



GENERAL ORDER NO. 1

**AN ORDER PROMULGATING A CODE
OF CONDUCT REGULATING THE
AFFAIRS OF THE BANGSAMORO
ISLAMIC ARMED FORCES, PRESCRIBING
ITS POWERS, DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS,
AND OTHER RELATED PURPOSES**

By the General Staff

Handwritten signature in white ink, likely of the General Staff, written in a stylized, cursive script.

MISSION:

“TO SERVE, PROTECT, DEFEND, AND
PROMOTE THE NATIONAL INTEGRITY,
INTEREST AND WELL-BEING OF THE
BANGSAMORO PEOPLE AND THEIR
HOMELAND.”

BIAF

Revised
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Pages
I - TITLE	
Article 1. Title	1
II - DECLARATION OF POLICY	
Article 2. National Policy	1
III - DEFINITION OF TERMS	
Article 3. Definition	1
IV - COMPOSITIONS, PROMOTIONS, QUALIFICATIONS, SUCCESSIONS, POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES	
Article 4. Composition of the General Staff	3
Article 5. Appointment	3
Article 6. Qualification	3
Article 7. Vacancy	4
Article 8. Succession	4
Article 9. The General Staff	4
Article 10 The Chief of Staff	5
Article 11. The Vice Chief of Staff	5
Article 12. Department in the General Staff	5
Article 13. The Special Staff	6
Article 14. The Administrative Department	6
Article 15. The Intelligence Department	7
Article 16. The Operation Department	7
Article 17. The Supply and Logistics Department	8

Article 18. The Planning Department	8
Article 19. The Training and Education Department	9
Article 20. The Islamic Call and guidance Department	9
Article 21. The Health and Dental Department	10
Article 22. The Military Disciplinary Board	10
Article 23. The sub-department of the Military Disciplinary Board	11
Article 24. The War Materials and Production Department	11
Article 25. The Research and Development Department	12
Article 26. The Civil-Military Relations Department	12
Article 27. The General Headquarters Command (GHQ)	12
Article 28. The Front Command	13
MEETINGS, QUORUM AND ITS PROCEDURES	
Article 29. The General Staff Meetings	13
Article 30. Notice	14
Article 31. Quorum	14
Article 32. The Procedure in the Conduct of General Staff Meetings	14
VI - BANGSAMORO ISLAMIC ARMED FORCES (BIAF)	
Article 33. Components of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces	15
Article 34. Commitment and Conviction of the BIAF	15
Article 35. Unity	16
VII - COMMISSIONSHIP IN THE BIAF	
Article 36. Recruitment and Selection	16
VIII - DISCIPLINE	

Article 37. Discipline	16
Article 38. Prohibited Acts	17
Article 39. Fardho/Wajib	17
Article 40. Observance of Sunnah	17
Article 41. Bid'a	18
Article 42. Authority to Implement	18
IX - WAR OFFENSES AND OTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTS	
Article 43. Desertion	18
Article 44. Aiding another to Desert	18
Article 45. Entertaining a Deserter	18
Article 46. Absence without Leave (A.W.O.L.)	9
Article 47. Disrespect towards the Chairman, Vice Chairmen and Speaker of the Majilis	
As-Shoura	19
Article 48. Disrespect toward Superior Officer	19
Article 49. Assaulting or Willful Disobeying Superior Officer	19
Article 50. Insubordinate and Conduct Toward Non-Commissioned Officer	19
Article 51. Mutiny or Sedition	19
Article 52. Failure to Suppress Mutiny or Sedition	19
Article 53. Quarrels, Frays and Disorder	20
Article 54. Misbehavior before the Enemy	20
Article 55. Subordinate Compelling his Superior	20
Article 56. Captured Property to be Secured for Public Service	20
Article 57. Dealing Captured or Abandoned Property	20

Article 58. Relieving, Corresponding with, or Aiding the Enemy	21
Article 59. Spies	21
Article 60. Military Property - Willful or Negligent Loss, Damage or Wrongful Disposition	21
Article 61. Wasteful or Unlawful Disposition of Military property issued to Forces	21
Article 62. Provoking Speeches or Gesture	21
Article 63. Dueling	21
Article 64. Conduct Unbecoming an Officer and Gentleman	22
Article 65. General Article	22
Article 66. Disciplinary Jurisdiction	22
Article 67. Application	22
Article 68. Procedure	23
Article 69. Form and Contents of Judgment	23
Article 70. Appeal	24
Article 71. Administration of Oath or Yameen	24
Article 72. Preventive Suspension	24
Article 73. Fees	25
X - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS	
Article 74. Conflict of Provisions	25
Article 75. Amendment	25
Article 76. Effectivity Clause	25
Annexes	

Historical Background

Bismillahir Rahmaanir Rahiem
In the Name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

Moro Islamic Liberation Front
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces
Camp Abubakre As-Siddique
Bangsamoro Homeland

GENERAL ORDER NO. 1

AN ORDER PROMULGATING A CODE OF CONDUCT REGULATING THE AFFAIRS OF THE BANGSAMORO ISLAMIC ARMED FORCES, PRESCRIBING ITS POWERS, DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS, AND OTHER RELATED PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) is pursuing a program aimed at strengthening and professionalizing the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces;

WHEREAS, there is a need to formulate a code of conduct that would serve as guidance to the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF) with the view of making them more effective, efficient, and reliable, in the exercise of their mandated task and responsibility;

WHEREAS, the General Staff (G.S.), BIAF had proposed a code of conduct that would govern the entire MILF military institution;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Al Haj Murad Ebrahim, by virtue of the powers vested in me as the Chairman of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and Commander-in-Chief of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF) do hereby order and promulgate the following:

TITLE

ARTICLE 1. Title – This order shall be known as the “Code of Conduct of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.”

DECLARATION OF POLICY

ARTICLE 2. National Policy – It shall be the prime duty of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF), to serve, protect, defend and promote the national integrity, interest and well-being of the Bangsamoro people and its homeland.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

ARTICLE 3. Definition - As used in this Code, the following shall be construed, thus:

- (a) "General Staff" is the highest policy-making body of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (b) "Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces" is the sole armed component of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).
- (c) "Chief of Staff" is the head of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF) and Chairman of the General Staff (G.S.).
- (d) "Desertion" means any officer who, having tendered his resignation and prior to due notice of the acceptance of the same, quits his post or proper duties without leave and with intent to absence himself permanently there from or any forces who, without having first received a regular discharge, or any person subject to military law who quits his organization or place of duty with the intent to avoid hazardous duty or other important services.
- (e) "Officer" shall be construed to as the cadre officers, commissioned officers and other officers of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (f) "Forces" shall be construed to include the non-commissioned officers and elements of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (g) "Person Subject to this Code" the person subject to this Code is officer and elements of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces except the Commander-in-Chief and the Chief of Staff.
- (h) "Judgment" is a decision rendered by the competent authority.
- (i) "Arrest" is the taking of a person into custody in order that he may be bound to answer for the commission of an offense. It is made by an actual restraint of the person arrested, or by his submission to the custody of the person making the arrest. No violence or unnecessary force shall be used in making the arrest, and the person arrested shall not be subjected to any greater restraint than is necessary for his detention.
- (j) "BIWAB" refers to the Bangsamoro Islamic Women Auxiliary Brigade, a military unit in the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces composed of women.
- (k) "Discipline" is an instruction and exercise designed to train to proper conduct or action; it is also a punishment inflicted by way of correction and training.

