



FACT SHEET

U.S.- PHILIPPINES 2+2 MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE

JULY 30, 2024

During the fourth U.S.-Philippines 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue in Manila on July 30, 2024, U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Philippines Secretary of National Defense Gilberto Teodoro, and Philippines Secretary of Foreign Affairs Enrique Manalo determined several defense initiatives to strengthen the capabilities of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, modernize the alliance, and advance a shared vision with allies and partners in the region for a free and open Indo-Pacific.

INVESTING IN CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT

U.S.-Philippine defense and security ties serve as the cornerstone of the alliance. As the United States and the Philippines work to ensure a free and open Indo-Pacific region, the four officials identified new ways to continue to strengthen alliance capabilities by:

- ▶ **Allocating \$500 million in Foreign Military Financing (FMF) to enhance the capability of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine Coast Guard** to fulfill their territorial defense mission and contribute to regional security, working with the U.S. Congress.
- ▶ **Implementing the bilateral Security Sector Assistance Roadmap**, which will guide shared defense modernization planning and investments in priority capabilities over the next five to ten years.
- ▶ **Advancing cybersecurity cooperation** by providing an integrated cyber range and training platform, as well as on-demand training, to develop and sustain a skilled cyber workforce, and by integrating cyber into military exercises, including Exercise BALIKATAN.

MODERNIZING ALLIANCE COOPERATION

The United States and the Philippines have made significant strides to address security challenges in the Indo-Pacific by modernizing alliance cooperation, including by:

- ▶ **Establishing the Roles, Missions, and Capabilities Working Group** to strengthen bilateral planning and interoperability by providing policy guidance for joint operations, activities, and investments consistent with the Philippines-United States Bilateral Defense Guidelines signed in May 2023.
- ▶ **Operationalizing Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) Agreed Locations** to enable increasingly complex combined training, exercises, and interoperability between U.S. and Philippine armed forces, including through a proposed investment of \$128 million in the Fiscal Year 2025 President's Budget Request, as well as Philippine civilian-led disaster preparedness and response capacities.
- ▶ **Expanding information-sharing on key challenges confronting the U.S.-Philippine alliance through concluding two key bilateral information sharing agreements:** the Communications and Information

Security Memorandum of Agreement (CISMOA), extended in June 2024, and the General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA), which both countries have agreed to finalize before the end of the year.

SUPPORTING A FREE AND OPEN INDO-PACIFIC

The United States and Philippines are solidifying multilateral cooperation with likeminded partners and allies to sustain peace and security in the Indo-Pacific by:

- ▶ **Bolstering multilateral Maritime Cooperative Activities** to promote security cooperation and expand operational coordination with other like-minded partners, including Australia and Japan.
- ▶ **Enhancing multilateral coordination across all sectors**, including opportunities to further advance defense cooperation, enhancing procedures to enable coordination and information sharing, and strengthening multilateral capacity building efforts.



U.S. Department of Defense