which it is operating, particularly intergroup relations; understand the interactions between its interventions and the context/group relations; and, act upon the understanding of these interactions, in order to avoid negative impacts and maximize positive impacts. **Peace-promotion through peacebuilding** refers to measures designed to consolidate peaceful relations and strengthen viable political, socio-economic, and cultural institutions capable of handling conflict, and to strengthen other mechanisms that will either create or support the necessary conditions for sustained peace.

enunciated by the NTF-ELCAC.

Towards this end, they shall perform the following functions:

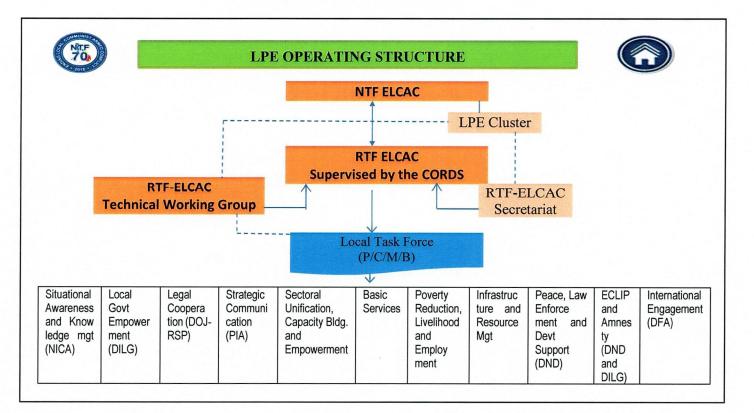
- i. Coordinate with concerned agencies and LGUs in determining focus areas for undertaking LPEs;
- ii. Identify issues and concerns creating situations of "unpeace" or potential armed conflict, recommend appropriate action, and coordinate or cause the resolution of the same;
- iii. Determine the programs and projects that can be implemented to address socioeconomic concerns of communities affected;
- iv. Promote an environment and culture of peace in the region;
- v. Refer to the NTF-ELCAC, issues and concerns requiring Presidential intervention and/or actions from the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the government; and provide regular feedback to the community;
- vi. Agree on institutional arrangements for their secretariat functions; and,
- vii. Provide regular reports to the President, through the NTF-ELCAC, on their activities as well as the peace situation in their areas of responsibility.

In light of the above functions, the RTFs-ELCAC and LTFs-ELCAC (P/C/M/B) are expected to fulfill the following roles:

- a. As peace advocate. They shall champion the cause of peace in the area by utilizing local media and other advocacy channels. In coordination with OPAPP, they shall endeavor to build public support for ending violence and armed conflict through the conduct of continuing consultations on both the national and regional levels. This shall build consensus for a peace agenda and process, and the mobilization and facilitation of people's participation in the peace process. For this purpose, they may link up with the existing network of peace partners in the areas.
- b. As grievance mechanism. They shall be the venue for reporting and resolving issues raised by the community that are at the root of, resulting from or further aggravating the armed conflict. As such, they shall ensure that legitimate concerns are properly documented and referred to the agencies or persons that can act on them within a specific timeframe. They shall also be responsible for following up the status of action on such issues and reporting the same to the NTF-ELCAC.
- c. <u>As facilitator</u>. They shall assist the community in accessing projects, services and resources as components of a local "quick response program" for peace, especially for addressing socio-economic issues and those for medium to long-term interventions that are to be incorporated in the LGU's Comprehensive Development Plans (CDPs). They shall also identify and network with persons and offices that can facilitate the entry of development interventions needed by the community.

3. Role of the LPE Cluster

- a. The RTFs-ELCAC and LTF-ELCAC (P/C/M/B) will mirror the LPE Cluster at the national level.
- b. The members of the LPE Cluster will be the focal agencies in cascading the LPE Implan and Guidelines to the regional and local levels.
- c. The LPE Cluster will coordinate with the RTFs-ELCAC Secretariat and RTF Technical Working Group (RTF TWG) in ensuring that Action Plans related to the two tracks of the LPE are in line with the LPE Implan and Guidelines.
- d. The LPE Cluster shall ensure that inter-cluster coordination (vertical and horizontal) shall be done in carrying out its Implan.
- e. In identified areas of Indigenous Peoples/Indigenous Cultural Communities (IP/ICC), the LPE Cluster will ensure the support for the reconciliation and healing processes through the traditional conflict-resolution mechanisms by the indigenous political structures.