COMPOSITIONS, APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, QUALIFICATIONS,
SUCCESSIONS, POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

ARTICLE 4. The Composition of the General Staff- The following are the composition of the General Staff of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces:

- 1. The Chief of Staff and his Special Staff
- 2. The Vice Chief of Staff
- 3. The Department Heads and their Deputies
- 4. The Commander of the General Headquarters (GHQ)
- 5. Front Commanders
- 6. All members of the Foreign trained commanders also known as "Batch 300"

ARTICLE 5. Appointment and Promotions – (1) The appointments and promotions of the Chief of Staff and the Vice Chief of Staff of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces shall be the sole prerogative of the Commander-in-Chief. The General Staff (G.S.) may submit a list of nominees from which the Commander-in-Chief may choose.

- (2). The appointments and promotions of the members of the General Staff, the Base Commanders and the Deputies of the Front Commanders shall be upon the recommendation of the Chief of Staff in his capacity as Chairman of the General Staff and approved by the Commander-in-Chief.
- (3). The appointments and promotions of the staff members of the Front and Base Commanders, the Brigade and Unit commanders shall, upon the recommendation of their respective Front commanders, and be approved by the Chief of Staff.
- (4). Appointments and promotions of the staff members of the Brigade, Unit and Battalion Commanders including their staff shall be approved by the Front Commander upon the recommendation of their respective Base Commanders.

ARTICLE 6. Qualifications – In the appointments of the Chief of Staff, Vice Chief of Staff, General Staff and the Front Commanders, the following shall be given preference:

- (a). Possession of Islamic values.
- (b). Loyalty to the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.
- (c). Credibility and competency.
- (d). Physically and mentally capable.
- (e). Must be a Senior Officer of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces;

and

(f). Must have good tract records as officer of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.

ARTICLE 7. Vacancy- Vacancy occurs in case of death, physical and mental incapacity, suspension, and other causes that may be prescribed by the higher authority.

ARTICLE 8. Succession- In case of vacancy, the following procedure shall be observed:

1. If the vacancy occur in the Office of the Chief of Staff, the Vice Chief of Staff shall automatically assume as Officer-in-Charge pending qualification and election of a new Chief of Staff. The General Staff may designate any of its members as Officer-in-Charge.

2. When vacancy occurs in the Office of the Vice Chief of Staff, the General Staff may designate any of its members who shall act as Officer-in-Charge pending qualification and appointment of a new Vice Chief of Staff.

3. Vacancy in the General Staff, the Front Commanders, Base Commanders and their respective deputies shall be filled-up upon the recommendation of the Chief of Staff in his capacity as Chairman of the General Staff and approved by the Commander-in-Chief.

4. In case of vacancy in the positions of staff members of the Front, Base, Brigade, Unit or the Battalion Commanders, the filling up thereof shall be made upon the recommendation of their respective Front Commanders, and be approved by the Chief of Staff.

ARTICLE 9. The General Staff - The General Staff shall have the following powers, functions, duties and responsibilities:

- (a) Serves as the Policy Making body of the military institution.
- (b) Promulgate rules, standards, guidelines, plans and programs designed to promote effective and efficient management of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (c) Approve recommendations, plans, programs and proposals submitted by every departments related to their respective functions.
- (d) Consider the proposals and recommendations relative to the creation of military bases, revision of structures, and realignment of forces.

(e). Review, revise, reverse, modify or affirm on appeal, all decisions of the Military Disciplinary Board and other decisions made by the junior commanders.

(f) Select, nominate and screen qualification of Base Commander, Brigade Commander, Unit Commander and Battalion Commander as a basis for promotion subject to the approval of the Chairman of the Board.

(g) Perform other functions as may be directed by the Commander-in-Chief and higher authority.

ARTICLE 10. The Chief of Staff – The Chief of Staff shall have the following powers, functions, duties and responsibilities:

- (a) Presides over all meetings of the General Staff.
- (b) Direct the operation and administration of the General Staff.
- (c) Exercise overall supervision and full control over the General Staff and the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (d) Take control over the military operation of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (e) Report to the Chairman of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front all matters involving the activities of the General Staff and the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (f) Submit quarterly reports to the Chairman of the MILF Central Committee concerning issues and problems encountered within the period.
- (g) Perform such other functions as may be directed to him by the Commander-in-Chief.

ARTICLE 11. The Vice Chief of Staff – The following are the powers, functions, duties and responsibilities of the Vice Chief of Staff:

- (a) In the absence of the Chief of Staff, the Vice Chief of Staff shall automatically assume the office as Officer-in-Charge.
- (b) The Vice Chief of Staff shall carry out his mandated tasks in harmony with the Office of the Chief of Staff (OCS).

(c) Perform such other functions as may be assigned to him by the Chief of Staff.

ARTICLE 12. Departments in the General Staff - The following are the departments in the General Staff:

1. Administrative Department
2. Intelligence Department
3. Operation Department
4. Supply and Logistics Department
5. The Planning Department
6. Training and Education Department
7. Islamic Call and Guidance Department
8. Health and Dental Department
9. Military Disciplinary Board
10. Research and Development Department
11. War and Production Department
12. Civil-Military Relations Department

ARTICLE 13. The Special Staff – The following are special staff in the Office of the Chief of Staff:

1. Finance Officer
2. Legal Officer
3. Special Operation Group

ARTICLE 14. The Administrative Department – The following shall be its powers, functions, duties and responsibilities, viz:

- (a) Secretariat of the General Staff.
- (b) Custodian of all records and other pertinent documents of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.

(c) Prepares and submit to the Chief of Staff working programs and reports, including situational, encounter and other related issues to the Chief of Staff.

(d) Lay down plans and programs for the general direction of the department in particular and the General Staff as a whole.

(e) Prepare and submit to the Central Committee through the Chief of Staff for approval, the consolidated budgetary and financial statements submitted by the different Departments and Fronts.

(f) Receive proposals, issues and concerns submitted by the members of the General Staff as part of the agenda.

(g) Consolidate the records of merits and demerits of officers and elements of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.

(h) Apprise the Chairman of the General Staff on the implementations of programs and other related activities.

(i) Determine the agenda and calendar of business of every meeting of the General Staff.

(j) Perform other functions as may be assigned to it by the Office of the Chief of Staff.

ARTICLE 15. The Intelligence Department - The Intelligence department shall have the following powers, functions, duties and responsibilities:

- (a) Gather information, data and other related issues and concerns through its organized collecting machineries (OCM).
- (b) Assist the General Staff in the situational analysis of the condition and status of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces as well as the enemy and other matters that may affect the Front in general.
- (c) Serve as an advisory body to the Chairman of the General Staff, on matters pertaining to the integration and coordination of intelligence activities and other related issues.
- (d) Make recommendations and render reports as the Chairman of the General Staff may require from time to time.
- (e) Lay down plans and programs for the general direction of the department.
- (f) Prepare and submit for the consideration of the General Staff, a budgetary and financial statement for the effective operation of the department.
- (g) Oversee and supervise all other personnel of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces engaged in underground activities with the enemy.

- (h) Perform other functions as may be assigned to by the Office of the Chief of Staff.

