

# Tais Timor

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## Let's get registered!

**The Civil Registration process is slated to begin nationwide in mid-March; but first a pilot registration project will occur on Atauro Island from 26 February to 3 March.**

The recently formed Civil Registry is compiling data in part to develop the electoral rolls for the forthcoming elections.

Atauro Island was chosen as the site for the pilot project because it is a separate island and therefore not attached to other sub-districts. Geographically, and in terms of population numbers, population density and infrastructure, Atauro is a good representative sample for the whole territory of East Timor.

Civil Registry's logistics staff in Dili will plan and monitor logistics for the Registration pilot. The project has the complete support of the Dili District Administration.

On Atauro Island, four Registration Sites will open at 09:00 on Monday 26 February. The Registration Sites are located in Vila, Pala, Anartutu and Atecru and the logistics for these locations will be implemented from now until 23 February.

East Timor's Civilian Police Force is providing security for the Atauro project. Civilian Police Officers will secure the Registration Site around the clock during the pilot initiative.

Eight registration teams are involved in the pilot project. Two teams will be deployed to each Registration Site. Every team consists of two Timorese Officers and one International Civil Registration Officer. Eight out of the 16 Timorese Officers are regular staff of the Central Civil Registry in Dili and the other eight are inhabitants of Atauro Island.

Two of the four sector coordinators from Civil Registry, who worked during polling in 1999 as UNAMET Registration Officers will participate again as Civil Registration Officers in the Atauro project. This will ensure that maximum benefit is obtained from the pilot project in time for the countrywide Initial Registration process.

They will share their expertise with other colleagues from Civil Registry.

Each department in the Civil Registry Unit will monitor the pilot project's progress on Atauro Island. Knowledge gained from this trial will then be implemented throughout Initial Registration in March.

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## Understanding The political process

The civil registration process, which you are now participating in or may do so in the near future, will record the identities and place of residence of all residents. For all persons aged 16 and over, registration for this purpose is compulsory.

During the civil registration, which will take place in each sub-district, all East Timorese aged 17 and over will also be asked whether they wish to register for the forthcoming national elections to a Constituent Assembly, under the process described below. This registration is very important, as it will provide all eligible persons with the ability to participate in shaping the destiny of the country. But the decision on whether or not to register - and thus be included on the electoral roll - is a voluntary one, for every individual to make on his or her own. If you want to vote in the elections for the Constituent Assembly, you must register with the Civil Registry.

Eligible East Timorese temporarily residing outside the country can be included on the electoral roll, and thus play their part in the political process now unfolding. But to do so, they must return to the country and register at one of the civil registration stations during the March to June period. If possible, they should register at or near their previous place of residence.

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## Kindergartens in Atauro Take Off

*In East Timor, it seems anything is possible -- such as a rose becoming a seabird.*

Once upon a time, in the not-so-far-away island of Atauro, the Indonesian Army built a kindergarten. They named it "Mawa" (Malay for "Rose"), a flower that was nowhere to be found on the island.

Three years came and went, yet no teacher arrived. The building sat empty and unused.

It was the kindergarten that time forgot - that is until 1995 at least. That's when the local residents asked an Australian visitor to take a look at the building.

"It was a good building, so I asked the Javanese university I was working for if I could go for six months and try to get the

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**Special section with questions and answers on civil registration and the political process. Pull it out and post it!**

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### Special Section

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Mother Nature takes her toll on more than the roads: Strong winds felled the top portion of UNTAET's Dili-area transmission tower on 12 February, knocking out broadcasts of Televisaun Timor Lorosa'e (TVTL) and UNTAET Radio for a time.

Heavy seas washed away roads on the Dili beachfront.



Photo by CCPI/UNTAET



# Is there a future for tourism in East Timor?

## Everyone raves about East Timor's extraordinary potential as a tourist destination, but is it justified?

In the short-term, East Timor can at best provide only modest accommodation and services given that the country's infrastructure was completely destroyed in 1999. Today, one-and-a-half years later, the infrastructure is far from rebuilt. Power cuts are frequent; road access often cut, particularly during the rainy season; telecommunication remains unreliable; and the water supply is spotty and you best boil it.

Regardless of these challenges, there is "growing interest in East Timor, particularly among Darwin and Cairns tour operators," says Ellen Psychas, Investment Officer from UNTAET's Investment Institute.

Many of Australia's eco-tourists or adventure tourists would probably be interested in making East Timor a stop or an extension to a holiday in Australia's Northern Territory or Queensland," adds Ms. Psychas.

The potential for scuba diving is great. Freeflow, a British diving company planning to start up business in East Timor, is of the opinion that "East Timor is potentially one of the world's top dive destinations, given that the coral reefs appear to be in virtually pristine condition."

There is also great potential for horseback riding, hiking, mountain cycling, and bird- and whale-watching. Whale-watching has the greatest potential to attract large numbers of tourists to the island, says Ms. Psychas, an UNTAET's Investment Institute representative. "Whales migrate past the southern coast of Suai and Viqueque on their way down to New Zealand where the Maorie tribe runs some large whale-watching operations," she says. "Last year, New Zealand was host to some 400,000 whale-watchers and these whales, sperm and humpback, are the same as those passing East Timor," adds Ms Psychas.

So why, if tourism has such potential,

isn't East Timor exploiting this revenue-earner? One reason is that there is still no government policy on tourism. At this point there is a debate within the Cabinet and the National Council (NC) about what East Timor's policy on tourism should be. The East Timor Transitional Administration (ETTA) is nevertheless in dialogue with the World Bank to arrange for a script that looks at appropriate administrative structures that could be established to promote and develop responsible eco-friendly tourism.

East Timor needs to get a chunk of the profitable market that the Asia Pacific region has to offer, an area of the globe that in 1999 alone attracted 92 million international tourists. "If East Timor can attract 100,000 visitors, then tourist expenditures can be expected to be in the order of US\$35-60 million". This was an estimate put forth by Bill Carter and Vicente Ximenes of the University of Queensland in a paper they presented at the Sustainable Development Conference in Dili in January.

