

# The Philippines

F A C T S H E E T



110 ethnolinguistic groups found in ethnographic regions

Igorot of the Cordillera

Dumagat of the Sierra Madre mountain range

Ayta (Aeta) of Central Luzon

Mangyan of Mindoro

Tumanduk of Panay

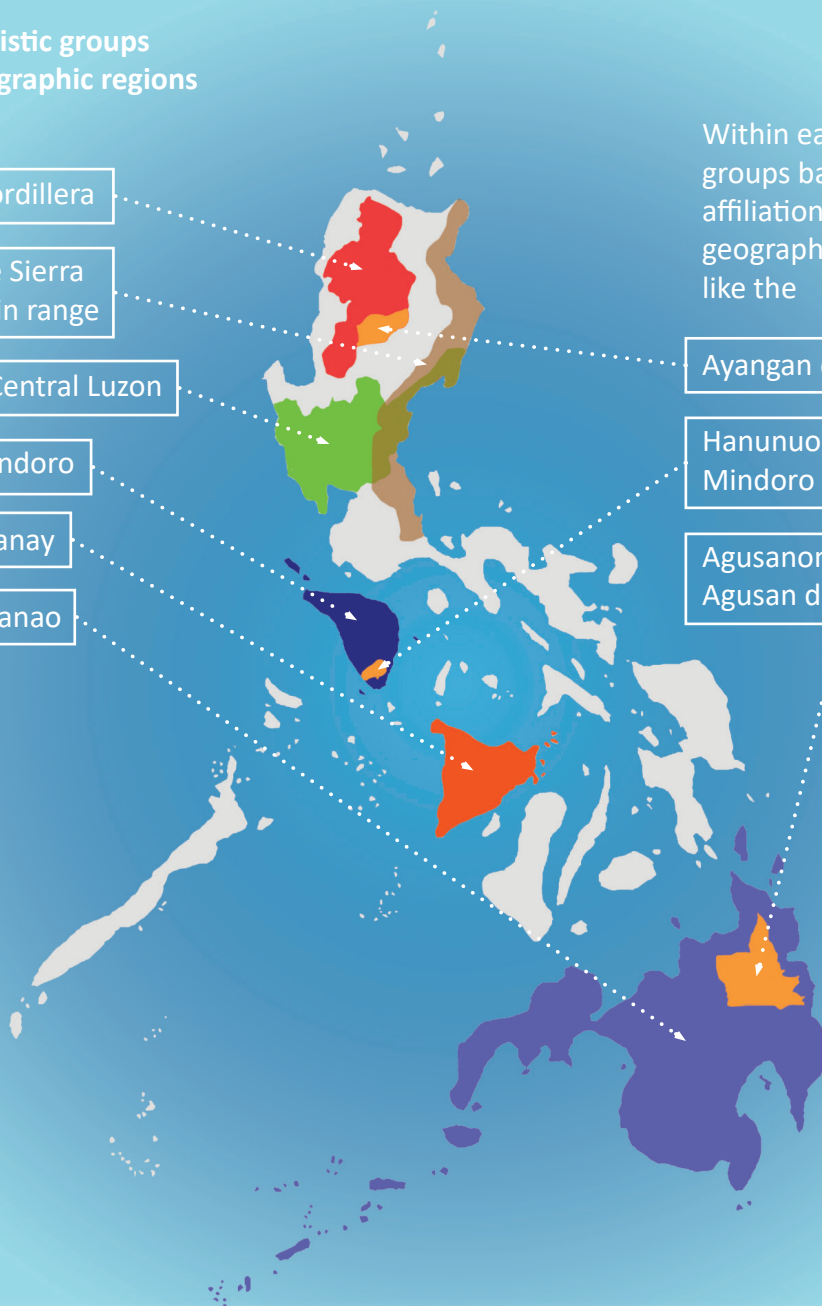
Lumad of Mindanao

Within each are smaller groups based on tribal affiliation, language, or geographic reference, like the