The above diagram shows the convergence mechanism from the national to the barangay levels. The LPE Cluster serves as a conduit between the NTF and the RTF, through the latter's TWG and Secretariat. The LPE Cluster shall likewise ensure close coordination with the 11 Clusters/LOE.

4. TWO-TRACK APPROACH FOR LOCALIZATION

The LPE shall be undertaken in two tracks in pursuing the localization efforts, as follows:

Track 1: Community Consultations and Problem-Solving Sessions

These serve as the government's platform to ensure people's participation in the peace process. It is a secured democratic space for continuing dialogues between the RTFs-ELCAC/LTFs-ELCAC (P/C/M/B) and community stakeholders to surface, discuss and clarify issues and concerns that are at the root of, resulting from or affecting the peace process. It also aims to gather recommendations and strategies to address these concerns.

This track includes existing programs like PAMANA, and other convergence efforts at the regional, provincial, municipal and barangay levels. The target is the mass base and underground movements including supporters, family members and other political infrastructures, which comprise 85% of the guerilla fronts.

The issues, concerns and recommendations raised shall then be considered in the formulation of the local peace agenda where appropriate levels of response shall also be identified.

<u>Track 2: Local Peace Dialogues with the Communist Terrorist Group</u> (CTG)

These refer to dialogues conducted between the local mechanisms and the leaders and/or members of the CTG. These may be undertaken either openly or discreetly, with or without intermediaries, with those who are willing to engage with government, which will result in local-level peace agreements and their availment of peace and development programs. This track may also include peace dialogues with armed members of the group who will avail of the E-CLIP without the benefit of a local-level peace agreement.

These two (2) tracks can be undertaken simultaneously as an integrated whole package, or independently of each other, depending on the situation prevailing in the locality. They are intended to be flexible, adaptable and broad in range, in order to cater to any modality that the CTGs may avail of.

The programs, projects and activities (PPAs) under the LPE's 2-tracks should coincide with or interface with the PPAs of other concerned Clusters to: (1) ensure convergence of efforts at the community level (such as delivery of basic services and socio-economic packages); (2) ensure complementation of programs and services provided to the individual FRs, their families and communities; (3) establish and/or strengthen culture, values, gender and conflict sensitive peace dialogues/local peace agenda-identification by region and province; and (4) strengthen local capacities for conflict prevention, resolution and management.

5. MECHANICS FOR LOCALIZATION UNDER THE TWO-TRACK APPROACH

<u>Track 1: Community Consultations and Problem-Solving Sessions to be</u> <u>conducted by the RTFs-ELCAC and LTFs-ELCAC (P/C/M/B).</u>

A. Pre-Localization Phase

- 1. Request from the Retooled Community Support Program (RCSP) operators the result of their barangay area study to separate the insurgents from the peace-loving people and identify the needs of the people in the ground.
- 2. The Peace, Law Enforcement and Development Support (PLEDS) Cluster, through the RCSP, will conduct Local Conflict Analysis which will include the following:
 - a. Assessment of Area Profile (areas, issues, and context)
 - b. Identification of Actors (causes and dynamics)
 - c. Prioritization of Issues
- 3. Social Preparation will be led by DSWD and DILG in ground/community coordination. This will include information dissemination, community education, and advocacy. The Strategic Communications (StratCom) Cluster will be in charge of the IEC materials.
- 4. Coordinate with other agencies to join the Localized Peace Engagement Team that will conduct the community problemsolving sessions to validate the needs and problems noted by the RCSP operators. The proposed members of the Regional/Provincial Municipal/Barangay LPE Team are as follows:
 - a. Administrator
 - b. Engineering Officer
 - c. Social Welfare and Development Officer
 - d. Agriculture Officer
 - e. Chief of Police
 - f. AFP Commander
 - g. Representative Religious Organization
 - h. President Liga ng mga Barangay
 - i. SK Chairman
 - j. Disaster Risk Reduction Office
 - k. Others as necessary

5. Advocate information drive to the affected barangays and conduct Pulong-Pulong/Summing Up of RCSP to ensure total participation of the community.

