

Tais Timor

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INSIDE
9 Ribbon Cutting

6 Civil Registration


Photo by OCP/UNTAET

Welcome Home and Happy Easter!

More than 600 refugees arrived in Dili port from Kupang, West Timor in early March. Many refugees are expected to heed the call of tradition and return home during the Lenten season, a time of rebirth and renewal. More than a few refugees, like the two men at right, come home with livestock in hand.



East Timor Defense Force Established

On 1 February, FALINTIL was disbanded and the East Timor Defence Force established. Here is some background on this transition:

Does the establishment of the East Timor Defence Force mean the end of FALINTIL?

No, it is by no means the end of FALINTIL, rather, it is a metamorphosis of FALINTIL into something new and modern. FALINTIL will serve as the core of the new Defence Force. Of the 650 men selected to form the first battalion of the Defence Force, all of them will be drawn from the current ranks of FALINTIL. The Commander in Chief of FALINTIL, Taur Matan Ruak, will become the first Chief of the Defence Force. What is important to understand is that FALINTIL is not disappearing. It has served too important a role in the struggle for East Timor's freedom to be forgotten. The induction of FALINTIL into the new East Timor Defence Force means that FALINTIL will play a key role in the defence of an independent East Timor.

Why not keep the FALINTIL name then?

The decision has been made to call the country's military the East Timor Defence Force. FALINTIL's role was as a liberation force to gain East Timor its independence.

Continued on page 3

Timor Lorosa'e adopts electoral laws

Passing of a historical regulation

On 13 March 2001, the National Council chaired by Speaker Xanana Gusmão approved a new regulation on the election of a Constituent Assembly to prepare a Constitution for an Independent and Democratic East Timor. The regulation was approved with 17 members voting in favor and five abstaining with no votes against being registered. It will take the elected assembly a period of 90 days to prepare and adopt a constitution.

The regulation establishes: the number of elect-members for the Constituent Assembly; an Independent Electoral Commission with exclusive electoral authority that will be responsible for the organization and conduct of the electoral process; the rules for registration of political parties and the criteria for eligible voters.

The Electoral Process

What is the purpose of the elections?

Voters will elect a Constituent Assembly which will be composed of 88 members.

What is the role of the Constituent Assembly?

The Constituent Assembly will write and adopt a Constitution for an independent and democratic East Timor.

How are the 88 members of the Constituent Assembly elected?

The 88 members of the Constituent Assembly are selected as follows:

- one District representative per each of East Timor's 13 districts; the candidate that receives the most votes in the District will be elected and

- 75 National representatives elected on a nation-wide proportional representation list. Parties will win seats in proportion to the share of votes that they receive for national representation.

Who is eligible to vote in the elections?

As for the Popular Consultation, the following persons, aged 17 years or above by the end of Civil Registration, will be eligible to vote in the election for Constituent Assembly:

1. Persons born in East Timor.
2. Persons born outside East Timor, but with at least one parent of East Timorese birth.
3. Persons whose spouse fulfills either condition (1) or (2) above.

Continued on page 11

In this Issue

- 2 Land & Property
- 3 Manatuto Irrigation
- 3 International Womens Day
- 4 ETTA News
- 6 Televisaun Timor Lorosa'e Schedule
- 7 Radio UNTAET Schedule
- 7 Power Cuts
- 8 News Briefs
- 9 TiU on corruption
- 10 Voices of Timor Lorosa'e
FALINTIL's transition to FDTL



Answering Land & Property Questions

Why is the Land issue so important in East Timor?

It is well known that the history of colonial rule and occupation in East Timor has created complex layers of sometimes conflicting rights to land. In the course of the events of September 1999, most of the land records in East Timor were destroyed, together with much of the housing stock and infrastructure. In addition, the judicial system has had to be rebuilt from scratch.

This has created a situation of great uncertainty. The Land and Property Unit has consulted across many sectors of the East Timorese community on land problems in East Timor. Our consultations and experience tell us that an ongoing lack of confirmed land rights is having a number of negative effects, including:

- Unauthorized occupations are increasing partly because there is no way of confirming who the true owners of land are;
- Serious land fraud is increasing, including false claims to ownership of land, acceptance of rent for properties by persons who do not own them, and sale of land by people who are not the true owners;
- Businesses and investors are reluctant to invest in capital improvements to properties or new businesses unless they have some certainty that they will not be removed at a later time;
- Because of reluctance of investors to invest in capital works, reconstruction activity is severely limited. Similarly, ordinary land owners are reluctant to expend funds on reconstruction of their residences;
- Social discontent is growing within the community because the basic ability to recover rights in land is not being recognised.

What is the Transitional Administration doing to deal with these problems?

On the basis of a broad consultation process in the course of May, June and July 2000, the Land and Property Unit developed a set of proposals and draft regulations to address the situation of uncertainty of land rights and unlawful occupation of land in East Timor.

The matter was referred to a Cabinet Sub-committee on Land and Property. This Sub-committee held a number of meetings, after which Cabinet set down the current policy on land. This policy will be presented to and debated by the National Council during the first quarter of 2001.

In terms of the Cabinet policy, the following eight functions have been assigned to the Land and Property Unit:

- Assign temporary use agreements to confirm use of property;
- Settle disputes related to temporary use;
- Register claims to land, but not land titles;
- Institute a period for lodging claims to land extending well into independence, coupled with a public information campaign;
- Develop a single national database of land claims;
- Develop a mechanism to provide some confidence to investors, such as a regulation allowing longer temporary use agreements where the ownership of the land is clearly uncontested;

- Initiate a national debate on the land question with ample use of comparative examples and various possible solutions;

- Strengthen capacity among the East Timorese for resolution of land disputes at community level.

In order to fulfil the above functions, the Land and Property Unit has developed a programme with a set of objectives including: Land Records Reconstruction, Developing Systems to Receive Land Claims, Production of Cadastral Maps of East Timor, Production of Procedural Guidelines for Land Administration, Development of Capacity in the National and District Offices (including mapping, conflict resolution, property valuations, surveying), and Community Information.