Ayangan of Ifugao

Hanunuo Mangyan in Mindoro

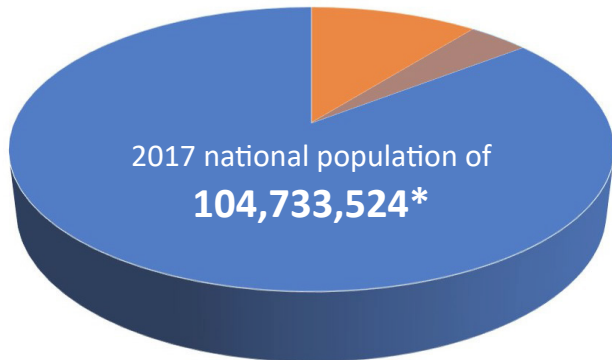
Agusanon Manobo of Agusan del Sur



Source: (NCIP)

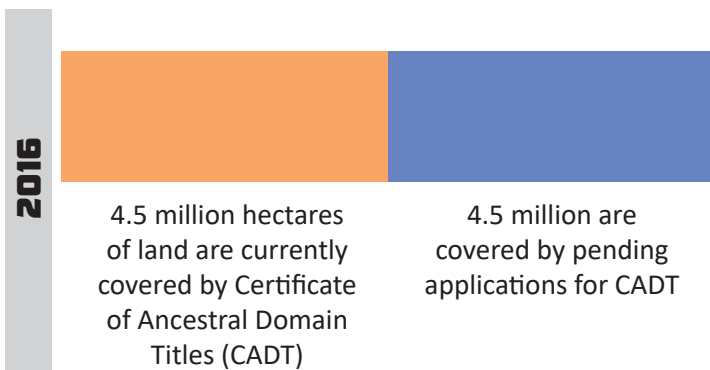
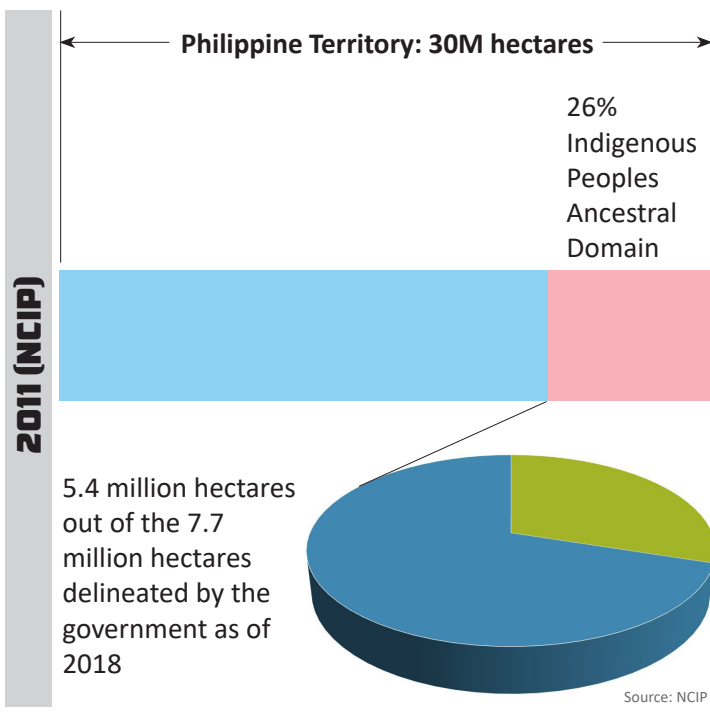
# OUR NUMBERS COUNT

Indigenous Peoples:  
**12%-17%** (12.5M-17.8M)



\* Based on estimates from the [http://countrymeters.info/en/Philippines#population\\_2017](http://countrymeters.info/en/Philippines#population_2017) as of 01 January 2018.