Unfortunately, says Mr. Carter, "East Timor's tourism future is suffering from the tyranny of no decision".

And, unfortunately it follows that because of this "tyranny of no decision", investors are reluctant to make long-term commitments in establishing tourist-related enterprises in East Timor. The rational for this hesitation by investors being quite obvious; the land and property situation remains problematic and it is difficult for an investor to get a land lease for more than two years. Taxes also constitute a real concern for potential investors, as these do not provide for an enabling environment for long-term investors. Another factor is the perceived political instability and question marks about political development.

According to Ellen Psychas of the UNTAET Investment Institute "a number of inquiries have been made so far, but investors seem to feel that the time is not right yet, while others will prefer to wait until after the elections."

Given the condition of the existing infrastructure, it may just be that at this

stage East Timor can cater to the back-packing tourist, but is not yet ready for the tourist who wants more luxurious accommodations and services. But some backpackers who come ashore find the accommodations and eating venues prohibitively expensive, particularly in Dili where prices have been driven up by the large international presence.

*"In 1999, the Asia Pacific region experienced 92 million international tourists. If East Timor can attract 100 000 visitors, then tourist expenditures can be expected to be in the order of US\$35-60 million."*

Even though there might be some good beaches, trekking routes, scubadiving reefs and an interesting culture - in the end, East Timor must compete with some stiff regional competition, for example Vietnam, which in 1999 managed to attract an estimated 2 million tourists.

Much of East Timor's future success in attracting tourism is likely to ultimately hinge on whether it embraces the tourist culture itself. Dili residents are generally in favour of opening East Timor to tourism, but with one critical caveat - that tourists respect the local culture.

In this conservative, Catholic country, the "bikini factor" will play a major role in determining the future of tourism. "Tourism in East Timor will be good," says a young Timorese girl at one of the more popular beaches in Dili. "It's good for the economy to provide employment to young girls like me. I would love to be a tour guide. However, the bikini rules have to be defined," she warns. "Our traditions don't allow bikini wearing at all. I think it is almost taboo for a girl like me to

walk around in a bikini. If you wear it, you will be deemed a prostitute," she declares. "It's a cultural issue. Our traditions are very strict and clear". Odd Sandlund from the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research and advisor to UNTAET's Environmental Protection Unit reinforces this view. "Local people I have talked with are interested in tourism as long as they [tourists] dress and behave properly," he says. Based on his conversations with residents of Tutuala, some of the villagers were hostile towards tourism, but for another reason. "Tourists were not welcome there because of what they have done to the local beaches," the local villager said, referring to the increasing number of beer cans and rubbish found on their beaches.

In Atauro, an island spared by the 1999 destruction that consumed the rest of the mainland, people are interested in tourism as long as it is "environmentally and culturally appropriate", said Gabrielle Samson of the international NGO Roman Luan Atauro. The inhabitants of Atauro do not want "jet-ski tourism" or the kind where "a speedboat comes, enjoys and that's it". They say that this kind of tourism does not benefit the community..

Roman Luan is currently exploring the possibility of developing community-run cabins instead of a foreign-owned hotel. In terms of tourist activities, they suggest more traditional ones such as spear fishing or canoeing.

But with the first democratic elections in East Timor coming up most likely in late August, it seems that a policy on tourism will be deferred. It might be a good thing given that many entrepreneurs are waiting to see how these will go before they make their more serious move to investing in East Timor.

What is the realistic timeframe for the tourism industry in East Timor? According to Ms. Psychas from UNTAET's Investment Institute, "in the interim transitional stage where the emphasis is on rehabilitation, it will be 2 to 3 years before we can expect to have much of an eco-tourism industry and 5-10 years before it will really develop".

On 8 October, ETTA's Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, João Carrascalão, and the Dili District Administrator, John Ryan, visited the newly rehabilitated markets of Comoro and Becora.

Proper sanitation, water points, electricity and drainage have been provided at the new market sites, including tiled preparation areas in the meat and fish market areas (photo near left).

The first stage of the overall market rehabilitation project has been funded by JICA, the Dili District Administration and ADRA Japan. There is space for 2100 vendors. More than 1100 vendors have registered so far for stalls in the markets and signed leases. Most have paid their first year's rents in advance.

The move to the new market sites is voluntary and will take place in early March. The renovated markets will relieve pressure on the Dili Central Market with its overcrowded and poor sanitation facilities.





Photo by OCP/UNTAET

Calling themselves the Anti-Violence Youth Group, these demonstrators picketed outside UNTAET on 5 February, calling on UNTAET and CNRT to take strong action against violence and to "guarantee people's safety." UNTAET's Chief of Staff, N. Parameswaran, met with their representatives a few days later to discuss ways of working together to prevent violence in East Timor society.

# A Look At Pre-School in East Timor

Just like a good fairy tale, Atauro's story has some valuable lessons to offer. But more importantly, it serves as an inspiration for the rest of East Timor's pre-schools at this particular time.

A year-and-a-half after the 1999 rampage, only 37 pre-schools (half the original number) continue to function on any level across the country. Most remain heavily damaged and are constantly improvising with classes held in an unimaginable array of venues—including abandoned primary school buildings, churches, and even teachers' houses.

Most of East Timor's pre-school teachers are volunteers, and whatever desks and chairs are to be found have usually been built or donated by the parents themselves. As was the case under the Indonesians, the number of children attending pre-schools remains pitifully low - only seven per cent (3,849 out of an estimated 48,388) of the pre-school-age population of four- to six-years old.

"There are too many children and pre-schools are more expensive than primary

schools because they need toys, color pencils and everything," says Meritxell Relaño, East Timor Transitional Administration's (ETTA) education officer in charge of early childhood education.