Many of the records in the East Timor Land Registry have been destroyed. Does this mean people have lost their land rights?

During the Portuguese era, just over 2 000 parcels of land were officially registered. During the time of the Indonesian occupation, about 40 000 properties were officially registered. These registrations were mainly done for properties in the towns and cities, while in rural areas most of the land was administered through unwritten, customary systems.

The fact that most of the official records have been destroyed does not mean that people have lost their rights. But it does mean that it is going to be difficult to determine who is the rightful owner of which land. It is therefore very important to put in place a mechanism that can, in a fair and just way, decide who is the rightful owner of what piece of land.

Why is the Land and Property Unit registering only land claims and not land titles?

Cabinet has decided that final decision on land ownership should not take place before the establishment of a democratically elected government in an independent East Timor. This decision is part of the policy that will be discussed by the National

Council in the first quarter of 2001.

In preparation for future land rights adjudication, the Land and Property Unit is busy with a process of reconstruction of land records. Part of this process is the acceptance of land claims.

Do I have to make a claim for my own land?

The land claims process is voluntary. You can decide whether it will be useful to make a claim over your land. People who are still living on their land and whose right to that land has not been challenged by anybody else, may not consider it very useful or important. However, because the Land and Property Unit is not yet allowed to validate any land rights or register any land titles in a land registry, people who would simply want to register or confirm their rights can register a claim instead.

It is important to make a claim for your land if someone else is in occupation of that land without your consent or if someone else is claiming that it is his or her land. The Cabinet has said that claimants should be given a reasonable period of time to lodge their land claims before these claims will be investigated and decided on. Registering your claim with the Land and Property Unit should make it quicker and easier for your claim to be decided upon by a future authority.

How do I put in a claim for my land?

You can make a claim in person, through a representative or by mail.

You can mail copies of any documents or statements that you feel will show that the land is yours together with a covering letter to "Attention: Land Claims, National Land and Property Unit, Fomento Building, Dili". You or your representative can also come into the National Land and Property Unit Office (at the same address) and speak to one of the land claims officers. You will be helped in English, Indonesian, Tetum or Portuguese. If you are unable to come into the National Office, the District Land and Property Officers may be able to help you by send-

ing your claim to the National Office.

When your claim has been registered, you will receive a letter of acknowledgement, together with a receipt for your claim setting out the details of the claim. More evidence may need to be collected later on and investigations carried out. If it is found that someone has made a false claim or submits false evidence, they may be subject to the sanctions provided for in the law.

What will happen if another person is claiming the same land?

Both claims will be registered by the Land and Property Unit. In the future both of the people who say that the land is theirs will have to say why and show evidence to prove what they are saying is true. A decision will be made and, if necessary, the police will enforce it.

Who will decide whether or not it is my land?

We do not yet know for sure who will make this decision.

The District Court is able to hear land cases but they have not yet really started to do so. It might take some time before they are able to make many decisions about who owns land. Whoever makes those decisions will have to decide what they think the law means and if a claimant is able to prove that the land belongs to them according to the law.

The Government, in particular the Government of East Timor after the elections, might decide to make new laws about who can be considered the owner of land in East Timor.

Can I sell or rent out my land to another person?

There are cases of people buying and selling land in East Timor, even though such transactions cannot be formally registered. In such cases both the buyer and the seller are taking a risk.

The buyer may find, at a future date, that the person who sold the land to them was not the rightful owner of the land. In such cases the real owner might take the

Continued on page 11



Lack of confirmed land rights in Dili is delaying further efforts of rebuilding many of the houses around the capital.

Falintil continued from pg. 1



Photo by OCP/UNTAET

Keeping step with the times, FALINTIL metamorphoses into something new and modern - the East Timor Defence Force.

The East Timor Defence Force is a "Defence Force" and will be a conventional army, not a guerilla movement. The East Timor Defence Force will have a new mission, and because it assumes a new role, it has adopted a new name. Rather than fighting for liberation, the East Timor Defence Force will defend East Timor, its people and its territory. More explicitly, the future tasks of the ETDF will be to defeat incursions; deter aggressors and delay and harass such invaders until external help arrives; as well as to support the Government during natural disasters and other emergencies.

How will the East Timor Defence Force operate in the context of a modern democratic state?

The Transitional Cabinet and the National Council have approved a regulation outlining the organisation and responsibilities of the East Timor Defence Force. A legislative base is critical for the proper functioning of a modern defence force. A legislative base provides for the lawful standing and recognition within a society of a defence force and also makes it plain that the military is subject to the rule of law. As in any democratic country, the regulation highlights civilian government primacy over the command and control of the defence force. For the duration of the Transitional Administration, the Transitional Administrator will have the power to appoint and dismiss the Chief of the Defence Force. He also appoints the officers of the Force.

How will the ETDF integrate with the PKF?

According to UN Resolution 1272, the PKF has the sole responsibility for the provision of security in East Timor. This will not change for the duration of UNTAET's mandate. FALINTIL Liaison Officers have been working with the PKF, as they know the terrain well. Such cooperation will continue between the ETDF and the PKF. However, the PKF will not stay in East Timor forever. After East Timor becomes independent and UNTAET's mandate ends, other arrangements will have to be worked out to provide for East Timor's security until the ETDF is ready to perform this role.

The ultimate objective is to establish an indigenous force that will be able to provide for East Timor's defence in an affordable manner. The establishment of the East Timor Defence Force is the first

step towards such an end. Subsequent to an independent study undertaken by King's College of London, the option that was accepted by the East Timorese leadership and UNTAET was the creation of a light infantry force of 1500 regulars and 1500 reservists. The first battalion of 650 regulars is being drawn from the ranks of FALINTIL. They have already begun training. The full force of 1500 regulars and 1500 reservists is likely to be established by 2003-2004.

"The ultimate objective is to establish an indigenous force that will be able to provide for East Timor's defence in an affordable manner."