ARTICLE 16. The Operation Department – The following shall be the powers, functions, duties and responsibilities of the Operation Department:

- (a) Prepare and formulate Operational Plan (OP) for the effective and efficient Military Operation of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (b) Oversee and supervise field activities involving military operations of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (c) Keep the records of all operational plans and other related mater, update combat tactics and carries out constant assessment of all battle performance.
- (d) Receive and evaluate military plans indorsed to it by the different Front Commanders.
- (e) Lay downs plans and programs for the general direction of the department
- (f) Prepare and submit for the consideration of the General Staff, a budgetary and financial statement for the effective operation of the department.
- (g) Perform other functions and related tasks that may be directed by the Office of the Chief of Staff.

ARTICLE 17. The Supply and Logistic Department – The Supply and Logistic Department shall have the following powers, functions, duties and responsibilities:

- (a) Prepare and submit to the General Staff budgetary requirements, supplies, materials and other related equipments needed by the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces for consideration.
- (b) Oversee and supervise the distribution of supplies, materials and other related equipments needed by the different Fronts of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (c) Submit quarterly reports to the General Staff, the status of supplies and war materials distributed to the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (d) Tasked/Charged for the safekeeping, custody and accountability of all materials and properties of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (e) Maintain updated inventory of all materials and properties owned by the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (f) Lay down plans and programs for the general direction of the department.
- (g) Prepare and submit for the consideration of the General Staff, budgetary and financial statements for the effective operation of the department.
- (h) Perform other functions as may be assigned to it by the Office of the Chief of Staff.

ARTICLE 18. The Planning Department – The following shall be the powers, functions, duties and responsibilities of the Planning Department:

- (a) Prepare Military Development Plan (MDP) and programs of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces and submit the same to the General Staff for comments and evaluation.
- (b) Lay down plans and programs for the general direction of the department.
- (c) Prepare and submit for the consideration of the general Staff, a budgetary and financial statement for the effective operation of the department.
- (d) Coordinate with the General Staff departments and other planning agencies of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front for the effective and efficient discharge of its mandated tasks.
- (e) Perform other functions as may be assigned to him by the office of the Chief of Staff.

ARTICLE 19. The Training and Education Department – The following shall be the powers, functions, duties and responsibilities of the Training and Education department:

- (a) Prepare and submit to the General Staff for the consideration, a training design and education program for the sustainable, effective, and efficient training of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (b) Submit to the General Staff, training rules, regulations and policies in all training centers of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (c) Lay down plans and programs for the general direction of the department.
- (d) Prepare and submit for the considerations of the General Staff, a budgetary and financial statement for the effective operation of the department.
- (e) Oversee and supervise all training programs and related activities of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (f) Perform other functions as may be directed to it by the office of the Chief of Staff.

ARTICLE 20. The Islamic Call and Guidance Department – The Islamic Call and Guidance department shall have the following powers, functions, duties and responsibilities:

- (a) Responsible for the strengthening of the Islamic consciousness, awareness and education of all officers and elements of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (b) Oversee and supervise the activities of the Mursidin assigned in the different Front and base commands.
- (c) Coordinate with the concerned Front Commanders in the strict implementation of Islamization of all officers and elements of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (d) Lay down plans and programs for the general direction of the department.
- (e) Prepare and submit for the consideration of the general Staff, a budgetary and financial statement for the effective operation of the department.

- (f) Render reports to the General Staff on the status and progress of the implementation of its assigned tasks, duties and responsibilities.
- (g) Perform other functions as may be assigned to it by the Office of the chief of Staff.

ARTICLE 21. The Health and Dental Department – The following shall be the powers, functions, duties and responsibilities of the Health and Dental department:

- (a) Conduct trainings for medical troops and aides of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces for their sustainable, effective and efficient medical services.
- (b) Oversee and supervise the sanitary conditions of all camps of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (c) Supervise the procurement of all medicines and other medical needs of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (d) Lay down plans and programs for the general direction of the department.
- (e) Prepare and submit for the consideration of the General Staff, a budgetary and financial statements for the effective operation of the department
- (f) Perform other functions as may be assigned to it by the Office of the Chief of Staff.

ARTICLE 22. The Military Disciplinary Board – The Military Disciplinary Board in the General Staff of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces composed of a Chairman and Sixteen (16) Members shall be appointed by the Chief of Staff through the recommendation of the majority of the General Staff in a meeting called for the purpose. The following shall be the powers, functions, duties and responsibilities:

- (a) Except the members of the General Staff who shall be tried by a Special Committee created for the purpose, the Military Disciplinary Board shall be the Judge Advocate General of all members of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (b) Conduct hearings on all complaints filed against any member of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (c) Decide all cases and impose, when applicable, punishments other than dismissal from service and death penalties in which case, the same shall be subjected to automatic review by the General Staff.
- (d) Review all decisions elevated to it by the Sub-department of the Military Disciplinary Board.
- (e) Impose punishments or disciplinary actions against erring members.
- (f) Lay down plans and programs for the general direction of the department.
- (g) Prepare and submit for the consideration of the General Staff, a budgetary and financial statements for the effective operation of the department

- (h) Brief the Chairman of the General Staff for the action taken on all complaints filed against any member of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (i) Submit updated reports on the status of cases, terminated, pending or on progress.
- (j) Perform other functions as may be assigned to it by the Office of the Chief of Staff.

ARTICLE 23. The Sub-department of the Military Disciplinary Board – There shall also be created a Sub-department of the Military Disciplinary Board in the different Base Commands with the following powers, functions, duties and responsibilities:

- (a) It shall have the power to try members of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces charged of an offense within their area of responsibility (AOR).
- (b) To adjudge the imposition of sentence or confinement not more than Six (6) months or a suspension not exceeding Six (6) months and a fine not exceeding Ten Thousand (10,000.00) Pesos, otherwise, sentences or confinements exceeding the above enumerated shall be all under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Military Disciplinary Board of the General Staff.
- (c) Submit updated reports of the status of cases, terminated, pending or on progress, to the Chairman of the Military Disciplinary Board of the General Staff.
- (d) Perform other functions as may be assigned to him from time to time

ARTICLE 24. The War Materials and Production Department – The following shall be the powers, functions, duties and responsibilities of the War Material and Production Department:

- (a) Established, operate and maintain military arsenal for the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (b) Formulate plans and programs aimed at achieving self-sufficiency in war materials and equipments.
- (c) Designs, develops, manufactures, procures, stockpiles and allocate arms, mortars and other weapons and munitions, and to devise ways and means for the efficient mobilization of civilian industry to augment the production of arsenal in times of emergency.
- (d) Lay down plans and programs for the general direction of the department.
- (e) Prepare and submit for the consideration of the General Staff, a budgetary and financial statements for the effective operation of the department
- (f) Submit reports to the Office of the Chief of Staff on the status of the Military Arsenal of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (g) Perform such other functions as may be assigned to it by the Office of the Chief of Staff.

ARTICLE 25. The Research and Development Department - The following shall be the powers of the Research and Development Department, such as:

- (a) Serves as the Special Warfare Researcher of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (b) Tasked/Charged for the researches and experimentations of heavy and special weapons and other armaments.
- (c) Undertake researches on special military warfare plans and operations.
- (d) Conduct researches on special trainings and seminars for the Elite Forces of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (e) Lay down plans and programs for the general direction of the department.
- (f) Prepare and submit for the consideration of the General Staff, a budgetary and financial statement for the effective operation of the department.
- (g) Perform other functions as may be assigned to him by the Chief of Staff.