# OUR TERRITORIES



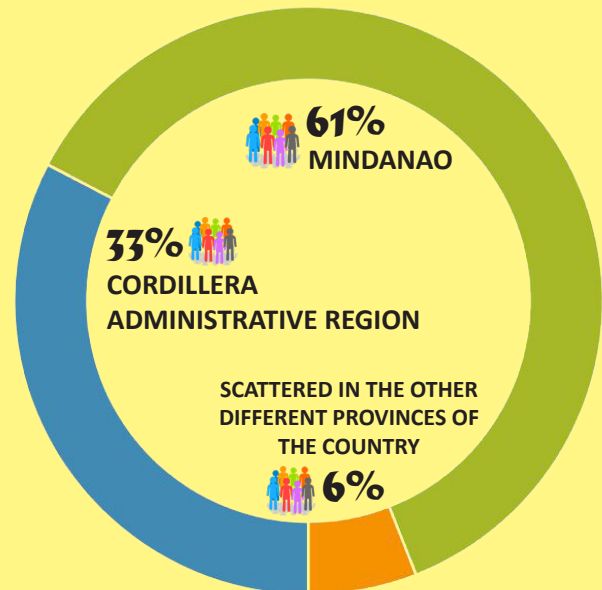
# POPULATION

**110** ethnolinguistic groups are identified as indigenous peoples

Source: NCIP

**1.2** million ancestral domain holders are in 221 territories delineated under Certificates of Ancestral Domain Titles (CADT)

Indigenous Peoples are found in:



**5** sites in Mindanao, late registration starting 2012 benefited more than 9,000 indigenous peoples by mid-2016 (UNFPA) showing the under-reporting of births of indigenous children

1987 Constitution  
Sec. 5

“The State, subject to the provisions of this Constitution and national development policies and programs, shall protect the rights of indigenous cultural communities to their ancestral lands to ensure their economic, social, and cultural well-being.”

Issuances from the Department  
of Education:

Department Orders (DO): DO 62, s. 2011 -  
Adopting the National Indigenous Peoples (IP)  
Education Policy Framework

DO 103, s. 2011 - Creation of Indigenous Peoples  
Education Office (IPsEO)

DO 32, s. 2015 - Adopting the Indigenous Peoples  
Education Curriculum Framework

DO 50, s. 2016 - Hiring Guidelines for Teacher I  
Position in Schools Implementing Indigenous  
Peoples Education Effective School Year  
2016-2017



## LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

Republic Act 8371, the  
Indigenous Peoples Rights Act  
- enabling law that defines the 4  
bundles of rights to be enjoyed by  
indigenous peoples: Rights to Ancestral  
Domains, Right to Self-Governance and  
Empowerment, Social Justice and Human Rights,  
and Cultural Integrity

Creates the National Commission on Indigenous  
Peoples (NCIP) as the primary government  
agency mandated to “protect and promote  
the interest and well-being of the  
ICCs/IPs with due regard to their  
beliefs, customs, traditions and  
institutions.”

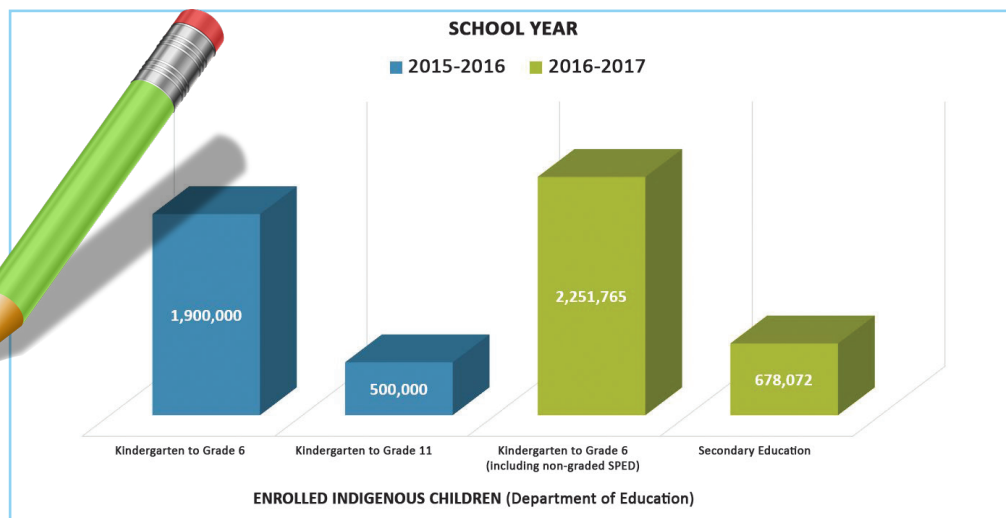
The proper implementation of  
the IPRA is impeded by the lack of  
independence, capacity, and resources  
of the NCIP to implement their  
mandate.