The management and direct oversight of the East Timor Defence Force will be carried out by the Office for Defence Force Development. This office is currently staffed both by UN international staff and Portuguese and Australian advisers. It is expected to soon recruit Timorese civilian staff in an effort to provide the future East Timorese government with expertise in the management and policy tasks.

What will happen to those FALINTIL not selected to be in the ETDF?

Those FALINTIL who are not joining the ETDF will not be abandoned. UNTAET, in conjunction with the World Bank, USAID and IOM, is implementing a plan known as the FALINTIL Reinsertion Assistance Programme (FRAP), which will assist these FALINTIL to settle into civilian life. It should be remembered that FALINTIL fought for 25 years to be able to go home in a free country. They now have that opportunity.

Under the FRAP program, two principal types of support will be provided. There will be an initial payment to the beneficiaries of the program and four to six months after the initial payments, support will be provided for income generating activities for the beneficiaries, to facilitate their reinsertion into civilian life. >

Manatuto Irrigation System Reactivated

Over 1,000 families in Manatuto will have the opportunity to get a rice crop to sustain themselves in the coming months following the reactivation of the district irrigation system. This project, implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and funded by the Japanese Government, is the biggest development initiative taken in Manatuto in the post-independence East Timor.

With a total budget of US\$3.36 million, the project has just seen the accomplish-

ment of a temporary irrigation system that will help farmers rescue their rice fields. The rice fields have been left fallow during the last four years after the previous irrigation system was disrupted by floods.

The Manatuto emergency irrigation project was inaugurated last 13 February in a ceremony attended by Mark Malloch Brown, head of UNDP, and Hiroshi Matsuura, head of the Japanese mission. Also present was Serge Viernau, head of the UNTAET Department of Agriculture.

In his speech, Mr. Brown noted that 91 per cent of East Timor population lived in rural areas and 71 per cent derived their income from agriculture, so rehabilitation of irrigation is essential. >



Photo by Jerome Ming

Rehabilitated irrigation system in Manatuto - giving a fair go to over 1,000 families who will now be able to grow a rice crop.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Hundreds of East Timorese, including CNRT/National Council President Xanana Gusmão, his wife and some internationals marched to commemorate on 8 March International Women's Day in East Timor.

This Peace March was organized by REDE (East Timor Women's Network), with the support of Dili District Administration, ETTA's Gender Affairs Unit and the UN Development Programme (UNDP).

In her speech to the crowd, Aurora Ximenes, the head of REDE, stressed that peace and security needed to be addressed first at home and within the family. DSRSG Jean-Christian Cady reaffirmed UNTAET's commitment to empowering the women of East Timor to fully participate at every stage of East Timor's development and at every level of decision-making.

The celebrations continued with a dinner at Olandina's Restaurant, where US\$873 was collected for the East Timorese Women Against Violence and for Children Care.

International Women's Day dates back to 19 March 1911, when the first march was held. On that day, more than one million women and men attended rallies in Germany, Austria, Denmark and other European countries demanding the right to vote, the right to work, vocational training and the end to discrimination on the job for women. Since then, the day has been seen as a time for asserting women's political and social rights, for reviewing the progress that women have made, or as a day for celebration.

The United Nations has been promoting legal measures, mobilizing public opinion and international action, training and research and providing direct assistance to disadvantaged groups. >



Photo by OCP/UNTAET

ETTAnews

East Timor Transitional Administration

National Council

Three Portuguese Parliamentary experts arrived on 1 February in Dili in order to assist the East Timor National Council in setting up the future East Timor Assembly.

The experts, who are expected to stay for six months, were sent by the Assembly of the Portuguese Republic. Their expertise lies in international relations, standing committees, infrastructure and local authority.

This mission is a follow-up of the protocol signed by the President of the Portuguese Assembly, António de Almeida Santos, and National Council Speaker Xanana Gusmão during the former's official visit to East Timor last November.

On 29 January, the National Council unanimously adopted a draft regulation as the provisional legal basis to establish an East Timor Defence Force on 1 February. The training of some 600 former FALINTIL members started the following day.

The draft regulation was approved by the East Timor Transitional Cabinet on 17 January, after which the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence conducted public hearings on 27 January. The regulation took immediate effect once it had been signed by Transitional Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello on 31 January.

The regulation is in effect for two months, giving the Council members more time to present and discuss amendments. An amended regulation is expected to be approved at that time.

On 1 February, a ceremony was held in Aileu to mark the transition of FALINTIL into the East Timor Defence Force. The new Defence Force will consist of a light infantry force of 1,500 regulars with a phased approach to reach that number over three years, and 1,500 reservists, with FALINTIL as the core of the force.

The first battalion of 650 soldiers will be composed entirely of FALINTIL. For the next battalion, recruitment will be open to Timorese men and women above the age of 18.

Transitional Cabinet

On 28 February, the East Timor Transitional Cabinet endorsed a draft regulation on the establishment of a Truth, Reception and Reconciliation Commission.

The draft regulation gives the Commission a truth-telling function that will provide a historical record of past human rights violations between 25 April 1974 and 25 October 1999. It also establishes a Community Reconciliation Process for dealing with less serious offences, which will not be prosecuted by the justice system. The draft regulation will now be finalized for submission to the National Council.

Cabinet also agreed to a proposal to establish a ferry service between Dili and Ocussu by a private company. The service is subject to funding assistance from donors, certification of the craft, and the finalization of insurance arrangements. The ferry would make one round trip per week, with the capacity to transport approximately 100 passengers as well as cargo.

The East Timor Transitional Cabinet agreed on 14 February to a process for managing the Unfunded Priority List for donor assistance. The list includes US\$60 million

of priority projects, and will be used in seeking donor assistance. The list is designed to ensure that donor funds are directed to East Timor's highest national priorities.

As part of this process, the Cabinet agreed that all projects on the list for bilateral and multilateral funding above a financial limit of US\$100,000 would be presented to Cabinet for approval.