ARTICLE 26. The Civil-Military Relations Department - The following shall be its powers, duties and responsibility, such as:

- (a) Act as the official spokesman of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (b) Handle media affairs, involving but not limited to print, broadcast and television.
- (c) Serve as the BIAF community relations.
- (d) Initiate short, medium and long range programs designed to promote harmony between the BIAF and the Bangsamoro people and the general public.
- (e) Facilitate civic action program designed to reach out the less fortunate members of the community.
- (f) Conduct search and rescue operation in times of emergency situation either brought about by man made or natural calamity.
- (g) Introduce measures designed to promote effective and efficient coordination with other MILF offices and agencies.
- (h) Promulgate rules and guidelines for effective implementation of its approved plans and programs.
- (i) Advise the Chief of Staff on matters concerning media and other related issues.
- (j) Report to the Chief of Staff from time to time as the need arises.
- (k) Perform such other functions as may be directed to by the higher authority.

ARTICLE 27. The General Headquarters (GHQ) Command - The following shall be the powers, functions, duties and responsibilities of the General Headquarters (GHQ) Command:

- (a) Serves as the Security Forces of the General Staff Headquarters Command.
- (b) Organize, train and equips forces for the conduct of prompt and effective defense of the General Staff Headquarters Command (GSHQC).
- (c) Develop tactics, techniques and equipment of interest to the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces for field operation.
- (d) Exercise effective centralization and supervision of all forces of the General Staff members.
- (e) Lay down plans and programs for the general direction of the General Headquarters Command.
- (f) Prepare and submit for the consideration of the General Staff, a budgetary and financial statement for the effective operation of the General Headquarters Command.
- (g) Perform other functions as may be assigned to him by the Office of the Chief of Staff (OCS).

ARTICLE 28. The Front Command - The following shall be the powers, functions, duties and responsibilities of the Front Command:

- (a) Supervise proper implementation of policies and guidelines promulgated by the General Staff within his area of responsibility (AOR).
- (b) Exercise supervision and control over the operation of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces within his AOR.
- (c) Have direct supervision over the Base Commanders on matters relating to policies and guidelines promulgated by the General Staff.
- (d) Have the power and authority to call a meeting of different Base Command under his AOR.
- (e) Submit written report to the Chief of Staff regarding the conditions of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces under his command and area of responsibility.
- (f) Lay down plans and programs for the general direction of the different Base Commands within his AOR.
- (g) Prepare and submit for the consideration of the General Staff, a budgetary and financial statement for the effective operation of the different Base Commands within his AOR.
- (h) Recommend Operational Plan (OP) to the Office of the Chief of Staff for consideration.
- (i) Provide support for the smooth implementation of all Islamic Call and Guidance activities in his AOR.
- (j) Perform other functions as may be assigned to him by the OCS.

MEETINGS, QUORUM AND ITS PROCEDURES

ARTICLE 29. The General Staff Meetings - The following are the meetings in the General Staff:

(a) General Meetings – There shall be annual general meetings, which shall be attended by the following:

1. The Chief of Staff and his Special Staff
2. The Vice Chief of Staff
3. The Department Heads and their Deputies
4. The Front Commanders and their Deputies
5. The Base Commanders and their Deputies
6. The Unit Commanders and Foreign trained Cadre Officers

(b) Regular Meetings – There shall be regular meeting every Two (2) months, which shall be attended by the following:

1. The Chief of Staff and his Special Staff
2. The Vice Chief of Staff
3. The Department Heads and their Deputies
4. The Front Commanders and their Deputies
5. The Base Commanders and their Deputies

(c) Special Meetings – There shall be special meeting called by the Chief of Staff, which shall be attended by the following:

1. The Chief of Staff and his Special Staff
2. The Vice Chief of Staff
3. The Department Heads and their Deputies

ARTICLE 30. Notices – Notice of the next meeting shall be sent by mail or through text message together with the agenda of the meeting Three (3) days before the said meeting.

ARTICLE 31. Quorum – Majority of all the regular members of the General Staff shall constitute a quorum and every decision made by at least a majority of the members present at the meeting at which there is a quorum shall be valid.

ARTICLE 32. The Procedures in the conduct of General Staff Meetings – The procedure in the conduct of meetings of the General Staff shall be as follows:

(a) Agenda for the meeting shall be prepared by the Administrative Department.

(b) Members who have issues and concerns shall submit the same to the Administrative Department not later than Three (3) days before the start of the meeting for inclusion in agenda.

(c) Each proponent shall be given not more than Ten (10) minutes to support his position. Each member shall be allowed to ask clarification question on the issue at hand.

(d) Decisions of the General Staff shall be made by consensus, however in case of disagreement on the issue a division of the house shall be adopted.

(e) All the decisions of the General Staff shall be final, provided that it will not contradict this Code of Conduct, the Sunnah of the Prophet (SAW), and the Qur'an.

BANGSAMORO ISLAMIC ARMED FORCES (BIAF)

ARTICLE 33. Components of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF) – The components of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces are, as follows:

1. The Commander-in-Chief
2. The Chief of Staff and Special Staff
3. The Vice Chief of Staff
4. The Military Advisory Council (MAC)
5. The General Staff Members and their respective Deputies
6. The Officers and elements of the National Guard Command
7. The Officers and elements of the National Defense Command
8. The Officers and elements of the General Headquarters Command
9. The Officers and elements of the Front Commands
10. The Staff of the Departments in the General Staff
11. The Officers and elements of the Provincial Police Force
12. The Officers and elements of the Bangsamoro Islamic Women Auxiliary Brigade (BIWAB)
13. Other military components that may be created in the future by the General Staff and approved by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE 34. Commitment and Conviction of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF) – The following shall be the BIAF commitment and conviction:

- (a) Shall at all times be subservient to the policies and guidelines duly promulgated by the Central Committee of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front
- (b) Task to protect and secure the leaders of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front from Central Committee to the lowest political committees
- (c) Shall be at all times at the forefront in defending the rights of the Bangsamoro people against oppression, injustice, exploitation and corruption including its territory
- (d) Shall completely adhere to the provisions of the teachings of the Qur'an, the Sunnah of the Prophet (SAW) and this Code of Conduct

- (e) Shall act as Dai'yah for the propagation of Islam in the Bangsamoro Homeland
- (f) Shall completely follow the rules of engagement in Islam (Nidhamul Harb Fil Islam) as provided in this Code
- (g) Shall assist his Brother Mujahideen financially, materially or in form of security
- (h) Shall observe command responsibility in the affairs of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.
- (i) Shall perform other functions as may be assigned to them from time to time by the Commander-in-Chief of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF).

ARTICLE 35. Unity – As a sign of unity and camaraderie, all officers and members of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces shall observe the following:

- 1. Consider themselves as one body and shall therefore refrain from baseless issues and accusations against his brother in Jihad so as not to create gaps and misunderstandings.
- 2. Chain of Command in all levels.
- 3. Observance and respect of delineated area of responsibility of every base.
- 4. Promotion of all other activities that will strengthen unity, brotherhood and camaraderie.

COMMISSIONSHIP IN THE BANGSAMORO ISLAMIC ARMED FORCES (BIAF)

ARTICLE 36. Recruitment and Selection – Commission in the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.

- (1) In the recruitment and selection of candidates for commission, preference shall be given to those who possessed Islamic values and morality, good morale character and images, competence and capability;
- (2) The Director of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces Military Academy (BIAFMA) in coordination with the General Staff shall formulate training policies and standards in the selection and recruitment of candidates for commission in the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.

DISCIPLINE

ARTICLE 37. Discipline – (1) No member of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces shall be suspended or dismissed from service except for a cause as provided in this Code, Qur'an and the Sunnah of the Prophet (SAW), and after due notice and hearing.