B. Localization Phase

- 1. Conduct community assemblies in the priority areas to inform the public about the RTFs-ELCAC/CORDS/LTF (P/C/M/B) purposes, and to surface issues and recommendations on how they should be addressed so that peace can be realized.
- 2. Validate the issue as pointed out by the area study.
- 3. Classify issues and match with doable interventions and accountable persons and/or agencies. Based on the issues raised and recommendations made at the community assembly, it may analyze whether these require policy, program/project, resources or process interventions. The recommended intervention should be as specific, realistic and doable as possible.
- 4. Coordinate with concerned NTF-ELCAC Clusters and hold commitment-setting session/s with the appropriate regional and/or provincial agencies for issues that can be addressed locally. It may send official communication to the NTF-ELCAC and to the concerned agencies regarding specific requests for action from the community prior to holding the pledging session. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to implement the doable interventions within a specific period may be forged. Copies of the MOA shall be provided to the NTF-ELCAC and the heads of the agencies, for monitoring purposes.
- 5. Ensure converged, timely and efficient implementation of commitments made by concerned agencies and other peacebuilding and development programs, projects and activities.

C. Post-Localization Phase

The Regional/Provincial/Municipal/Barangay LPE Team will then conduct a feedback assembly with the community to report on the resolution of major issues.

The RTFs-ELCAC, through the CORDS, will monitor and assess the process/delivery of commitment. This will be reported to the NTF-ELCAC through the CORDS.

1. The RTF-ELCAC, through the CORDS, will recommend action to the NTF-ELCAC for issues that require Presidential intervention or executive, legislative and judicial action. It may request the NTF-ELCAC's intercession for issues that cannot be addressed locally. The NTF-ELCAC shall immediately deliberate on the same and endorse action documents for the President's approval.

- 2. The RTFs-ELCAC, through the CORDS, will also hold progress meetings with concerned provincial agencies to check on implementation of agreed programs and projects, and send regular monthly reports to the NTF-ELCAC regarding the status of such programs and projects.
- 3. The Regional/Provincial/Municipal/Barangay LPE Team will consolidate unacted problems and issues to be presented to the concerned agencies in the region through the RTF-ELCAC under the supervision of the CORDS. Feedback on the status will be given to the community concerned.
- 4. The RTFs-ELCAC, through the CORDS, will monitor and evaluate to ensure that appropriate measures are being undertaken to respond to the issues and concerns raised therein.

Track Two: Local Peace Dialogues between the Local Peace Panel (Regional/Provincial/Municipal/Barangay) and the Communist Terrorist Group

A. Pre-Localization Phase:

- a. Out of the community problem sessions, feelers or intention to hold local peace dialogues or surrender may appear.
- b. The SAKM Cluster will verify intentions and identity of the members of the Communist Terrorist Group through reliable intermediaries/emissaries. This is necessary to validate the legitimacy of the Communist Terrorist Group and for the safety of RTF-ELCAC/CORDS (Joint RPOC-RDC and sub-level joint councils) members. Once the intent and identity of the members have been verified, then it may proceed.
- B. Localization Phase: There are two options. The leaders and/or members of the Communist Terrorist Group may either enter into a Local- level Peace Agreement with a Local Peace Panel or directly avail of the E-CLIP.
 - 1. Local-level Peace Agreement

Upon the recommendation of the RTF-ELCAC/CORDS, the NTF-ELCAC will create a **Local Peace Panel** (**Regional/Provincial/Municipal/Barangay**) that will conduct local peace dialogues with the Communist Terrorist Group. The proposed Local Peace Panel members are as follows:

- a. Local Chief Executive;
- b. Local Armed Forces of the Philippines Commanders;
- c. Local Philippine National Police Commanders;

- d. Two (2) accredited Civil Society Organizations;
- e. One (1) Religious Sector and One (1) Academe;
- f. IP Mandatory Representative (Provincial level areas with ancestral domain) or Traditional Leaders;
- g. Provincial Prosecutor

The Local Peace Panel (Regional/Provincial/Municipal/Barangay), under the supervision of the RTF-ELCAC, through the CORDS, shall:

a. Set up exploratory dialogues. This is an opportunity for the body to consult and get inputs from the insurgent group on how to peacefully settle the armed conflict, or at the very least, how to humanize

it. The body may request the group's leader to submit its proposed ground rules and substantive agenda for the talks.