The Cabinet had agreed in November to a revised list of unfunded priority projects for which donor assistance would be sought, including teachers, reconstruction of additional class rooms and capacity building activities.

The list will be maintained and updated on a monthly basis by the National Planning and Development Agency (NPDA), in consultation with the Central Fiscal Authority, and changed only with Cabinet approval. Bilateral assistance will only be sought and accepted on the basis of the list.

The Cabinet also agreed on 14 February that the NPDA would formally assume responsibility for coordinating the Transitional Administration's relations with the NGO community in East Timor. A working group, led by the NPDA, will be established to advance consideration of an interim country agreement that would seek to formalize the status of NGO operations during the transitional period.

The Cabinet approved, in principle, the formal establishment of a Prison Service of East Timor and a Legal Aid Service of East Timor, and directed the finalization of draft regulations to establish these vital justice services. Once these draft regulations are finalized and approved by the Cabinet, they will be submitted to the National Council for its consideration.

On 7 February, the East Timor Transitional Cabinet approved a new design for the document that the Transitional Administration currently issues East Timorese for travel abroad. The current ID-card format would be redesigned as a passport-style booklet.

The Cabinet requested that Ana Pessoa, Cabinet Member for Internal Administration, work toward establishing mechanisms to allow for a permanent passport for an independent East Timor. A regulation on travel documents would be drafted thereafter.

On 1 February, the East Timor Transitional Cabinet endorsed a proposal to regulate the possession, import, export, purchase and sale of firearms, ammunition and explosives. The regime will be restrictive, building upon the currently applicable law. The law will prohibit persons who have do not have a license from possessing or using firearms, ammunition or explosives in East Timor. Cabinet will consider the draft regulation at its next meeting, before submitting it to the National Council for its consideration.

On 1 February, Cabinet also recommended that the Transitional Administrator issue an Executive Order which sets out interim procedures to settle disputes arising from the termination of labour contracts. The interim system will establish a National Committee for Arbitration of Labour Disputes. As called for under currently applicable law, workers and employers may first attempt to resolve disputes bilaterally, then resort to mediation, and if these steps fail, resort to an Arbitration Committee. The provision for arbitration was never implemented under Indonesian law.

The Executive Order will provide that last step and will be part of a comprehen-

sive package of labour regulations that will be submitted to the National Council for its consideration.

Cabinet also heard a presentation on the outcomes of the ETTA/ILO tripartite consultations on proposed labour regulations, which took place from 22-26 January.

In an extraordinary meeting on 31 January, the East Timor Transitional Cabinet agreed to the creation of a FALINTIL Veterans Association which would serve as the trustee and depository of the heritage of FALINTIL during its transition to the East Timor Defence Force.

The FALINTIL Veterans Association will also retain the flag and the symbols of the independence fighters.

In addition, the Cabinet agreed to pursue the development of legislation to allow for the courts to adjudicate conflicting claims of names and symbols.

Department of Justice

Prosecutor Service

On 20 February, the trial of a former member of the Laksaur militia opened, who is accused of participating in the murder a person in Covalima District on 26 September 1999, as well as having participated in the murder of three people on 25 September 1999.

The murders were committed when a group of Laksaur militia on two occasions attacked fleeing villagers from the area of Salele, Covalima District.

The proceedings focused on the extension of the detention period of the accused.

The preliminary hearing of the first case of Crimes Against Humanity committed in East Timor in the wake of the 1999 popular consultation started on 16 February at the Dili District Court. The case concerns eleven persons accused of committing Crimes Against Humanity, including murder, torture, deportation and forcible transfer of civilian population in Lospalos, Lautem District, between 21 April and 25 September 1999.

The accused, most of whom were members of pro-autonomy militia group Team Alfa, also known as Jati Merah Puti, were involved in at least 13 murders, including the ambush and killing on 25 September 1999 of a group of clergy, church workers, a journalist and a youth near the village of Verokoko, Lospalos.

The indictment also contains the first accusation against an Indonesian Army Officer, Lt. Sayful Anwar, Deputy Commander of its Special Forces Command, KOPASSUS, stationed in Lospalos, for the mutilation, torture and murder of Averisto Lopes on 21 April 1999, at the Team Alfa base.

The second indictment containing charges of Crimes Against Humanity committed in East Timor in the wake of the 1999 campaign of violence was filed on 6 February by the Prosecutor General, Mohamed Othman.

Five persons, including an officer of the Indonesian Army, have been indicted suspected of murder, rape, torture, unlawful deprivation of liberty, inhumane and degrading treatment and persecution.

The crimes were allegedly committed between April and October 1999 in Lolotoe, a sub-district of Bobonaro District, by members of the Indonesian Military (TNI) and the Kaer Metin Merah Putih militia.

The indictment states that members of TNI and the Kaer Metin Merah Putih carried out acts of violence against members of the civilian population who were considered to be pro-independence, linked to or sympathetic to the independence cause. Many such attacks were directed in particular against women whose husbands were presumed to be members of FALINTIL or independence supporters.

Two militia members, Jhoni Franca and Jose Cardoso Ferreira, and a village chief and collaborator, Sabino Gouvía Leite, are already in detention in East Timor. The TNI Commander of Lolotoe sub-district, 2nd Lt. Bambang Indra, and Francisco Noronha, an Indonesian Civil Servant, are at large and have presumably fled East Timor.

Meanwhile, the first trial of a person suspected of committing serious crimes in East Timor after the popular consultation started on 6 February in the Dili District Court.

The case concerns a 30-year old pro-independence activist charged with the murder of a militia member on 26 September 1999 in Gleno village, Emera District. The suspect admitted to the murder of a militia member, but pleaded not guilty, since he felt that he had been forced to commit the crime "by the people" in Gleno.

A former militia member was sentenced to 12 years imprisonment in a preliminary hearing by the Special Panel for Serious Crimes at the Dili District Court on 25 January. In the hearing, the militia member admitted to a murder on 8 September 1999 in Bobonaro District.