As of this writing, a total of US\$73,970 has been allocated by ETTA for kindergarten materials—pupils' and teachers' furniture, school supplies, toys and teaching aids—for 12 functioning pre-schools.

If there is one thing going for pre-school in East Timor at present, it is the community spirit behind it. Thus, Relaño concludes: "Community-based early childhood programmes are the only way to deal with this situation."

*"There are so many possibilities, but the community has to choose or design how they want their children to be taken care of."*

One way to go, according to Ms. Relaño, is to transform the existing pre-schools into child development centers where parents can gather, learn about child development and get support for better parenting procedures.

"Early childhood education can then take the form of play groups facilitated by the mothers," says Ms. Relaño. "There are so many possibilities, but the community has to choose or design how they want their children to be taken care of."

ETTA is currently in the process of identifying and training community resource persons. In November, two East Timorese teachers, Aurora Pires and Olga Belo, both of whom are nuns, attended a two-week "Training for Trainers" workshop in Singapore.

"It was very enriching. The presentation was interactive. The facilitators gave us input and drew ideas and experiences from us," Sister Pires says of the Singapore workshop.

She adds that the workshop, oriented towards a pre-school system where children initiate playing, made her realize that East Timor's pre-schools at the moment are operating in a very different light.

Like the rest of the educational system under the Indonesians, the pre-school is oriented towards "discipline, good-behavior, and following the rules," stresses Sister Pires. "It doesn't make children think for themselves," according to her.

Given this reality, in March Sisters Pires and Belo will facilitate a workshop entitled "Training for Trainers in Early Childhood Development," that will emphasize cooperative learning techniques and experiential activities. Some 20 East Timorese - women from East Timor Women's Organization (OMT) as well as pre-school teachers - are expected to attend.

"I'm not expecting that the training will change the whole pre-school system in East Timor," says Sister Pires. "Don't aim for the whole, just the little group next to you. If they like the message, they will pass it on to others."

## Atauro kindergartens continued from pg. 1

kindergarten going," recalls Gabrielle Samson, who now works for the non-governmental organization Roman Luan. "And now," says the Australian teacher, "I'm in my sixth year here."

*"That the teachers have no formal training turned out to be a big advantage"*

Soon after Ms. Samson's arrival at 'Mawa', the kindergarten truly took off, and the community changed its name to 'Manutasi' (Seabird) - a name infinitely more appropriate and one with which local residents could readily identify. Next, the community designated three young women as teachers and it didn't take long for Gabrielle Samson to step back and leave the kindergarten teaching fully to them.

Now the small island of Atauro boasts two functioning pre-schools -- Manutasi with 57 children and Biqueli with 54 -- and a couple of now veteran teachers who get paid 400,000 rupiahs each month by the NGO Roman Luan, courtesy of the New Zealand Mission.

Biqueli, which was started as a play-group several years back by a group of mothers who were employed drying fish, was formally inaugurated by Roman Luan as a kindergarten on 3 February. Two additional kindergartens in different villages are slated to open in the next few months.

"We held meetings with the community in two more villages. They're very keen about having kindergartens, and have put up proposals," says Ms. Samson.

Indeed, Atauro residents are serious about their pre-school. The teachers and children are at school each day from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Once every two months, the teachers meet with parents and discuss the progress of the children. Parents have also organized a food supplementary program, where they take turns in

cooking for the children twice a week. The children themselves even contribute some of the food; produce from a small vegetable garden they tend on the school grounds.

"That the teachers have no formal training turned out to be a big advantage," says Ms. Samson. She points out that the classes are livelier, more dynamic, and the children are more attentive and responsive, not just sitting passively like regular grade schoolers. >



Schooltime includes playtime in Atauro's kindergartens.

Photo by OCP/UNTAET

# ETTAnews

## East Timor Transitional Administration

### National Council

A draft regulation establishing an East Timor Defence Force was unanimously adopted by the National Council on 30 January.

The regulation served as the provisional legal basis to establish the East Timor Defence Force on 1 February. The training of some 600 former Falintil members started the following day.

The approval follows public hearings conducted by the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence on 27 January. The draft regulation had been approved by the East Timor Transitional Cabinet on 17 January.

The regulation takes immediate effect once signed by Transitional Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello. It will be in effect for two months, during which the Council members can present and discuss amendments.

### Transitional Cabinet

The East Timor Transitional Cabinet agreed on 24 January to a policy to establish a road traffic regime for the country, replacing the current Indonesian traffic laws. The new regime will provide a

The regulation would establish an Interim Registry of Political Parties. It would also define the procedures and mechanisms by which political parties may register and nominate candidates for election to a Constituent Assembly, which will prepare a constitution for an independent and democratic East Timor.

The Cabinet also agreed on the interim terms of reference for the Office of the Inspector General. The Transitional Administrator will provide the Inspector General the Terms of Reference, which include inspections within the administration, investigations into alleged wrongdoing, recommendations for improvements to public administration, and carrying out anti-corruption outreach programs. The Inspector General's functions are to be carried out so as to support the overall development of the East Timor administration.

Lastly, the Cabinet received a briefing from representatives of the petroleum industry regarding operations within the Zone of Cooperation in the Timor Sea.

### Office of Defense Force Development

At a ceremony in Aileu marking the transition of Falintil into the East Timor Defence Force on 1 February, Transitional

The Transitional Administrator announced that a Falintil Veterans Association, which will inherit the name and symbols of Falintil, would be established with immediate effect. The Transitional Administration will also draw up legislation to ensure that no one else will claim or use of Falintil's symbols.

The historic day, attended by Falintil Commander Taur Matan Ruak, CNRT President Xanana Gusmão, Bishop Carlos Ximenes Belo and Force Commander Boonsrang Niumpradit among others, started with a Mass in memory of fallen Falintil soldiers, followed by the lowering of the Falintil flag and raising of the United Nations flag.

