DEED OF COMMITMENT UNDER GENEVA CALL
FOR ADHERENCE TO A TOTAL BAN ON ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES
AND FOR COOPERATION IN MINE ACTION

WE, the REBOLUSYONARY YONG PARTIDO NG MANGGAGAWA NG MINDANAO
(REvolutionary Workers Party of Mindanao, RPM-M) and its
REVOLUTIONARY PEOPLE’S ARMY (RPA), through our duly authorized representative(s),

Recognising the global scourge of anti-personnel mines which indiscriminately and inhumanely
kill and maim combatants and civilians, mostly innocent and defenceless people, especially
women and children, even after the armed conflict is over;

Realising that the limited military utility of anti-personnel mines is far outweighed by their
appalling humanitarian, socio-economic and environmental consequences, including on post-
conflict reconciliation and reconstruction;

Rejecting the notion that revolutionary ends or just causes justify inhumane means and methods
of warfare of a nature to cause unnecessary suffering;

Reaffirming our determination to protect the civilian population from the effects or dangers of
military actions, and to respect their rights to life, to human dignity, and to development;

Resolved to play our role not only as actors in armed conflicts but also as participants in the
practice and development of legal and normative standards for such conflicts, starting with a
contribution to the overall humanitarian effort to solve the global landmine problem for the sake
of its victims;

Accepting that international humanitarian law and human rights apply to and oblige all parties to
armed conflicts;

Acknowledging the norm of a total ban on anti-personnel mines established by the 1997 Ottawa
Treaty, which is an important step toward the total eradication of landmines;

NOW, THEREFORE, hereby solemnly commit ourselves to the following terms:
1. TO ADHERE to a total ban on anti-personnel mines. By anti-personnel mines, we refer to those devices which effectively explode by the presence, proximity or contact of a person, including other victim-activated explosive devices and anti-vehicle mines with the same effect whether with or without anti-handling devices. By total ban, we refer to a complete prohibition on all use, development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, retention, and transfer of such mines, under any circumstances. This includes an undertaking on the destruction of all such mines.

2. TO COOPERATE IN AND UNDERTAKE stockpile destruction, mine clearance, victim assistance, mine awareness, and various other forms of mine action, especially where these programs are being implemented by independent international and national organisations.

3. TO ALLOW AND COOPERATE in the monitoring and verification of our commitment to a total ban on anti-personnel mines by Geneva Call and other independent international and national organisations associated for this purpose with Geneva Call. Such monitoring and verification include visits and inspections in all areas where anti-personnel mines may be present, and the provision of the necessary information and reports, as may be required for such purposes in the spirit of transparency and accountability.

4. TO ISSUE the necessary orders and directives to our commanders and fighters for the implementation and enforcement of our commitment under the foregoing paragraphs, including measures for information dissemination and training, as well as disciplinary sanctions in case of non-compliance.

5. TO TREAT this commitment as one step or part of a broader commitment in principle to the ideal of humanitarian norms, particularly of international humanitarian law and human rights, and to contribute to their respect in field practice as well as to the further development of humanitarian norms for armed conflicts.

6. This Deed of Commitment shall not affect our legal status, pursuant to the relevant clause in common article 3 of the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949.

7. We understand that Geneva Call may publicize our compliance or non-compliance with this Deed of Commitment.

8. We see the desirability of attracting adherence of other armed groups to this Deed of Commitment and will do our part to promote it.

9. This Deed of Commitment complements or supercedes, as the case may be, any existing unilateral declaration of ours on anti-personnel mines.

10. This Deed of Commitment shall take effect immediately upon its signing and receipt by the Government of the Republic and Canton of Geneva which receives it as the custodian of such deeds and similar unilateral declarations.

Done this 11thday of September (9/11) 2003 in Mindanao and Manila, Philippines.
For the REBOLUSYONARYONG PARTIDO
NG MANGGAGAWA NG MINDANAO
(REVOLUTIONARY WORKER'S PARTY
OF MINDANAO, RPM-M)
and its REVOLUTIONARY PEOPLE'S ARMY (RPA):

HARRY TUBONGBANWA
Chairperson, RPMM

For GENEVA CALL:

Atty. SOLIMAN M. SANTOS, JR.
Regional Director for Asia

Received for the Government of the Republic and Canton of Geneva
on the 12th day of October, 2003 by:

ROBERT TURNER
Chancery Chief