Two prosecutors for the Serious Crimes Investigation Unit were sworn in by Transitional Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello. On 21 February, Buwaneka Aluwihare from Sri Lanka was sworn in. Mr. Aluwihare served as a Senior State Counsel in the Attorney-General's Department in Sri Lanka for the past 17 years, during which time he worked on a number of high-profile cases related to political violence and terrorism.

On 19 January, Stuart Alford from the United Kingdom was sworn in. Mr. Alford worked for eight years as a barrister in London.

The Serious Crimes Unit now has five prosecutors, one of them is East Timorese.

Department of Economic Affairs

Division of Agricultural Affairs

On 27 February, the Division of Agricultural Affairs received more than 200 agriculture machines, including tractors and excavators donated by the Chinese Government. The donation is worth more than US\$6 million. The ceremony was held in the Coffee Warehouse in Tibar, in the outskirts of Dili.

Department of Police and Emergency Services

Fifty cadets of the Timor Lorosa'e Police Service graduated on 2 March at the Police College in Comoro, Dili. During the course, the 50 cadets attended classes on human rights, community policing, firearms, self-defence and other police related subjects.

Timor Lorosa'e Police Service now has a total of 450 police officers performing police duties in all 13 districts of East Timor.

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East Timor Transitional Administration



Photo by OCP/UNTAET

The East Timor Civil Registry conducted a five-day civil registration pilot project in Atauro island starting on 26 February in preparation for the launching of the national registration on 16 March. Four registration sites were set up and eight registration teams were deployed. Information was gathered to issue identity cards to people above the age of 16 and to gather the necessary data on eligible voters for the upcoming elections.

Department of Infrastructure

As of 20 February, some 1,200 civilian houses, including 10 secondary schools and several public buildings, were damaged in at least seven districts due to heavy rains and strong winds. Reports indicate that the destruction was widespread in Ainaro District and Bobonaro sub-district. Shelter and food have been delivered to the affected areas and an assistance operation is ongoing.

The newly established Office of National Disaster Management, which is coordinating the joint assistance efforts, is working with UN agencies to try to meet requests, including the delivery of 1,740 blankets and 400 tarpaulins to Bobonaro.

In Ainaro, a tree fell on the city water pump, cutting off supply, which has since been restored. Three bridges collapsed in Oecussi. One has been repaired by the Jordanian Battalion of the Peacekeeping Force. In Baucau, 539 homes were flooded, eight houses were seriously damaged and 20 tonnes of rice was lost due to the floods.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) delivered 400 tarpaulins to Ainaro District and Bobonaro sub-district. Seven tonnes of food were distributed by the World Food Programme in Ainaro, including corn powder, soybeans and canned fish. Assistance is being delivered to other districts, including Aileu and Manatuto.

The Office of National Disaster Management has confirmed that there has been one fatality so far -- a girl was killed on 14 February in the village of Leotila, Ainaro.

The Office of National Disaster Management, UNHCR, World Food Programme, CivPol, the Church and East Timorese NGOs are working together to look into long term assistance strategies for the districts most affected by natural disasters.

The first phase of a complete rehabilitation of the irrigation system in Manatuto District has been completed.

A temporary irrigation system will bring water from the Sumasi River to 600-700 hectares of land in Manatuto sub-district. It is expected that the project will

provide food security through rice cultivation for over 1,000 families.

The US\$450,000 project was inaugurated on 11 February, in the presence of National Council Speaker Xanana Gusmão, visiting UNDP Administrator Mark Malloch Brown, and the Head of the Japanese Mission in East Timor, Hiroshi Matsuura.

The entire project, funded by the Japanese Government, is worth US\$ 3.36 million and will set up temporary irrigation structures in the Manatuto area. The second part of the project will start in early March.

On 31 January, the East Timor Transitional Administration officially received its first rehabilitated public buildings in Baucau from the construction companies.

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. All works were carried out by East Timorese companies.

At the handing-over ceremony, Baucau's District Administrator Marito Reis underlined the importance of using East Timorese workers in rebuilding the country.

A total of 28 public buildings have been fully or partially refurbished by the East Timor Administration since the beginning of the present fiscal year, at a budget of US\$5.2 million. Thirteen East Timorese companies and seven foreign companies have conducted the rehabilitation works, employing a total of 400 East Timorese workers. Eleven buildings have been refurbished and four major ministry buildings are currently under reconstruction, which are expected to be completed by May. In addition, 13 public buildings are awaiting the closure of the tender process and are expected to be completed before June.

Department of Internal Administration

Civil Registry
Hundreds of people showed up at the civil registration sites set up in Atauro island, in

front of Dili, for a week-long pilot project. Around 150 people received their registration cards and hundreds more were informed of what is needed to register. In addition, UNTAET TV, or Televisão Timor Lorosa'e, conducted a two-day test of a civic education program in Vila, Atauro's main village, which was watched by hundreds of people.

Atauro was chosen because the island provides a good sample in terms of population numbers and density. Atauro, with a population of approximately 7,500 people, also represents a good average of East Timor in terms of geography and infrastructure, with its many remote villages. The Registration Sites are located in Atauro's main Sucos (neighbourhoods), Vila, Bequeli, Macadade and Beloi.

By mid-March, the national civil registration will be launched with 65 registration sites throughout East Timor's 13 districts. Registration will take place to issue identity cards to people above the age of 16 and to gather all necessary data on eligible voters for the upcoming election.

Meanwhile, eighty-one United Nations Volunteers (UNVs) arrived on 30 January in Dili to take up their duties as Civil Registration Officers at sub-district level in each of East Timor's 13 districts. The group was extensively briefed for five days by the UN Volunteers Support Unit, the Civil Registry Unit and UNTAET sections in Darwin, Australia.

This is the final group of United Nations Volunteers that will take part in the civil registration process. An advance team of 50 was deployed in December.

Two registration teams, each consisting of one International and two Timorese Registration Officers, will be deployed in each of the Registration Sites.

