

PAX CHRISTI-PILIPINAS QUARTERLY REPORT (MAY TO JULY 2015)

Mindanao Peace Process

PCP continues to participate in civil society meetings relating to the Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL), in particular, and the Mindanao peace process in general. On May 7, we were part of the large group that met at La Breza Hotel to plan on the lobby and campaign in support of an inclusive BBL. On May 13, June 8-9, June 23 and July 4, we participated in meetings called by All Out Peace. PCP is part of the loose network.



We continue to participate in forums that give updates on the peace process, as well, including the forum called for by the National Peace Council held at the Luxent Hotel on 7 May 2015.

On May 11, we joined the public action for the Executive Committee voting on the BBL at the House of Representatives.

On 11 June, PCP also was represented at the breakfast meeting with members of the MILF Panel where HB 5811, Draft Law on the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region, was discussed. Meeting was organized by WE Act 1325 and All Out Peace and was held at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Makati. In this meeting, the MILF appealed for support from civil society in asking legislature to adopt a BBL that is true to the letter and spirit of the CAB.

Arms Control and Disarmament

We continue our work on arms control and disarmament. On 14 May, Mirma Tica, our PCP Treasurer joined other advocates for a meeting at Sen. Grace Poe's office to follow up on our submitted proposal to amend the new gun law. PCP joins the Center for Peace Education in its work and lobby to amend the existing gun law which liberalizes gun ownership.



On 20-21 May, Angela Velasquez, PCP member, attended a Training on National Reporting on Armed Violence organized by Global Alliance on Armed Violence, CPE, OSETC and the Development Academy of the Philippines. PCP is part of the civil society group that will help in producing a national report on armed violence.



Pax Christi General Meeting

On May 12-19 PCP President Jasmin Nario Galace joined other Section heads/coordinators for a General Meeting/Assembly in Bethlehem. She spoke in a panel on peace education and the youth.

Education and Advocacy

On 25 May, PCP, CPE and the Women Peacemakers Program commemorated Gender and Disarmament Day by giving focus on the issue of gender and disarmament in a peace education workshop for new faculty of Miriam College. PCP President Jasmin Nario-Galace facilitated the workshop.



Gender and Peace

PCP participated in the workshop on “Negotiating a Better Peace Tool” organized by the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders, Marco Polo Hotel, Ortigas. The workshop aimed at validating a tool meant to enhance women’s participation in peace processes. We also participated at the Women’s Unity Conference aimed at consolidating lobby points for the BBL that relate to gender equality and women’s human rights.

PCP Section Activities



On 3 July, Pax Christi-Miriam College organized an Ukay-ukay for Peace. Ukay-ukay” is a local term for a rummage sale. Funds generated will be used to support the activities of Pax Christi-Miriam College and to support a scholar from Rajah Muda High School in Pikit, Cotabato.