### Department of Foreign Affairs

East Timor Transitional Cabinet Member for Foreign Affairs, José Ramos-Horta, described his first official visit to Indonesia as very fruitful, noting that he had had excellent meetings with all his interlocutors, who included President Abdurrahman Wahid and Foreign Minister Alwi Shihab.

At a press conference on 25 January with UNTAET Chief of Staff N. Parameswaran and UNTAET Jakarta

### Department of Internal Administration

#### Civil Registry

Eighty-one United Nations Volunteers (UNVs) arrived on 29 January in Dili to take up their duties as Civil Registration Officers at subdistrict level in each of East Timor's 13 districts.

All Registration Officers have previous experience in civil registration and elections, as well as extensive professional experience. Most of the new arrivals have served as UNVs in at least two previous UN missions. The majority of them were civil registration officers in Kosovo.

The group was briefed for five days by the UN Volunteers Support Unit, the UNTAET Civil Registry Unit and other UNTAET sections in Darwin, Australia.

This is the final group of UNVs to arrive to take part in the civil registration process. An advance team of 50 was deployed in December.

The Central Civil Registry Unit is currently working on methods to accelerate the registration of the East Timorese population.

### Civil Service and Public Employment Service

Ruben João Braz de Carvalho, a former East Timorese civil servant, has been appointed the new District Administrator of Dili. Mr. Carvalho, who is 43-years-old, signed the oath of office on 25 January, at the Office of Civil Service and Public Employment (CISPE).

Nine candidates were shortlisted for positions as District Administrators and Deputy District Administrators. The interviews are expected to start in February.

There are currently four Timorese District Administrators and six Timorese Deputy District Administrators.

### Department of Justice

UNTAET's Prosecutor General Mohamed Othman returned from Indonesia on 24 January, after meeting with his Indonesian counterpart Marzuki Darusman and former Aitarak militia leader Eurico Guterres.

Othman and the Indonesian Prosecutor discussed further cooperation in bringing to justice the perpetrators of the atrocities carried out in East Timor. Othman also asked the Indonesian authorities to question on behalf of UNTAET the recently arrested suspected killer of New Zealand Peacekeeper Leonard Manning.

Guterres said in recent talks that he would be willing to make a recorded statement to UNTAET of his version of what happened in East Timor in 1999. The date of this interview is to be determined at a later stage.

On 25 January, former militia member João Fernandes, who admitted to a September 1999 murder in Bobonaro District, was sentenced to 12 years imprisonment by the Special Panel for Serious Crimes at the Dili District Court.

Fernandes, a member of the Dadurus Merah Putih (Red White Tornado), plead-



Photo by OCP/UNTAET

Falintil soldiers fold the Falintil flag for good, marking their transition from independence fighters and making way for the newly-created East Timor Defence Force.

unified system governing traffic rules through a regulation and directive. This will support the work of police and traffic wardens, as well as provide drivers with clear guidelines and responsibilities.

The new policy is designed to be more responsive to the post-conflict environment of East Timor than the current, complex mix of Indonesian laws, which apply under UNTAET Regulation 1999/1. Furthermore, the Indonesian institutions that supported their traffic laws, such as driver licensing, insurance, and vehicle registration, no longer exist.

On 17 January, the Cabinet agreed to a draft regulation entitled "Registration of Political Parties for the Nomination of Candidates to a Constitution Assembly for an Independent and Democratic East Timor".

Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello appointed Falintil Commander Taur Matan Ruak as the Commander-in-Chief of the Force, with the rank of Brigadier-General.

In a speech to Falintil members and guests, the Transitional Administrator expressed his deepest respect for the independence fighters and their 25-year old struggle.

"Armed with little beyond moral courage and despite hunger, deprivation and innumerable setbacks, Falintil prevailed over a massive occupying force," Mr. de Mello said, adding that the memory of the fighters will live on forever in the history of East Timor.

"Let me assure you, the heroes of the Falintil, that this occasion in no way represents the end of Falintil. Falintil's role in the fight for freedom will never be forgotten by the people of East Timor with whom you struggled," he said.

Director Lakhan Mehrotra, Ramos-Horta expressed "sincere appreciation" for the Indonesian Government's efforts over the past few months. Citing the improved security situation in West Timor and the absence of militia incursions of late, he called on UNHCR to return as soon as possible, and expressed hope that a United Nations security assessment mission would be dispatched quickly to the area to assess the situation.

He added that he would be lobbying the United States Congress to resume some level of non-lethal military cooperation with Indonesia.

He also provided details of the projected political calendar for 2001, including a date for parliamentary elections, possibly on 30 August.

# ETTAnews

East Timor Transitional Administration



Photo by CCPI/UNTAET

Mark Malloch Brown, (right photo) the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) visited East Timor 10-12 February.

Left photo: Inspector General Mariano Lopes, UNDP Finn Resident Representative and UN Coordinator Finn Rieske-Nielsen, and Deputy Transitional Administrator Jean-Christian Cady with Mr. Brown at the launch of the UNDP supported anti-corruption drive, headed by Inspector general Lopez.

ed guilty to the charge of stabbing to death village chief Domingos Gonsalves Pereira. The defendant faced 20 years in jail under Indonesian penal code, but the prosecution recommended a minimum of ten years in jail since he has agreed to cooperate with future investigations into crimes committed in Bobonaro District. The sentence marks the first successful prosecution for the violence that surrounded the popular referendum in East Timor.

On the same date, preliminary hearings for three additional cases took place before the Serious Crimes Panel in the Dili District court.

The first criminal sentence was delivered on 23 January in Baucau court. Four persons were found guilty of severely mistreating a man in Piteliti village in Lautem District. Two of the men were sentenced to seven years imprisonment, one received a sentence of two years and the other received a sentence of one year and three months in jail. The convicts have been sent to Buruma prison in Baucau.