The National Council approved a Regulation on the Establishment of the Central Civil Registry on 21 February. Registration is mandatory for everyone above the age of 16. Parents and family members are obliged to register children under the age of 16, as well as persons with mental or legal incapacity. Those who fail to register will be unable to vote in the elections for the Constituent Assembly.

In related news, the Director of the Electoral Assistance Division at United Nations Headquarters in New York, Carina Perelli, arrived in East Timor on 12 February, for a two-week visit. The purpose of the visit was to study the progress made so far by the Electoral Office.

Department of Social Affairs

Division of Health Services
Representatives from ETTA's Division of Health Services (DHS), East Timor Medical Services, and World Health Organization (WHO) are currently assisting medical students who were enrolled in Indonesian medical schools before the 1999 violence in East Timor to re-enroll in time for the 2001 academic year. Over 80 medical students were enrolled in Indonesia before 1999, 24 of them hold either Bishop Below Scholarships or Ford Foundation Fellowships. So far, DHS has located 27 students who wish to re-enroll, of whom eight request to transfer to other institutions.

DHS has stated that the continuing education of the medical students is vital to Timorese efforts to rebuild the health system.

East Timorese Interviewed for ETTA

East Timorese candidates are being interviewed for positions in departments such as Health, Education, Roads, Postal Services and Information Technology, Post and Telecommunication, Border Control and Central Administrative Service. Over 700 positions are expected to be filled before the end of the first quarter of 2001.

Some fifteen vacancies for various positions, mainly the upper levels of the civil service, have been posted. These include the Head of Telecommunication, Cabinet Secretary and its Deputy Secretary, and the Head of Education.

East Timorese to Participate in Public Finance Course

Starting on 12 February, 40 East Timorese Transitional Administration (ETTA) staff participated in a four-week introduction course in public finance.

The course, which was formally opened by Transitional Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello, was aimed at building participants' understanding of the importance of establishing an efficient and rigorous financial framework for East Timor. The participants were also instructed on specific budget concepts and processes.

The course covers issues such as ETTA's legislative and executive framework and the different roles of agencies, the Cabinet, National Council and international organizations such as the International Monetary Fund, World Bank, Asian Development Bank and the bilateral donors.

The course was conducted by a team of local and international staff from the Budget Preparation Department of the Central Fiscal Authority.



Photo by OCP/UNTAET

Radio UNTAET and Televisaun Timor Lorosa'e (TVTL) have begun their new programming. UNTAET-run TVTL broadcasts a total of 168 hours of news per week in Tetun, Portuguese, English and Bahasa Indonesia with more than five hours of Tetun programming. Radio UNTAET continues to broadcast 15 hours a day of original programming during the week and several hours a day during the weekend.

Televisaun Timor Lorosa'e Schedule

Hour	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
00:00	BBC	BBC	BBC	BBC	BBC	BBC	BBC
11:00						Spirit Sports (Metro Indon.)	
11:30						TVTL Weekly Features Wrap (R)	
12:30	MetroSports Indonesia	MetroSports Indonesia	MetroSports Indonesia	MetroSports Indonesia	MetroSports Indonesia8		
13:00	TVTL News (R)	TVTL News (R)	TVTL News (R)	TVTL News (R)	TVTL News (R)	TVTL Weekly Features Wrap (R)	
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	BBC	BBC	BBC	BBC		
14:00						BBC	
14:30							Current Affairs (Metro Indon.)
15:00							Documentary (Eng.)
15:30							BBC
17:00	MTV	MTV	MTV	MTV	MTV		
17:30					TVTL Weekly Features Wrap		
18:00						Documentary (Port.)	
18:50	Cartoons	Cartoons	Cartoons	Cartoons			
19:00	TVTL Nightly News	TVTL Nightly News	TVTL Nightly News	TVTL Nightly News	TVTL Weekly News Wrap	Soccer Tetum comm	Soccer (Portugal)
19:15	Cultural Program	Haburas Agriculture Program	Buka Hatene Talk Show	Special Report			
19:30	Cartoons including Meena Bananas	Educ. Sitcom (English Have a Go)		Educ. Sitcom (English Have a Go)			
19:45			Cartoons				
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	BBC
22:00	RTP News	RTP News	RTP News	RTP News	RTP News		
22:30						Current Affairs (Metro Indon.)	
22:30	BBC World	BBC World	BBC World	BBC World	BBC World		

RADIO UNTAET

• 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)

	MONDAY - FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
06:00	Tetum News	Tetum News	Music Programming
06:15	Portuguese News	Portuguese News	
06:30	English News	English News	
06:45	Indonesian News	Indonesian News	
07:00	Current Affairs + news headlines in 4 languages	Current Affairs	
08:00	Tetum News	Tetum News	
08:15	Portuguese News	Portuguese News	
08:30	English News	English News	
08:45	Indonesian News	Indonesian News	
09:00	Tetum News / Tetum Program	Tetum News / Music Program	
10:00	Portuguese News / Portuguese Program	Portuguese News / Music Program	
11:00	Indonesian News / Indonesian Program	English News / Music Program	
12:00	Tetum News	Indonesian News / Music Program	
12:15	Portuguese News		
12:30	English News		
12:45	Indonesian News		
13:00	Tetum News / Music Program	Tetum News / Music Program	
14:00	Portuguese News / Music Program	Portuguese News / Music Program	
15:00	English News / Culture and Society Programs	English News / Music Program	
16:00	Indonesian News / Culture and Society Programs	Indonesian News / Music Program	
17:00	Tetum News / Civic Education Program	Tetum News / Music Program	
17:30	English News / English Program		
18:00	Tetum News	Portuguese News / Music Program	Tetum News
18:15	Portuguese News		Portuguese News
18:30	English News		English News
18:45	Indonesian News		Indonesian News
19:00	Current Affairs + news headlines in 4 languages	English News / Music Program	Current Affairs: Interview
20:00	Tetum News	Indonesian News /	Tetum News
20:15	Portuguese News	Continental Music Program	Portuguese News
20:30	English News		English News
20:45	Indonesian News		Indonesian News
21:00 - 06:00	Music Programming	Music Programming	Music Programming

You Have the Power

Turn off the lights!