- b. Coordinate with the RTF-ELCAC, through the CORDS, regarding the Communist Terrorist Groups and government's common talking points. After evaluating the situation, the NTF-ELCAC shall provide specific guidance to the body regarding the actual conduct of peace dialogues. The NTF-ELCAC may also designate one or two of its members to join the local panel.
- c. Draft the ground rules. This may include conditions for holding the formal peace dialogues, such as: venue, composition of both panels, issuance of safe conduct passes, cessation of hostilities in the area, etc.
- d. Formulate the agenda. This should be informed of the results of the consultations with the community. It may also include other concerns to humanize the armed conflict.
- e. Draft the local-level peace agreement and submit to the NTF-ELCAC, through the RTF-ELCAC/CORDS, for review and approval
- f. Hold the local-level formal peace dialogues to discuss and agree on a joint local-level peace agreement. The following principles shall form the foundation of any dialogue with the armed rebel group:
 - i. The Philippine Republic is the only sovereignty. The government will never accord belligerency status to any armed rebel group.
 - ii. The resolution of any issue or the response to any demand shall always be within the bounds of the Philippine Constitution and the ambit of law.
 - iii. The local peace panel, through the RTF-ELCAC/CORDS, shall consult the NTF-ELCAC regarding any demand or issue that involves a question of

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national policy or security prior to making any commitment.

- iv. Provide regular progress reports to the NTF-ELCAC, through the RTF-ELCAC/CORDS, regarding the status of local peace engagements.
- g. Submit to the NTF-ELCAC, through the RTF-ELCAC/CORDS, the draft joint local-level peace agreement, for approval.
- h. Sign the joint local-level peace agreement
- i. Implement agreements
- j. Monitor and evaluate compliance to agreements
- k. Sign Completion/Exit Agreement

2. E-CLIP

Should the Communist Terrorist Group choose this option, the Local Peace Panel shall conduct initial dialogue with the group and endorse the latter to the ECLIP/ Amnesty Cluster for the availment of benefits, programs and services.

C. Post-Localization Phase:

The ECLIP/Amnesty Cluster shall submit regular quarterly reports to the NTF-ELCAC, through the RTF-ELCAC/CORDS. It shall also facilitate government's issuance of an Amnesty Proclamation.

V. AMENDMENT CLAUSE

These Guidelines shall be periodically reviewed and amended as necessary, by the NTF-ELCAC.

VI. EFFECTIVITY

These Guidelines shall take effect upon approval by the NTF ELCAC.

HERMOGENES C ESPERON JR National Security Adviser and DG, NSC Vice Chairman, NTF-ELCAC

ALLEN A CAPUYAN Chairperson, NCIP Executive Director, NTF-ELCAC

Date: September 18, 2019



UNDERSECRETARY ALLEN A. CAPUYAN Executive Director NTF Secretariat, E.O. 70 AUG 1 6 2019

Dear Usec. Capuyan :

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The Executive Order No. 70 provides for the establishment of a mechanism for local peace engagements or negotiations or interventions that is nationally orchestrated, directed and supervised, while being locally implemented. The Implan of the Local Peace Engagement (LPE) Cluster provides, among others, for the issuance of Guidelines for the Conduct of Local Peace Engagements as part of the policy framework for NTF ELCAC initiative.

In line with this, the Local Peace Engagement Cluster, through the Chairmanship of the Department of the Interior and Local Government and the co-Chairmanship of the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process, has finalized the Guidelines for the Conduct of Local Peace last 06 August 2019.

In this regard, we humbly endorse the attached Guidelines for the Conduct of Local Peace for your approval.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

EDUARDOM. AÑO Secretary Department of the Interior and Local Government