(2) Except when initiated by the disciplining authority, no complaint against any members of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces shall be given due course unless the same is in writing and subscribed and sworn to by the complainant.

ARTICLE 38. Prohibited Acts – The following acts are prohibited (Muharramat) and therefore grounds for disciplinary action against any member of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces who committed the same:

- (a) Drug Trafficking
- (b) Drug Pushing
- (c) Drug Addiction
- (d) Drinking Liquor
- (e) Gambling
- (f) Smoking

ARTICLE 39. Fardho/Wagib. – The following Fardho/Wagib acts are mandatory for all members of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces to observe and perform:

(a) Five Pillars of Islam

- 1. To testify La ilaha illallah wa anna Muhammadar Rasulallah
- 2. To perform Salah
- 3. To pay Zakat
- 4. To perform Hajj
- 5. To observe Saum

(b) Six Articles of Faith

- 1. To believe in the Oneness of Allah S.W.T.
- 2. To believe in His Angels
- 3. To believe in His Messengers
- 4. To believe in His revealed Books
- 5. To believe in the day of Resurrection, and
- 6. To believe in Al-Qadar, Divine Preordination (i.e. whatever Allah S.W.T. has ordained must come)

(c) Reading and memorizing verses from the Qur'an and the Hadith

ARTICLE 40. Observance of Sunnah – Every member of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces shall be encouraged to observe and perform the following Sunnah, such as:

- 1. All Rawatib Prayers
- 2. Wit'r (Sunnatal Muakhad)

3. Fasting (Sunnah) during Mondays and Thursdays, and Ayyamul Baidh (Fasting on the 13th, 14th and 15th of every month (except Zulhijjah and Hejirah)
4. Fasting during 9th day of Zulhijjah and 9th and 10th of Muharram
5. The practice of praying Tahajjud

ARTICLE 41. Bid'a. The following are Bid'a and therefore all members of the BIAF shall refrain from doing the same:

- (a) To celebrate Maulidin Nabi
- (b) To pray Dhohor after the Jum'ah congregation
- (c) To celebrate the 15th day of Sa'ban
- (d) To celebrate Isra wal Miraj or the Night of Journey
- (e) Other bid'a that may be pronounced by the Darul Ifta and the Hayatul Ulama

ARTICLE 42. Authority to Implement – The Islamic Call and Guidance Department of the General Staff shall have the authority to implement all provisions related to their functions aimed at achieving strong faith among members of the BIAF.

WAR OFFENSES AND OTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTS

ARTICLE 43. Desertion – Any person subject to military law who deserts or attempts to desert from the services of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces shall, if the offense be committed in time of war, suffer the penalty of twenty (20) years and one (1) day to death and a fine not exceeding P100,000.00, and, if the offense be committed at any other time, shall be punished by an imprisonment of twelve (12) years and one (1) day to twenty (20) years and a fine not exceeding P50,000.00 or that the investigating officer may direct.

ARTICLE 44. Aiding another to Desert – Any person subject to military law, who gave aid or advises or knowingly assist another in order to desert from the service of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces, shall suffer the same penalty with the immediately preceding article, as the case may be.

ARTICLE 45. Entertaining a Deserter – Any officer who, after having discovered that a forces in his command is a deserter from the military service, retains such deserter in his command without informing superior authority or the commander of the organization to which the deserter belongs, shall be punished by an imprisonment of not more than six (6) years and a fine not exceeding P10, 000.00 or such other punishment that the Investigating Officer may direct. This provision shall cover those who deserted from service after 1994.

ARTICLE 46. Absence without Official Leave (A.W.O.L.) – Any person subject to military law, who fails to report at the fix time to the properly appointed place of duty, or goes from the same without proper leave, or absent himself from his command, guard, quarters, or camp without proper leave, shall be punished as the Investigating Officer may direct.

ARTICLE 47. Disrespect towards the Chairman, the Vice-Chairmen or the Speaker of the MILF Majilis As-Shura. – Any officer who uses contemptuous or disrespectful words against the Chairman, the Vice-Chairmen or the Speaker of the Majilis As-Shura of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, shall suffer a penalty of suspension from the service or imprisonment of not more than six (6) moths and a fine not exceeding P3, 000.00 or such other punishment that the Investigating Officer may direct.

ARTICLE 48. Disrespect towards Superior Officer. – Any person subject to military law, who behaves himself with disrespect towards his superior officer, shall suffer a penalty of suspension from service for not more than six (6) months and a fine not exceeding P3, 000.00 or that the Investigating Officer may direct.

ARTICLE 49. Assaulting or willful Disobeying Superior Officer. – Any person subject to military law who, on pretense whatsoever, strikes his superior officer or draws or lift up any weapon or offers any violence against him, being in the execution of his office, or willfully disobeys any lawful command of his superior officer, shall suffer a penalty of dismissal from service or an imprisonment of not more than six (6) years and a fine not exceeding P6, 000.00 or such other punishment as the Investigating Officer may direct.

ARTICLE 50. Insubordinate and Conduct Toward Non-commission Officer. – Any forces who strikes or assault, or attempts or threatens to strike or assault or willfully disobeys the lawful order of a non-commissioned officer while in the execution of his office, or uses threatening or insulting language, or behaves in an insubordinate or disrespectful manner toward a noncommissioned officer while in the execution of his office, shall suffer a penalty of suspension from service for not more than six (6) moths and a fine not exceeding P3, 000.00 or as the Investigating Officer may direct.

ARTICLE 51. Mutiny or Sedition – Any person subject to military law who attempts to create or who begins, excites, causes, or enjoins in any mutiny or sedition in any company, party, post, camp, detachment, guard, or other commands shall, upon conviction thereof, suffer an imprisonment of not more than Ten (10) years and a fine not exceeding P10, 000.00 or as the investigating officer may direct.

ARTICLE 52. Failure to Suppress Mutiny or Sedition. – Any officer or forces who, being present at any mutiny or sedition, does not use his utmost endeavor to suppress the same, or knowing or having reason to believe that a mutiny or sedition is

to take place, does not without delay give information thereof to his commanding officer shall suffer a penalty of imprisonment for not more than six (6) years and a fine not exceeding P6, 000.00 or such other punishment as the investigating officer may direct.

ARTICLE 53. Quarrels, Frays and Disorders – All officers and non-commissioned officers have power to part and quell all quarrels, frays, and disorders among persons subject to military law and whosoever participate or take part in such a situation shall be arrested and placed into confinement, as circumstances may require, until their proper superior officer shall have been properly notified. And whosoever, being so ordered, refuses to obey such officer or non-commissioned officer, or draws a weapon upon or otherwise threatens or does so violence instead, shall suffer a penalty of imprisonment of not more than Three (3) years and a fine not exceeding P3, 000.00 or as the investigating authority may direct.

ARTICLE 54. Misbehavior before the Enemy – Any officer or forces who, before the enemy, misbehaves himself, runs away, or shamefully abandons or delivers up or by any misconduct, disobedience, or neglect and endanger the safety of any fort, post, camp, guard, or other command which it is his duty to defend or speaks words inducing others to do the like, or cast away his arms or ammunition, or quits his post or colors to plunder or pillage, or by any means whatsoever occasions false alarm in camp, garrison, or quarters, shall suffer a penalty of imprisonment of not more than Twenty (20) years and a fine not exceeding P60, 000.00 or such other punishment as the investigating officer may direct.