Turn off the fans!

Turn off the air conditioning!



Just one light off can make the difference



You have the Power

There will be power shedding until at least the end of May while the Comoro Power station is being overhauled. There will be some power cuts in the evenings from 5:30 p.m. while work is being carried out.

Residents are advised to adhere to the following tips to help alleviate the problem of power shedding:

- If everyone turns off one light in the evening, this will decrease the demand at the Comoro power station in Dili
- If you are cooking, turn off one light at the peak dinner period
- Turn your fridge temperature up a notch - keeping it just one degree (1°) warmer saves on energy
- Turn your TV off manually at the powerpoint instead of using the remote control
- Use lower wattage light globes
- Turn off the air-conditioner when you leave the office or home

Filomeno de Andrade, Head of Infrastructure Coordination, said that there will be significant improvements in power supply throughout Dili after work on the power station is complete. When all five engines are overhauled, consumers can expect a more reliable provision of power. The Japanese government is overhauling the plant at a cost of more than \$3.1 million. For more information please contact the Power 24 Hour Hotline on 0409495755. >

News Briefs News Briefs News Briefs News Briefs

East Timorese to Study in Australia

On 2 March, 54 East Timorese students were awarded scholarships to study in Australia at a ceremony in Dili, which was attended by the Director-General of AusAID, Bruce Davis.

In a press statement regarding the scholarships, Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Alexander Downer, said that "the Australian Government is committed to offering meaningful assistance to the people of East Timor".

The scholarships are funded by AusAID, in conjunction with Australian universities, and are awarded for studies in areas that the East Timor Transitional Administration (ETTA) has deemed vital for building and strengthening the future government such as economic and financial management, public policy and administration, science, engineering, infrastructure and medicine.

These students will join over 20 East Timorese students who were also awarded scholarships by AusAID. They will participate in an English language course in Australia, before taking up their studies at Australian universities. The scholarships are part of an ongoing programme of the Australian Government.

The group of attackers then proceeded to the mosque and burnt it to the ground. At that time, 300 East Timorese surrounded the mosque.

The day started out with an incident between the Rapid Response Unit (RRU), which released tear gas on a group of East Timorese that had set up a roadblock and burnt tires. The day before, RRU arrested 16 people, releasing all but three.

Three East Timorese men were arrested on 7 March by CivPol after CNRT/National Council President Xanana Gusmão's security was put at risk during a student conference in Dili.

The first man was arrested after disobeying police orders to stop and not proceed in Xanana Gusmão's direction, who was still addressing the students. Disturbances followed and two other men were detained. Arrest warrants had been issued for two of the three men in February, following the burning of two United Nations cars in Comoro, Dili.

The previous day, CivPol and CNRT had received information on the possibility of an incident at the meeting, which was organized by a student organization in order to give Mr. Gusmão an opportunity to explain the East Timorese youth the transformation of FALINTIL into the new East Timor Defence Force.

to meet the former militia leaders at the border, before they move back to the district.

The Chief of Staff met Mr. Lopes de Carvalho and other militia leaders on 19 January, during his last visit to Kupang, West Timor. In the meeting, Mr. Lopes de Carvalho expressed his desire to return to East Timor. He has since written a letter to UNTAET in which he states that he wishes to return and live in East Timor and that he accepts the result of the popular consultation of August 1999. He also said that he accepts that East Timor will be an independent country and that he is willing to face justice and help in the reconstruction of the country.

Joint Border Committee Meeting

On 31 January, during the first formal meeting of the Joint Border Committee, which was established in September 2000 to deal with practical border issues or problems, UNTAET/ETTA and the Indonesian authorities presented the compositions and membership of their respective National Border Committees.

Both parties acknowledged that there is a need for a special arrangement for people living close to the border. They agreed in principle that people living within a specified distance to the border would have a special pass that would allow them to cross the border at any point. This agreement would be subject to certain regulations, such as travelling only within specified areas on the other side and conducting only customary activities.

The following day, UNTAET/ETTA raised the question of compensation by the Government of Indonesia for the destruction and damage done in East Timor in 1999, including private property of ordinary East Timorese. Both parties agreed on the need for a comprehensive solution covering all these claims.

The UNTAET/ETTA delegation was led by the Cabinet Member for Political Affairs, Peter Galbraith, and consisted of representatives from different UNTAET and ETTA departments, including East Timorese staff from the Foreign Affairs office and the Border Service. The Indonesian delegation was led by Hasan Wirayuda, the Indonesian Foreign Ministry's director-general for political affairs.

In addition to the matters of border security, the Indonesian delegation agreed to find out whether the Kupang Museum is in the possession of any items from the Dili Museum. The UNTAET/ETTA delegation agreed to continue the search for the 12-volume catalogue of the contents of the Dili Museum and requested the Indonesian Government to do so as well.

UNDP Head Visits East Timor

The Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Mark Malloch Brown, arrived in East Timor on 10 February for a two-day visit.

Mr. Malloch Brown met with the East Timorese leadership, senior UN officials and the donor community to discuss how support for capacity building can be strengthened to ensure that an efficient, representative and independent government can eventually be established.

The Administrator began his first visit to East Timor at the Santa Cruz Cemetery, where a wreath was laid in memory of those who gave their lives in the fight for freedom. The Administrator participated in the launch of a new UNDP-funded anti-corruption project, which will be implemented through the Inspector General's office of the East Timor Transitional Administration. The US\$250,000-project aims to prepare the office for guarding against corruption, once East Timor gains full independence.

Before leaving on 12 February, the Administrator joined Mr. Gusmão and Transitional Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello in a large-scale debate on human rights, reconciliation and the elections. More than 130 people from all walks of East Timorese life participated in the debate.

Takahashi Appointed Special Advisor

Akira Takahashi, former Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Rehabilitation, was appointed as the Special Advisor on Development and Humanitarian Affairs to the Transitional Administrator.