In addition, a sentence is expected shortly in the murder case of a 62-year old woman in Lospalos in December 1999. According to the prosecution, the woman was tortured and left for dead by four men after having been accused of killing children by witchcraft.

## Department of Police and Emergency Service

Fifty additional East Timorese police cadets graduated on 26 January from the Police College of East Timor in Dili, receiving their certificates from Paulo Martins, who was appointed the first East Timorese director of the Academy on 15 January. The 50 police officers will now undergo a three-month field training and subsequently be deployed in all 13 districts. One hundred and fifty cadets are currently undergoing basic training as part of a year-long training programme.

## Department of Infrastructure

In late January, ETTA officially received its first rehabilitated public buildings from the construction companies in Baucau. The rehabilitation of the Public Prosecutor's Office, the administration building of the prison and the court, which were destroyed during the violence in 1999, was completed in December. East Timorese companies carried out all reconstruction work.

Four major public buildings are currently under reconstruction in Dili, employing over 350 East Timorese workers. The buildings are expected to be completed sometime between February and April. Seven major public buildings have been rehabilitated in Dili so far.

## Department of Economic Affairs

### Division of Agricultural Affairs

The Division of Agriculture Affairs of the East Timor Transitional Administration will repair two fishponds in Viqueque and Same districts, starting in late January. Local carpentry firms will carry out the job. Meanwhile, a fishpond in Gleno, Ermera district, is growing fingerlings to be delivered to other fishponds in East Timor.

In addition, a group of fishermen from Australia has donated seven containers of second-hand fishery equipment, including nets and four speedboats, to the Fisheries Unit of the Division of Agriculture Affairs. The equipment has been delivered to fishermen in Viqueque, Same, Oecussi and Dili Districts.

The Fisheries Unit is also conducting a wide-ranging survey on the country's fishermen with support from the Australian aid organization Ausaid. The objective is to create a database in order to plan future support for this occupational group. >



UN CivPol

24 HOUR

EMERGENCY

NUMBER IN DILI

0408839978

### East Timor Transitional Administration

The East Timor Transitional Administration (ETTA) requires to purchase motorcycles and bicycles for the East Timor Police Service. Eligible suppliers may obtain further information on this procurement at [www.gov.east-timor.org](http://www.gov.east-timor.org) or at the following address:

Greg Shibko  
ETTA Procurement  
Fomento Building  
Dili

Tel: +61-8-8942 2203, Ext. 6329

Fax: +61-8-8942 2198

e-mail: [shibko@un.org](mailto:shibko@un.org)

# News Briefs News Briefs News Briefs News Briefs

## Official Visits and Meetings

During his first visit to East Timor on 22 January, Brazilian President Fernando Henrique Cardoso announced that Brazil considers education, illiteracy eradication, and training and capacity building as priorities in its cooperation with East Timor.

"Our goal is to give an effective contribution to education and capacity building, so that the East Timorese can take their destiny into their own hands as soon as possible," the President said in a special session of the National Council presided over by CNRT/NC President Xanana Gusmão.

The Brazilian President inaugurated the Center for Professional Training and Business Development in Dili, a project funded by the Brazilian Government, and announced that Brazil will send a military hospital unit to East Timor. Some of the other areas of cooperation between Brazil and East Timor discussed were the exploration of natural resources and education.

During his one-day visit, President Cardoso met SRSG Sergio Vieira de Mello, Xanana Gusmão and other CNRT officials, East Timor Transitional Cabinet Members, and Bishop Dom Carlos Ximenes Belo. He also visited Santa Cruz Cemetery to pay his tribute to the East Timorese who died in the struggle for independence.

President Cardoso was accompanied by the Minister of External Relations, the Army Commander, Federal Deputies and the Head of the Brazilian Mission to the United Nations.

SRSG Sergio Vieira de Mello met the new Udayana (Bali and West Timor) Commander General Williem da Costa for the first time on 23 January, in Denpasar, Indonesia, in order to discuss the return of refugees from West Timor. Force Commander Lt. General Boonsrang Niumpradit and Chief of Staff N. Parameswaran also took part in the two-hour meeting.

General da Costa stressed that he had been assigned the task of securing the border between the two countries and returning the refugees, and that he intended to carry out these tasks efficiently. The General further said that he would continue to work closely with UNTAET, the Indonesian Government's task force on refugees, and pro-autonomy leaders whom he found to be reliable.

Portuguese Foreign Minister Jaime Gama visited East Timor on 16 January and met with SRSG Sergio Vieira de Mello in Dili to discuss, among other things, the political transition process, increased Portuguese support for East Timor and the current economic situation. They also discussed possible ways to speed up the Timorization process with the help of additional Portuguese recruitment experts to be integrated in the Civil Service Public Employment of the East Timor Transitional Administration and by contributing experts to give specialized technical assistance to the East Timorese Cabinet Members.

Minister Gama also met with several UNTAET senior officials and the

Timorese leadership, among them CNRT President Xanana Gusmão. He also visited Oecussi, Aileu and Lospalos Districts. On 17 January, the Foreign Affairs minister inaugurated the Portuguese Cultural Center of Dili.

Harri Holkeri, the President of the 55th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, said that he is impressed with the progress that has been made in East Timor over the past year.

Speaking to the press on 14 January, before leaving the country after a two-day visit, Mr. Holkeri reiterated his support for the UNTAET mission and the East Timorese people in rebuilding the country.

Mr. Holkeri left East Timor for Jakarta, where he met with Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid and other political and military leaders.



Photo by OCP/UNTAET

## Visiting Refugees Return to West Timor

A group of 170 refugees, out of some 250 who visited East Timor for a one-month "come and see" visit during the Christmas holidays, returned by boat on 18 January to West Timor. About 80 of the visiting returnees chose to stay in East Timor.

Some of the returning refugees stated that they were impressed with the overall security conditions in the country. They also said that they were planning to return to East Timor as soon as possible and pledged to encourage other East Timorese refugees to return to their homes.