Further, the existence of laws in  
contradiction to provisions of IPRA are  
prioritized for implementation by the  
government as the

- Philippine Mining Act of 1995 liberalizing the Mining Industry with huge incentive to foreign companies and weak environmental and social protection including IP rights under IPRA
- National Integrated Protected Area System Law with prohibitions and restrictions to the use and management of IP over their lands and resources
- 1975 Revised Forestry Code (P.D. 705), and other DENR administrative orders related to the management and utilization of natural resources conflicting with the rights of indigenous peoples (IPs) specifically recognized and protected under the Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act (IPRA).

# SITUATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

## EDUCATION



## SOCIAL PROTECTION

**13%**

of beneficiaries the government's Modified Conditional Cash Transfer (MCCT) Program are indigenous households in geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas as of mid-2015.

Composing only of

**12.5-17%**

the national population, they are over-represented in the impoverished section of society.

## HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION

THE FOLLOWING NUMBER OF CASES OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS HAVE BEEN DOCUMENTED FROM JUNE 30, 2016 TO JUNE 29, 2017:



# DEVELOPMENT AGGRESSION

As of January 2016, there are at least



**289**  
HYDRO  
POWER  
PROJECTS



and  
**15** GEOTHERMAL  
PROJECTS

that have been awarded which are encroaching IP territories. With no genuine FPIC conducted, an estimated **17,000 Tumandok people** are threatened of dislocation by the Jalaur River Multipurpose Dam to be built in Iloilo.

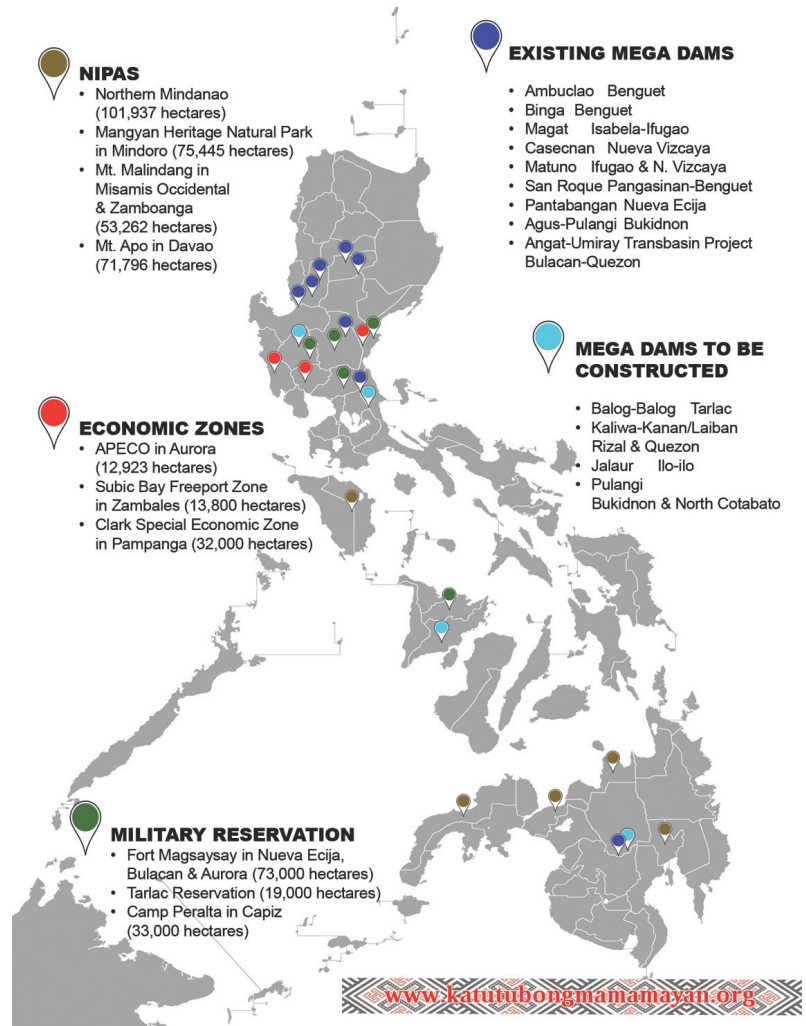
As of March 2015, there are at least



**15**  
APPROVED  
MINING  
APPLICATIONS

in areas occupied by IP covering an estimated **619,000.27 hectares of ancestral lands** in the country.

## PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS IN ANCESTRAL TERRITORIES



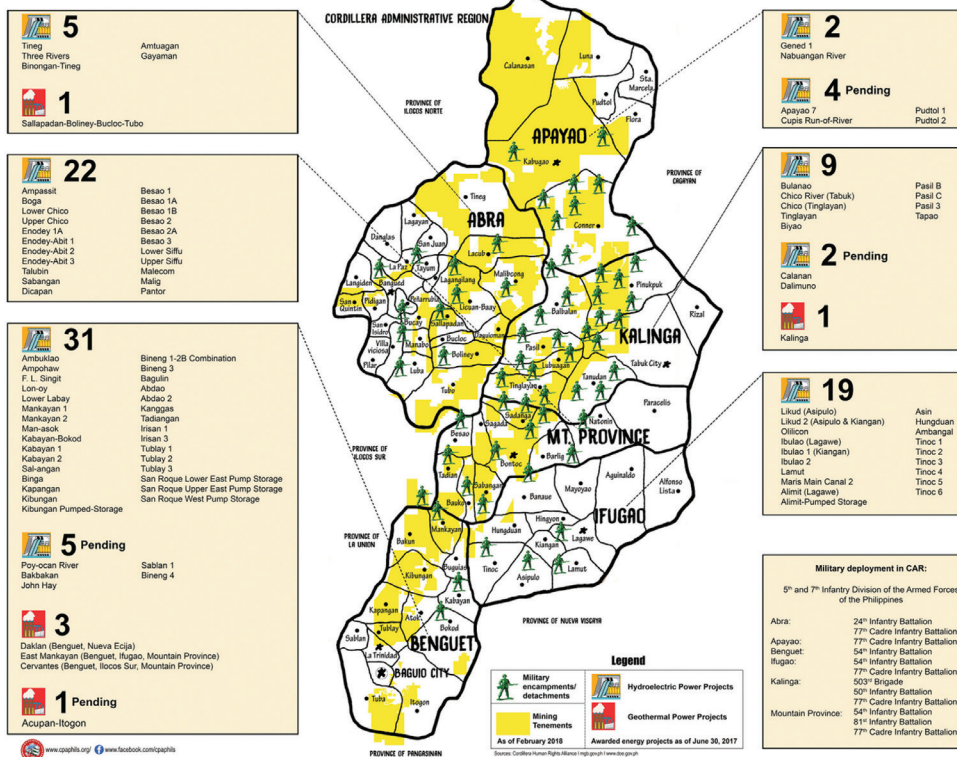
### POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT

Executive Order 546 of 2006 creates the force multipliers with the use of paramilitary forces in the implementation of peace and order and this is happening in many indigenous areas

President Gloria Arroyo ordered the creation of Investment Defense Force (IDF) by the Armed Forces of the Philippines in 2008 "to protect vital infrastructures and projects from terrorists, including the New People's Army and other rebel groups who stand in the way of development particularly in the rural areas."

# DEVELOPMENT AGGRESSION AND MILITARIZATION IN THE CORDILLERA

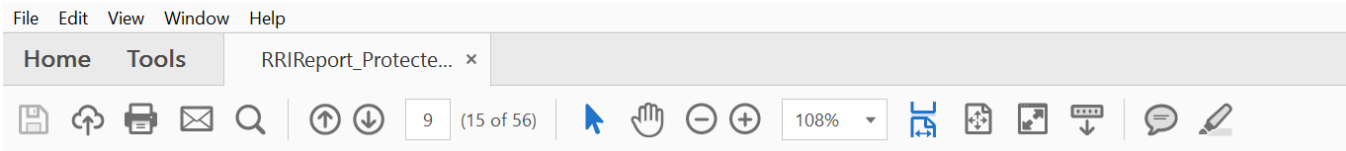
Development Aggression and Militarization



Two Divisions from the Northern Luzon Command—the 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Divisions—now operate in the Cordillera region. Active recruitment to paramilitary groups in the region like the Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Units (CAFGU) and Cordillera Peoples Liberation Army (CPLA) are being conducted aggressively.