ARTICLE 55. Subordinate Compelling his Superior – Any person subject to military law who compels or attempts to compel any commander of garrison, fort, post, camp, guard, or other command, to give it up to the enemy or to abandon it shall suffer a penalty of dismissal from service or such other punishment as the investigating officer may direct.

ARTICLE 56. Captured Property to be secured for Public Service – All property taken from the enemy is the property of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and shall be secured for the service thereof, and any person subject to military law who neglects to secure such property or is guilty of wrong appropriation thereof shall suffer a penalty of imprisonment of not more than Twelve (12) years and a fine equivalent to the market value of the property taken or appropriated, or such other punishment that the investigating officer may direct.

ARTICLE 57. Dealing in Captured or Abandoned Property – Any person subject to military law who buys, sells, trades, or in any way deals in or disposes of captured or abandoned property, whereby he shall receive or expect any profit, benefit or advantage to himself or to any other person directly or indirectly connected with himself or who fails whenever such property comes into his possession or custody or within his control to give notice thereof to the proper authority and to turn over such property to the proper

authority without delay, shall, on conviction thereof, be punished by an imprisonment of not more than Twelve (12) years and a fine equivalent to the market value of the property taken or disposed, or by such other punishment as the investigating officer may direct.

ARTICLE 58. Relieving, Corresponding with, or Aiding the Enemy. – Whoever relieves or attempts to relieve the enemy with arms, ammunitions, supplies, money, or other things, or knowingly harbors or protects or holds correspondence with or gives intelligence to the enemy, either directly or indirectly shall, suffer an imprisonment for Twenty (20) years and One (1) day to death and a fine not exceeding P100, 0000.00 or as the investigating officer may direct.

ARTICLE 59. Spies – Any person who in time of war shall be found lurking or acting as spy in or about any of the fortifications, ports, quarters, or encampments of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces or elsewhere shall, upon conviction thereof, suffer the penalty of death or as the investigating officer may direct.

ARTICLE 60. Military Property, Willful or Lost by Negligent, Damage or Wrongful Disposition. – Any person subject to military law who willfully or through neglect, suffers to be lost, spoiled, damaged, or wrongfully taken or disposed of, any military property belonging to the MILF shall, upon conviction thereof, suffer the penalty of dismissal from service and be ordered to replace or make good the property lost, spoiled, damaged, or wrongfully taken or disposed and a fine equivalent to the market value of the property lost, spoiled, damaged or wrongfully taken or disposed.

ARTICLE 61. Wasteful or Unlawful Disposition of Military Property Issued to Forces. – Any forces who sells or wrongfully disposes of on complain made to him, refuses to omit to see reparation made to the party injured, shall suffer a penalty of suspension from the service of not more than Six (6) years and a fine not exceeding P6, 000.00 or such other punishment that the investigating officer may direct.

ARTICLE 62. Provoking Speeches or Gestures – No person subject to military law shall use any reproachable or provoking speeches or gestures to another shall, upon conviction shall suffer a penalty of suspension from service for not more than six (6) months and a fine not exceeding P3, 000.00 or such other punishment that the investigating officer may direct.

ARTICLE 63. Dueling – Any person subject to military law who fight or promote or is concerned in or connive at fighting a duel, or who, having knowledge of a challenge sent or about to be sent fails to report the fact promptly to the proper authority, shall, if an officer, upon conviction thereof, suffer the penalty of suspension from the service of not more than six (6) months and a fine not exceeding P3, 000.00; and if any other person subject to military law, shall suffer such punishment that may be directed by the investigating authority.

ARTICLE 64. Conduct unbecoming an Officer and Gentleman – Any officer or cadet undergoing military commission in the BIAF academy, who is charged of conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman, upon conviction, suffer the penalty of suspension from service of not more than six (6) years and a fine not exceeding P6, 000.00 or that the investigating authority may direct.

ARTICLE 65. General Article – All disorders and neglects to the prejudice of good order and military discipline and all conduct of a nature that would bring discredit upon the military service shall be taken cognizance by the Military Disciplinary Board or special committee created for the purpose as the case may be, according to the nature and degree of the offense, and punished at the discretion of the said board or committee.

ARTICLE 66. Disciplinary Jurisdiction – The following shall be followed in order to acquire jurisdiction, such as:

(1) Jurisdiction over the person of the complainant is acquired by the filing of the complaint and the payment of the prescribed docket fee, while jurisdiction over the respondent is acquired by the proper summons, or by his voluntary appearance in the board or committee, as the case may be.

(2) In case any member of the General Staff has violated the Qur'an, the Sunnah of the Prophet (S.A.W.) or any of the provision of this code, a special committee tasked to investigate on the concern shall be created by the General Staff. The committee shall submit its findings and recommendation to the Chairman of the General Staff within a prescribed period.

(3) The Military Disciplinary Board shall have jurisdiction over the case of any member of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces other than the members of the General Staff charged to have been violated the provisions of Qur'an and the Sunnah of the Prophet (s.a.w.), or any of the provisions of this code.

ARTICLE 67. Application – This Code shall apply to the following:

- (a) All members of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF).
- (b) All civil offenses committed by any member of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces shall be tried by the Shari'ah Court without prejudice to jurisdiction of the special committee or by the Military Disciplinary Board, as the case may be.
- (d) War offenses and other military disciplinary acts committed by any member of the BIAF shall be tried by the special committee created for the purpose of the MDB as the case may be, provided, that cases involving inheritance, land disputes, marriages, divorces, and personal matters where the member of the BIAF are involved shall be properly endorsed to the shari'ah court.

ARTICLE 68. Procedure – The following shall be observed in filing a complaint:

(c) In case of a complaint filed by any person before the Military Disciplinary Board or in the Office of the Chief of Staff if the offender is a General Staff member, the complainant shall submit a sworn statement covering his testimony and those of his witnesses(s) together with his documentary evidence(s). If on the basis of such papers, a *prima facie* case is found not to exist, the disciplining authority shall *ipso facto* dismiss the case. If a *prima facie* exists, he shall notify the respondent in writing of the charges against the latter within Fifteen (15) days from the filing of the complaint and the respondent shall be allowed within Fifteen (15) days upon receipt of the complaint to answer the charges in writing and under oath, together with his supporting statements and documents. If the respondent cannot be notified or if notified but does not submit answer after Fifteen (15) days from the receipt of the notice, the Investigating Officer shall recommend for the issuance of warrant for the arrest of the respondent.

(d) In order to preserve unity and maintain harmonious relationship and to avoid gaps and misunderstanding between and among members of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces, amicable settlement shall first be resorted to, except in cases of Hudud.

(e) In all instances, a formal investigation shall be conducted to be able to attain a fair, just, speedy and impartial decision.

(f) The investigation shall not be held not earlier than Fifteen (15) days nor later than Thirty (30) days from the date of the receipt of the respondent's answer by the disciplining authority and shall be terminated within Thirty (30) days from the filing of the complaint, unless the period is extended in meritorious cases.

ARTICLE 69. Form and Contents of Judgment – The following shall be the form and contents of judgment:

(1) The judgment shall be in writing, signed by the Chairman of the Committee or Board and shall contain clearly and distinctly a statement of the facts, proof or admission by the respondent, and the basis upon which judgment is based.

(2) If it is conviction, the judgment shall contain the following:

- (a) The legal qualification of the offense constituted by the acts committed by the respondent.
- (b) The participation of the respondent in the commission of the offense.
- (c) The penalty imposed upon the respondent, and
- (d) The liability or damage caused by the wrongful act to be recovered from the respondent by the offended party, if there is any.