Accompanying the refugees on board were staff from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The ship arrived in Kupang, West Timor, on 19 January. The Christmas visits were organized by UNTAET and IOM.

The refugees come from camps in the vicinity of Kupang and visited their homes in Aileu, Ainaro, Baucau, Dili, Lautem, Manufahi and Viqueque while in East Timor.

A UNTAET delegation led by Chief of Staff N. Parameswaran met with senior Indonesian Government and army officials in Kupang on January 18 to discuss

the refugee problem and possible returns. The Indonesian officials, including West Timor Governor Piet Tallo, Udayana Commander Williem da Costa, and the Head of the Indonesia-based refugee organization Task Force for the Settlement of the East Timorese Refugee Issue in East Nusa Tenggara, Yusuf Basyiruddin, expressed strong support for the speedy return of the refugees.

Meanwhile, that same day, a group of 80 refugees left Kupang by boat for another "come and see visit" to East Timor. The visit was organized by UNTAET, IOM and UNHCR.

## Arrests

Four former militia members suspected of committing crimes in 1999, have been arrested by New Zealand Peacekeepers. The four persons were apprehended on 24 and 25 January as they were crossing the border legally into East Timor. The suspects

have been handed over to the Civilian Police for further investigation.

On 23 January, Civilian Police (CivPol) in Balibo, Maliana District arrested an alleged member of the Indonesian Armed Forces suspected of murder on 7 September 1999. The suspect, an East Timorese, tried to enter East Timor pretending to be a businessman, but was identified by a Timorese Police Officer as a perpetrator in the post-ballot violence. The suspect was later brought to Becora prison in Dili, where investigation into the case is ongoing.

## Contract Cancelled in Corruption Case

UNTAET has cancelled a contract for the supply of goods valued at thousands of dollars, following a two-month long investigation into corruption allegations. The investigation of both foreign and national private companies was prompted by a complaint lodged with the Central Administrative Service of UNTAET following the announcement of the results of a local tender. The allegations concern collusion and price fixing. In order to verify the validity of these allegations, the World Bank's Fraud and Corruption Unit and UNTAET's Procurement Policy Committee have carried out a joint investigation.

UNTAET judged that the findings warranted cancellation of the contract. "Corruption will not be tolerated by the Transitional Administration. Early on we cre-

ated the Office of the Inspector General, soon followed by the Procurement Policy Committee to fight fraud in the public administration. Transparency and accountability are not simply words. Corruption is unacceptable, regardless of who is involved. However, we believe this cancellation will be an exception," said UNTAET Transitional Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello.

## Human Rights Training

On 23 January, sixty East Timorese participated in a four-day human rights training program in Baucau. The training introduced basic human rights concepts and was facilitated by human rights officers from UNTAET's Human Rights Unit and the NGOs Baucau Justice and Peace Commission and Catholic Relief Services. Participants included students, community leaders, members of local NGOs, and representatives from the East Timor Women's Organization OMT, from Baucau, Viqueque, Manatuto and Lospalos. The next human rights training is expected to be organized in Dili in the near future.

## Olympic Medals

On 24 January, the four East Timorese athletes who competed in the Sydney Olympic Games received the Olympics Medal of Participation from the Secretary General of the Oceanic National Olympic Committees in a ceremony in Dili. Father Filomeno Jacob, Cabinet Member for Social Affairs, attended the ceremony.

A four-member Olympic delegation arrived on 22 January in Dili for a follow-up visit of the games. Their task is to assess the needs of the East Timorese sports movement and help establish the East Timorese National Olympic Committee, which is one of the conditions to become a member of the International Olympic Committee.

## Endangered Birds in East Timor

UNTAET's Environmental Protection Unit has completed research on endangered birds in East Timor and has concluded that there are at least 24 birds in the country classified as endangered species under international law, and consequently protected by East Timorese law.

The research was conducted in response to inquiries received by the office of Environmental Protection regarding the sale of rare birds in and around Dili.

The environment law in question, Regulation 2000/19 on Protected Places, approved in June, establishes that "all animal and plant species listed on the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species" can not be killed, injured, harmed, disturbed, sold or exported. All birds included in this list are considered endangered species by the World Conservation Monitoring Center.

Among the endangered birds to be found in East Timor are Black Kite, Shirt Toed Eagle, Japanese Sparrow Eagle and Red Cheeked Parrot. The Environmental Protection Unit will now disseminate information to all UNTAET departments and the public and investigate complaints received and reported to CivPol where a breach in the regulation is believed to have occurred. The Unit will also assist CivPol and other agencies in the identification of endangered species and provide expert advice to the judiciary.

# RADIO UNTAET

For the latest news and information about East Timor, tune in to RADIO UNTAET

- News in English at 6 a.m., 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- News in Tetun at 7 a.m., noon and 6 p.m.
- News in Portuguese at 8 a.m. and 7 p.m.
- News in Bahasa Indonesia at 8:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Radio UNTAET is on the Air! To listen, dial the radio frequency for your area.

- Dili -- 91.5 (FM) 684 (AM) • Ainaro -- 96.3 (FM) 93.1 (FM) • Aileu -- 90.9 (FM) • Baucau -- 105.1 (FM) • Ermera -- 90.1 (FM) • Liquica -- 99.5 (FM)
- Lospalos -- 97.1 (FM) • Maliana -- 88.7 (FM) • Manatuto -- 94.5 (FM) • Oecussi -- 92.1 (FM) • Same -- 96.3 (FM) • Suai -- 93.1 (FM) • Viqueque -- 98.5 (FM)

# Tiu answers questions about... appropriate behaviour

**Tiu:** Hello, my friends. It's nice to see you in such good spirits.

**Nuno:** Greetings, Tiu, thanks for letting us stop by.

**Tiu:** My pleasure. There, Nuno, that's it! "Friendship," now "Unity."

**Marciano:** What do you mean by that, Tiu? "Friendship," now "Unity?" What's gotten into you?

**Tiu:** Just now, when Nuno and I did the Timorese handshake, with the two positions. Don't you guys remember what it means? The first hand position symbolizes our friendship. . .