Related to the issues on lands and resources is the fact that many of the ancestral domain of indigenous had been declared as national parks, protected areas, etc. before the IPRA and this impacts directly on the use, control and management of their lands and resources, ergo, their indigenous natural resource management practices, their food security and livelihoods, their health, and other needs that bear on their well-being. In a study published in mid-2015, the following were reported:

RRIRReport\_Protected-Areas-and-Land-Rights\_web.pdf - Adobe Acrobat Reader DC



Country	Illustrative overlaps	Recent documented conflicts, illustrating the range of issues
Philippines	At least 96 of the 128 areas recognized for their biodiversity (“key biodiversity areas”) in the Philippines overlap with ancestral territories, including many sacred sites; <sup>83</sup> 69 of 99 protected areas (nearly 1 Mha) overlap with ancestral lands <sup>84</sup>	Despite the formalization of indigenous management rights in protected areas, participation on the ground is hampered by sociocultural, practical, financial, and political barriers <sup>85</sup>

# THE PHILIPPINE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2017-2022 AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

The Philippines has adopted the SDG framework in its Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022. Indigenous peoples are mentioned in several sectors, to wit:

 <p>Fair and swift administration of justice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Under the economic justice on streamlining rules on the disposition of land cases, the jurisdiction of the NCIP will be taken into consideration in relation to indigenous peoples ancestral domain claims;</li> <li>For the delivery of fair and equal justice, victim legal protection and assistance shall be strengthened with indigenous peoples mentioned as one of those with special needs.</li> </ul> <p>1</p>	 <p>Social protection statistical framework be implemented to track the status of vulnerable sectors, including indigenous peoples.</p> <p>6</p>
 <p>Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotion of Philippine culture and values with the expansion of the Schools of Living Traditions to learn from various culture bearers of indigenous communities;</li> <li>Create an enabling environment for conserving and enriching the collective memory of the nation with the meaningful participation of indigenous cultural communities.</li> </ul> <p>2</p>	 <p>To reach demographic dividends, fertility rates be reduced with unmet demand for family planning and unwanted pregnancies be addressed with attention given to the improvement of the socio-economic conditions of poor women, including indigenous women.</p> <p>7</p>
 <p>Indigenous and local knowledge to be promoted as part of good farm and fishery practice.</p> <p>3</p>	 <p>Just and lasting peace be attained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>conflict-affected and conflict-vulnerable communities be protected and developed by making government more responsive to peace, conflict and security issues including the protection of rights and promotion of interests of vulnerable groups, including indigenous peoples, in situations of armed conflict, observance of human rights and international humanitarian law, and conduct of interfaith and intercultural dialogue.</li> </ul> <p>8</p>
 <p>Acceleration of human capital development with the objective of improving the nutrition and health for all, appropriate educational interventions are provided, quality of higher and technical education and research for equity and global competitiveness is improved, with indigenous peoples identified as one of the priorities</p> <p>4</p>	 <p>Ecological integrity, clean and healthy environment is ensured:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to sustain biodiversity and functioning ecosystem services in forest and watershed areas, land administration and management need to be improved with the delineation of ancestral domain and its waters accelerated including the provision of economic and cultural services to indigenous peoples within the framework of their sociocultural integrity and ecological balance;</li> <li>expand the development of sustainable resource-based industries by developing a system for access and benefit-sharing of wealth from genetic resources and the traditional knowledge of indigenous communities.</li> </ul> <p>9</p>
 <p>Reducing vulnerability of individuals and families: indigenous peoples are especially mentioned in this sector as one of the disadvantaged sectors due to their vulnerability to exploitation and discrimination</p> <p>5</p>	

# RECOMMENDATIONS

1

Fully implement the 1997 Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act to ensure that, in accordance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, indigenous peoples' rights to their lands, territories and resources are fully recognized and protected and that their free, prior and informed consent is obtained in respect of the adoption of any legislation, policy or project affecting their lands or territories and other resources.

2

Ensure the accountability of the NCIP to indigenous peoples and establish an effective grievance mechanism to address legitimate concerns of indigenous peoples in the implementation of IPRA and the mandate of the NCIP.

3

Take the steps necessary to ensure the registration of indigenous lands, including through improving the collective land title claim process.

4

Adopt appropriate measures to mitigate the impact of armed conflicts, including intertribal conflicts, and natural disasters on indigenous peoples.

5

Take all measures necessary to ensure the full access of indigenous peoples to health care, education and other basic services.

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