- (3) In case of acquittal due to lack of evidence, the judgment shall be made in favor of the offended party.
- (4) The judgment shall be rendered within Thirty (30) days from the termination of the trial or disposition of the case and shall become final and executory upon the expiration of the period of appeal. Once the judgment has become final and executory, the Board or Committee shall *motu proprio* issue writ of execution for the satisfaction of the judgment.

ARTICLE 70. Appeal, Where – An appeal may be taken as hereinafter prescribed from all final decision:

- (a) In cases decided by the sub-department of the Military Disciplinary Board, it shall be appealed to the Chairman, Military Disciplinary Board of the General Staff.
- (b) Cases decided by the Chairman of the Military Disciplinary Board or a special committee created for the purpose, it shall be appealed to the Chairman of the General Staff.
- (c) All cases decided by the Chairman of the General Staff, shall be appealed to the Commander-in-Chief of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces whose decision shall be final and executory.

All decisions shall be appealed within Thirty (30) days reglamentary period otherwise the same shall become final and executory.

ARTICLE 71. Administration of Oath or Yameen – (1) An oath (Yameen) legally binding in a manner and form observed under the Shari'ah Law, may, by order of the Chairman of the Committee or Board, shall be administered upon any parties who are Muslim to establish a fact or affirm any evidence presented. Such oath may constitute as proof in the absence of evidence.

(2) No person shall be allowed to take an Oath or Yameen unless he is qualified under the Shari'ah law and is fully aware of the solemnity of the same. Any person who is to take an oath or solemn affirmation in accordance with the Shari'ah law shall be given reasonable time to think it over.

(3) The Committee or Board as the case may, shall set an appropriate time, date and place of oath taking or solemn affirmation by such person. If at any time before such appointed date, the party who is required to take an oath or solemn affirmation refuses to do so, the Committee or Board as the case may be, may in its discretion direct the person, if he is the complainant to withdraw his claim or in case of the respondent, to admit the claim of the complainant.

ARTICLE 72. Preventive Suspension – Any person subject to military law shall, before the start of the investigation, be subject to the following:

- (1) The proper disciplining authority may preventively suspend for six (6) months any of the members of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces charged of an offense, if there are reasons to believe that the respondent is guilty of the charges, which would warrant his removal.
- (2) If upon expiration of the six (6) months preventive suspension the investigation has not been terminated, the respondent shall be immediately reinstated to his former position.
- (3) If the respondent is acquitted, he has the prerogative to file counter charges against the complainant.

ARTICLE 73. Fees – The Military Disciplinary Board shall collect filing fee from the complainant and shall prescribed the standard rates for such filing fees, Provided that the fees so collected shall be used for the operation of the said department.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

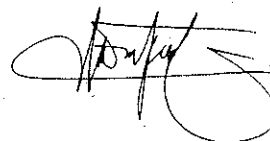
ARTICLE 74. Conflict of Provisions – In case of conflict between any of this Code and the Qur'an or the Hadith of the Prophet (s.a.w.) those in the Qur'an and Hadith shall prevail.

ARTICLE 75. Amendment – Request for amendment to this Code of Conduct shall be made in writing by any member of the General Staff same shall be submitted to the Head Administrative Department at least Thirty (30) days before the GS regular meeting. Amendment shall only be valid upon approval by the majority of all the regular members of the General Staff in a meeting called for the purpose.

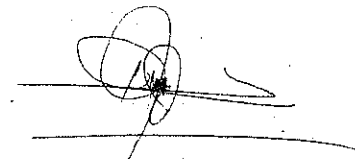
ARTICLE 76. Effectivity Clause – This Code shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Signed at Camp Abubakre As-Siddique this ____ day of December 2005.

By the Chairman/Commander-in-Chief:



SAMMY AL-MANSUR
Chief of Staff
BIAF-MILF



Historical Background

Brief History

The institution of policies and guidelines governing the conduct and activity of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF) had long been the desire of the leadership of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) having been recognized the vital role assumed by the former as one of the leading if not the most important pillars of the movement in the pursuit of the latter's final and ultimate objective, that is, to regain back its immorally usurped independence and illegally annexed territory. Attempts had been made to draft the code during the incumbency of then Chief of Staff now MILF Chairman Al Haj Murad Ebrahim, way back in the early part of 1990s, but it was not until the assumption into command of the new BIAF Chief of Staff Sammy Al Mansoor in 2004 that this effort had attained concrete progress and development.

One among the few groups who struggled hard to make this vision a reality was the Military Disciplinary Board (MDB) although the group's original concern was focus mainly on the issues and problems that has direct bearing on the performance of its approved mandate and authority, particularly, the handling of criminal offenses affecting the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces. In fact, the MDB's product was submitted to the late Chairman Salamat Hashim at Buliok, Pagalungan, Maguindanao in 2001, but the same was remanded back to its proponents because of observed overlapping of jurisdiction with the existing MILF Shari'ah Court.

Birth of New Code

A number of proposals emerged and reemerged but the desired to come up with a set of guidelines regulating the conduct and affairs of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces continue to remain elusive. The inability of both the BIAF and MILF leadership to response to this particular situation could had been attributed to the fact that many of them were preoccupied with there respective assigned tasks as a consequence of the "on and off" war imposed against the MILF and the Bangsamoro People, specifically the "all out war" launched both by the Estrada government in 2000 and the Arroyo administration in year 2003.

The idea of coming out with the BIAF code of conduct was formally reintroduced during the General Staff meeting conducted at Solon, Sultan Mastura, Maguindanao, on September 2004, presided over by the new Chief of Staff Sammy Al Mansoor, where he reminded members of the General Staff on the value and significance of producing a code of conduct, the sooner the better, for the interest and welfare of BIAF and the MILF in particular and the Bangsamoro people in general.

Series of meetings by the General Staff was conducted aimed at fast tracking the formulation of the law governing the BIAF. Toward this end a marathon session on November 19, 20 and 21 at GS Office was held to meet such demand and to facilitate early results, the body even distributed to every GS member draft copy of the proposed code for comment and improvement.

Draft Code Presented

Upon consolidation, the draft code was then presented to the General Staff chaired by the Chief of Staff Sammy Al Mansoor, where he proposed amendment and at the same time urging everyone to actively involve and religiously participate in the deliberation so that the body shall be able to come up with a viable, effective and reliable code of conduct whose usefulness are not only suitable and applicable at the present generation but including the next generations to come.

Amendment

The draft code had to undergo amendments made through a series of special meeting called for the purpose from August to November 2005. A special committee was created to perform special function aimed at enhancing the finalization of the draft code to be accomplished possibly before the close of 2005. The committee was composed of members of the General Staff, namely; Toks Ebrahim, Chief Administrative Department; Muhammad Nasif, Chief Operation Department; Bon Al Hassana, Chief Intelligence Department; Abdillah Pasigan and Abdulkadir Abdullah, Chief and Deputy Chief, respectively of Islamic Call and Guidance Department; Abu Ubaida Adil, Chief Military Disciplinary Board Department; Saeed Muhammad, Chief Supply and Logistics Department; Atty. Parido R. Pigkaulan, Chief Legal Staff Office; Abdulkarim Garay, Chief Finance Staff Office and Spokesman Eid Kabalu.

The committee's output was presented to the General Staff for final review of which the body consented except for a few provisions that calls for refinement. Nonetheless, the General Staff agreed to forward the draft code to the Commander-in-Chief for his action.