**Yoca:** Oh, right! And the second, it means our unity. I knew that.

**Marciano:** Sometimes, Tiu, you old guys amaze us with the things that you remember.

**Tiu:** Well, Marciano, it is a nice concept, don't you think? And the gesture does bring us closer together.

But enough of this, I'm itching to tell you about something that happened last night.

**Yoca:** Oh, it's another one of your eye-opening adventures, is it, Tiu?

**Tiu:** It just might be, Yoca. Let's see what you think, guys.

So late last night, I was out on my motorcycle when I saw a group of young Timorese standing in the street. Recognizing a couple of them, I stopped to ask what was up. Two of them said that a little while before they had been at the shop where they work when they heard loud banging outside. They went to the window to see what the commotion was and discovered two malais, both very drunk, kicking hard at the door. "It sure looked as if they were trying to break it in," said one of the Timorese who was there. When the Timorese yelled at them,

the malais got in their car and sped off.

**Nuno:** It's sad to see. Reminds me of how some of the Indonesian soldiers would occasionally act not so many years ago.

**Tiu:** Probably the saddest thing about such conduct, guys, is that it can so easily undermine those good things internationals do to assist us and support our efforts to rebuild.

**Marciano:** Well, they sure aren't helping if they go around drunk and damaging people's property.

**Yoca:** True, Marciano, but don't get too righteous, now. Remember that time you and Joaquin got drunk out at the beach at Cristo Rei. Ended up causing a bit of trouble, no?

**Marciano:** Well. . .yeah, you're right, Yoca. But, I won't do it again any time soon - not after my Mom and Dad got through with me. And then it was my uncle, and finally Father Antonio, our parish priest. Whew - I learned my lesson!

**Tiu:** Look, Marciano's on to something, but may not recognize it. Wouldn't it be nice, if when a couple of internationals go on a wild spree they had a relative, a priest, or friends who would forcefully let them know they've stepped over the line?

**Yoca:** You're right, Tiu, maybe it should be the other internationals. They are the ones who have the most to lose when this happens. And if they did intervene, it would certainly make those few malais who spoil things think twice.

**Tiu:** Interesting, Yoca - you just said "those few malais." I think you are probably right, that it's a minority, but I hope the numbers don't get bigger over time. You know they can if people just act as if it is acceptable. We have to separate the good apples from the few bad ones.

**Nuno:** Sure, Tiu. But those few rotten ones can make quite a stench.

**Marciano:** Speaking about rotten, did Jaeo tell you what he witnessed as he entered the new boat the other night?

**Nuno:** Oh no, not another incident?

Marciano: Sad to say. But as he was walking on the bridge over the water to the boat, he passed four malais. Each had a VB in his hand. They were very drunk. But that isn't the worst of it.

**Tiu:** What is?

**Marciano:** They were urinating off the bridge!

**Yoca:** Nooo! That's disgusting. I would have been so offended if I were there. Gad! And what if Mica, my little sister, or my mother had been there?

**Tiu:** Well that certainly qualifies as "over the line." - doesn't matter whether it's Timorese or the malais who were doing it. People do the craziest things when they get drunk.

**Marciano:** But that still doesn't make it acceptable - just because they're drunk. But, you should know that these four continued to be obnoxious inside the hotel - that's until one international who was particularly offended by their conduct got several military guys to put a stop to it.

**Tiu:** Well good, that's the way it should be handled. After all most of us, malais and Timorese alike, at one time or another have gone over the line.

**Nuno:** It's that good stiff reminder from our own peers and community that brings us back fast, isn't that right, Tiu?

**Tiu:** It's pretty effective! Doesn't matter whether you're malai or rain nain (lit. owner of the land = East Timorese). But, incidentally, do you know that the leader-

ship in UNTAET and ETTA don't think such conduct is acceptable either? They've issued memos to their international and local staff urging them to respect local culture and sensitivities. They even have a code of conduct for all employees that stresses it.

**Nuno:** I was talking with one of my foreign friends the other day, and he made an interesting observation on the bad conduct of some internationals particularly in a country that is strange to them.

He said, " Sometimes, particularly when they are in groups, they act like they think they are on a far off planet, in another world entirely, not just in another country. They do things that they would never do back home in their own communities - among their friends and relatives."

**Tiu:** Well they should return to earth and fast - and recognize that such conduct is unacceptable in any culture.

**Yoca:** And Marciano, I hope we don't have to remind you and Joaquin, or any of the others here, that it's no more acceptable for you and your friends to get a few drinks on board, and get wild again.

**Marciano:** Oh. I'm still being made to do penitence? Never again, I said. Never again. I promise, and you guys - you're my witnesses.

**Nuno:** Well, Tiu, as always, it's been a very interesting discussion, but we should go.

**Tiu:** Okay, but not before that handshake. Yoca: Yes. "Friendship," then "Unity". Those are things we shouldn't forget, particularly this year, as we head to a vote and to the complicated process of creating our own government.

**Tiu:** Okay, good friends. Thank's for dropping by. We'll get together again soon to chew over another topic. Until then, be safe. Ciao!

## Televisaun Timor Lorosa'e Schedule

| Hour  | Monday                   | Tuesday                     | Wednesday                | Thursday                | Friday   | Saturday                                    | Sunday                                      |
|-------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--|---|---|
| 13:00 | TVTL News Re-run         | TVTL News Re-run            | TVTL News Re-run         | TVTL News Re-run        | TVTL News Re-run   | TVTL Weekly News Wrap Re-run                | BBC   |
| 13:15 | Children's Prog. (Port)  | Children's Prog. (Port)     | Children's Prog. (Port)  | Children's Prog. (Port) | Children's Prog. (Port)  |   |   |
| 13:45 | BBC World                | BBC World                   | BBC World                | BBC World               | BBC World  |   |   |
| 14:00 |                          |                             |                          |                         |  | BBC   |   |
| 17:00 | MTV                      | MTV                         | MTV                      | MTV                     | MTV  | Soccer (Australia)                          | Soccer (Portugal)                           |
| 18:50 | Czech Cartoons           | Czech Cartoons              | Czech Cartoons           | Czech Cartoons          | Czech Cartoons   | Czech Cartoons                              | Czech Cartoons                              |
| 19:00 | TVTL Nightly News        | TVTL Nightly News           | TVTL Nightly News        | TVTL Nightly News       | TVTL Weekly News Wrap -News -Culture (re-run) -Agriculture (re-run) -Talk Show (re-run) -Special Report (re-run) | Feature Presentation (Movie or Documentary) | Feature Presentation (Movie or Documentary) |
| 19:15 | Cultural Program         | Haburas Agriculture Program | Buka Hatene Talk Show    | Special Report          |  |   |   |
| 19:30 | Cartoons including Meena | Educational Sitcom          | Cartoons including Meena | Educational Sitcom      |  |   |   |
| 20:00 | Indonesian News          | Indonesian News             | Indonesian News          | Indonesian News         | Indonesian News  |   |   |
| 21:00 | BBC News                 | BBC News                    | BBC News                 | BBC News                | BBC News   | BBC World                                   | BBC World                                   |
| 22:00 | RTP News                 | RTP News                    | RTP News                 | RTP News                | RTP News   |   |   |
| 22:30 | BBC World                | BBC World                   | BBC World                | BBC World               | BBC World  |   |   |

# Voices of Timor Lorosa'e

## What is Corruption?



**Acasio**  
Student  
Becora

What I know is that corruption in East Timor started as soon as Indonesia was hit by the financial crisis. And this is what I ask of all Timorese: for our country to be at peace, we cannot allow corruption to flourish. We have fought twenty-four years to drive the corrupters away from East Timor. We have to be wise and dedicated to our nation building.



**Salvador Pires**  
Student  
Fatu-hada

There is still corruption in East Timor. This is why I ask our brothers and sisters holding public offices and our leaders to be wise so that there is no corruption with the money that the big nations have donated to our new nation. If there is corruption in this new nation, it will not be able to move forward.



**João Fernandes**  
University Student  
Balide/Cristal

From what I know of KKN, especially corruption, it is a legacy from Indonesian time that is still going on in Timor. NGOs practice corruption when they favour their relatives to come and work for them. If we want unity we cannot afford to cause problems everywhere. For example, in terms of recruitment, the malae or the boss must choose someone with the required capacity, not because they are family. Only this way will our nation turn out for the best.



**João Biriato**  
Mounter Assistant  
Becora

I believe corruption is still alive in East Timor. It is very difficult to make corruption disappear, and I say that corruption is not a good thing for us. If there is corruption now, our children will suffer in the future and we will be subjugated again.



**Domingos Fernandes**  
University Student  
Becora /Becussi baixo

KKN is made of three components that should not re-appear in this new nation. But corruption is still happening in East Timor, and is now even more prominent than during Indonesian time. There are all sorts of criteria now for employment--for example, you have to know English or Portuguese and have work experience--but in reality the criteria does not apply. Furthermore, we all know that there is a lot of help from donors, from many nations; but so far we don't know whether this help has arrived or not.



**Afonso da Silva**  
University Student  
Comoro

Corruption is a topic we always hear about when we are looking for a job. In whatever workplace where Timorese work, they always try and get their friends or relatives in first. How can we all live as equals if we keep on helping only those inside our own circles?



**Julia Fatima Fernandes**  
University Student  
Fatu-Hada

It is difficult for me to imagine a nation without any corruption. I know there is corruption here, which is why we cannot live in peace. There are instigators inside this nation to bring down each other. In a company, workers try and find ways of bringing down their fellow workers but in the end the people are the ones who suffer the most. But how can we prevent corruption and nepotism in our nation? We must realize that if we keep doing this it will be our downfall. The people have put their trust in the leaders to re-build our nation for which we fought for 24 years.



**Aja**  
Junior High School  
Becora /Becussi baixo

There is still corruption. It will be difficult for corruption to disappear either in the cities or in the villages because, on TV and everywhere, they see that there is a lot of corruption in the big nation-countries and they think that is how a nation is built.



**Francisco Martins Mello**  
CTT Dili  
Kulu-Hun

Corruption is what is done contrary to the wishes of the people. Just like things that have arrived but that never get to the people. I can say that the leaders are to blame because they tell the people that they will get this and that and it never materializes.



**Antonio Lukas**  
CFA Civil servant of  
ETTA  
Becora /Becussi baixo

From what I know, corruption is the way some people become rich with things that belong to the state.

### QIP Shop QIP Shop QIP Shop QIP Shop



The QIP Shop, a locally owned store stocked with hand made traditional East Timorese products, is now OPEN!

Goods available include:

- Traditional East Timorese musical instruments
- Bamboo and wooden furniture
- Books and postcards of East Timor
- A variety of handcrafts such as miniature traditional Timorese houses
- A services centre, which will have contact details for locally available services including: carpentry, plumbing, electrical works, dressmaking, catering and many more.

Location: Jln Bidau Akadiru Hun (next to Restaurant Maubere), travel along the esplanade road towards the Jesus statue, make a right turn just before crossing the canal and head towards the ICRC hospital. The QIP Shop can be found a few hundred metres on your right.

Supported by the the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)



The name Tais Timor conjures the image of the careful, time-honoured process that goes into making the traditional Timorese cloth used in all important life events. As the different "Ingredients" that make up East Timor come together during the transitional period to rebuild the country, Tais Timor aims to record and reflect those events that weave the beautiful tapestry that is Timor Lorosa'e.

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