Code Approved Provisionary

In a meeting held at the GS Office on December 2005, the Chief of Staff announced to the members of the General Staff about the Chairman's action where he approves the Code on a provisional status citing among other reason that some members of the MILF Central Committee had expressed their intention to go over the Code for possible introduction and accommodation of comments and recommendations coming from them. At this developed, the Chief of Staff ordered the refinement and fine tuning of the Code.

Code Refine

In compliance thereof, the body again commissioned a small group within the General Staff led by Toks Ebrahim, Atty. Parido Pigkaulan and Eid Kabalu to undertake the necessary refinement as directed by the Chairman. The group left no stone unturned and even sought the assistance of resource persons from the legal luminaries and experts from the professional sectors so as to ensure success and better result.

The group's output was then presented to the General Staff of which the latter unanimously carried out except the code historical background requiring small revision in order to institute measures that would safeguard and preserved justice and fairness to all those in one way or another had taken part and assumed important role played in the formulation and finalization of the Code.

Acting on this particular concern, the General Staff created another group tasked to do the needed revision of the code historical background composed of Mr. Toks Ebrahim, Bon Alhassana, Atty. Parido Pigkaulan, and Eid Kabalu.

The group's final output was presented by the Chief of Staff himself during the GS regular meeting on May 17, 2006 of which the body unanimously approved.

Wassalam.

THE GENERAL STAFF

MORO ISLAMIC LIBERATION FRONT
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces
Camp Abubakre As-Siddique, Maguindanao

14 December 2005

Al Haj Murad Ebrahim
Chairman
Central Committee
Moro Islamic Liberation Front

Subject: Report on the Draft Code of Conduct of the
Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF)

Sir:

The General Staff of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces have the honor to submit its report on the completion of the Draft Code of Conduct of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces.

Needless to say, the General Staff and other officials involved in the drafting of the Code, is aware that the Code of Conduct Governing the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces, is not beyond improvement. But with all its shortcomings and imperfections, each articles submitted represent what is in the belief and conscience of the General Staff are not only be right but is also fair and just in the light of the Bangsamoro Peoples struggle to regain back its lost freedom and independence and the establishment of a new government suitable and applicable to its own religion, custom, tradition and culture.

The promulgation of this Code of Conduct will assure in particular the MILF and the Bangsamoro people in general that the BIAF will not only be upgraded and strengthened, but more importantly, they shall now be guided properly in the performance of their mandated task and responsibility, Insa- Allah, hence, we highly recommends its immediate approval and implementation.

The Code of Conduct Governing the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces contains the following: Title; Declaration of Policy; Definition of Terms; Organization, Appointment; Qualification; Vacancy; Succession; Powers; Functions; Responsibility; Meetings; Quorum and Procedure; Components of the BIAF; Discipline; War offenses and other Acts; and, Miscellaneous Provisions.

Finally, the General Staff would like to take this opportunity to express its sincere thanks and appreciations to all those in one way or another, shared their own opinions and expertise on this noble effort thus making this work become more feasible for us;

and, to Al Haj Murad Ebrahim, Chairman of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front for the trust and confidence in giving us the privilege and opportunity to assume a lead role in the formulation and enactment of this Code of Conduct.

Sukran and Wassalam.

Very truly yours,

SAMMY AL MANSOOR
Chairman
General Staff

YAHYA LUKSADATU
Vice Chairman
General Staff

MEMBERS

TOKS EBRAHIM

MUHAMMAD NASIF

BON AL HASSANA

HADJI SAED MUHAMMAD

HADJI JORDAN

ABU UBAIDA ADIL

ABDILLAH PASIGAN

ATTY. PARIDO PIGKAULAN

EID KABALU

HADJI MAGUID GUINTAO

SABS CAMPONG

MOHSIN ADIL

ABDULKARIM GARAY

ABDULKADIR ABDULLAH

TOPS JULHANI

GORDON SAIFULLAH

ABU HASHIM ESMAEL

USOP PASIGAN

TENG ADNAN

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Bismillaahir Rahmaanir Rahiem
In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

Moro Islamic Liberation Front
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces
Camp Abubakre As-Siddique
Bangsamoro Homeland

General Order No. 2

AN ORDER AMENDING ARTICLES 34 AND 36 OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT
OF THE BANGSAMORO ISLAMIC ARMED FORCES, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

The General Staff (GS) of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF) being the highest policy and decision making body have agreed to introduce the following amendment, to wit:

ARTICLE 1. Article 34, paragraph (f) shall read, as follows: "(f) shall completely follow the rules of engagement in Islam (Nidhamul harb fil Islam)", such as:

1. Troop behavior - worship does not cease in times of war, and whatever is prohibited during peace is also prohibited during war (Al-Hadith).

2. Object of the fight - It is directed only against fighting troops and not to non-fighting personnel (Al-Baqarah: 190).

3. Civilian people - Old people, children, and women shall not be harmed or killed, and those people in convents (Al-Hadith).

4. Wounded enemy combatants - Never betray or be treacherous or vindictive. Do not mutilate. Don't cut or bum palm trees or fruitful trees or ruin dwellings. Don't slay sheep, a cow, camel or other animals except for food (Al-Hadith).

5. Surrender enemy combatants - Maintain and observed justice at all time and avoid blind retaliation. Protect and treat them humanely. (Al-Maaidah: 8).

6. Prisoners of war or captives - Be kind at all time to captives or prisoners of war. Collect and care for wounded combatants. (Al Insan: 5-9).

7. Medical or distinctive signs - Respect personnel and facilities or persons bearing an object marked with signs as Red Cross or Red Crescent, including religious persons, military or civilians carrying white flag used for negotiations, truce or surrender.

8. Treaties and international conventions - Abide and respect covenants, conventions, treaties and agreements including laws of international and local application (Al-Maaidah: 1).

ARTICLE 2. Article 36 shall read, as follows: "Article (36)." Recruitment and Selection in the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces - The following process shall be observed, to wit:

1. In the recruitment for selection of candidates for commission, preference shall be given to those who possessed Islamic values and morality, good morale character and images, competence and capability;

2. Recruitment for regular membership in the BIAF, preference shall be given to those who possessed Islamic values and morality, good morale, physically and mentally fit, matured and above eighteen (18) years of age at the time of his admission.

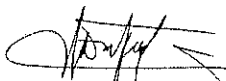
3. No child shall be admitted into the BIAF.

4. The General Staff of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces shall take feasible measures to ensure protection and care of children who are affected by the armed conflict.


5. The Director of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces Military Academy (BIAFMA) in coordination with the General Staff shall formulate training policies and standards in the selection and recruitment of candidates for commission in the BIAF.

Approved and adopted this 14th day of June, 2006 at Camp Abubakre As-siddique, Bangsamoro Homeland.

Certified True and Correct:


SAMMY AL-MANSUR
Chairman, General Staff

APPROVED:


AL HAJ MURAD EBRAHIM
Chairman/Commander-in-Chief

It is the He who sent
His messenger with Guidance
And the Religion of Truth,
To proclaim it over
All Religion: and enough
Is Allah for a witness.
(Surah 48; Verse 28, Al-Qur'an)

Muhammad is the Messenger
of Allah; and those who are
With him are strong
Against unbelievers, (but)
compassionate amongst each other.
Thou wilt see them bow
And prostrate themselves
(In prayer), seeking Grace
From Allah and (His) Good
Pleasure (Surah 48; Verse 29, Al-Qur'an)