Prior to taking up his appointment with UNTAET, Mr. Takahashi had extensive experience in developing countries in economic and social development, institution building and the structuring of national development plans.

As a Special Advisor, Mr. Takahashi will work closely with the National Planning and Development Agency, departments within ETTA and the UN Development Coordinator system.

UNTAET and Youth Work Against Violence

On 8 February, Chief of Staff N. Parameswaran met with CivPol and a youth group which organized a demonstration outside UNTAET headquarters on 5 February, to discuss ways of working together to prevent violence in East Timor society.

The demonstrators, calling themselves the Anti-Violence Youth Group, handed over a petition in which they called upon UNTAET and CNRT to take strong action against violence and to "guarantee people's safety."

UNTAET is supporting the initiative to suppress violence in society.

Vendors Move to New Markets

To date, some 1,100 vendors have signed agreements with Dili District to move to the newly renovated markets in Becora and Comoro.

There are a total of 1,406 stalls in Comoro market and 651 in Becora market. The stalls were allocated through public lotteries and the markets are expected to open to vendors in mid-February.

The markets have been refurbished under the auspices of the Japanese NGO Adventist Development Relief Agency. Works undertaken include repair and reconstruction of roofed stall areas, construction of tiled benches, installation and repair of drains, paving and car park areas.

The project is intended to draw sellers from the overcrowded Central Market, by



Photo by OCP/UNTAET

International Women's Day Celebrated in East Timor

More than 300 East Timorese and internationals, including CNRT/National Council President Xanana Gusmão, on 8 March took part in a one-kilometre march to commemorate International Women's Day in East Timor. The one-hour Peace March was organized by the East Timor Women's Network (REDE), with the support of Dili District Administration, ETTA's Gender Affairs Unit and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

"Today UNTAET reaffirms its commitment to empowering the women of East Timor to fully participate at every stage of East Timor's development and at every level of decision-making," Deputy Transitional Administrator Jean-Christian Cady said.

In her speech to the crowd, the head of REDE, Aurora Ximenes, stressed that peace and security - the themes of this year's celebration - needed to be addressed first at home and with the family.

Disturbances in Dili and Baucau

On 8 March, Cabinet Member for Political Affairs Peter Galbraith, CivPol, and Political and District Affairs officers went to Baucau, following a series of violent incidents.

On 7 March, Baucau District Administrator Marito Reis was attacked while driving a car with five UNTAET/ETTA staff, both East Timorese and internationals. The windows were broken and the car eventually lost control and drove off the road.

"The incident that took place at Dili's gymnasium reminds us of the importance that law and order be ensured for a peaceful transition of East Timor to an independent and democratic nation. In preventing aggression against Xanana Gusmão, Civilian Police has done its duty," said DSRSG and Acting Transitional Administrator Jean-Christian Cady. "The political process in which we are now engaged can only succeed in an atmosphere in which dialogue and tolerance win out over violence."

Reconciliation Meetings

In the month of February, UNTAET's Chief of Staff N. Parameswaran, hosted a series of reconciliation meetings in different districts.

On 8 February, Mr. Parameswaran went to Baucau to discuss reconciliation and the return of militia leader Joaquin Cesário Belo. The 50 participants reiterated that Mr. Belo is welcome to return to the community. Numerous meetings have taken place between the United Nations and the Baucau militia leader, who claims that he can persuade 6,000 refugees to return to East Timor.

More than 150 people from all four sub-districts in Ainaro attended a meeting on 2 February to discuss the possible return of the militia leader Cândia Lopes de Carvalho and his brother Nemésio. The overall opinion was that the district was ready to accept their return as long as both accepted the results of the 1999 popular consultation and faced justice. Ainaro community leaders also expressed their desire



Photo by OCP/UNTAET

Tiu answers questions about... Corruption

Hello, my friends, hope you're all well. As you know, Easter's fast approaching. It's a time of rebirth and renewal. And this year, it seems like the entire nation is renewing itself. Here we are registering as citizens and preparing to vote to create a new government.

But today, I want to talk with you about the problem of corruption, and particularly the damaging effect it can have on the democratic process and on any government we establish.

Unfortunately, we can already see disturbing instances of corruption in Timor Lorosa'e. In fact, I recently discussed the problem over coffee with my two close friends Luis and Mario. Luis works for East Timor's Transitional Administration (ETTA) and Mario is unemployed. They have two very different perspectives on the problem of corruption. Joining us as well was my 14-year-old niece, Maria. It was a good chance for her to start thinking about the challenges we face as we create our new nation. Listen in to our conversation:

Tiu: So Mario, Luis, let's talk about corruption. I'm worried that if we allow it to flourish again, we will never be able to be a truly democratic society.

Maria: Tiu, sorry to interrupt, but what exactly do you mean by corruption?

Tiu: Well, Maria, corruption can take many forms. For example, if I committed a crime and bribed a police officer to let me off the hook, that would be corruption, plain and simple.

Maria: Oh, I understand, now. What if I was in a powerful position and gave a job to my close relative? Would that be corruption also?

Tiu: Well, that's not exactly corruption. That's called "nepotism" when you give preferential treatment to a close relative over other qualified candidates for the job. But it's pretty much akin to corruption. Nepotism often applies to employment in the public sector rather than in the private sector; in most private business, particularly small family-run ones, you can basically hire whomever you want.

But in the public sector it's different. People should be hired based on their merits alone and not because they are friends or relatives.

Luis: Tiu, can I just explain something to Maria? Since Tiu has already mentioned corruption and nepotism, I think we should also explain what collusion is. Collusion refers to a secret understanding between two or more parties. For example, if we agree that if I give you a pay raise, you would hire a close friend of mine, that would be collusion.

Mario: Corruption, collusion and nepotism. I remember well how common they were during Indonesian times - they were known as KKN -- Korrupsi, Kolusi, Nepotism (Corruption, Collusion, Nepotism).

Tiu: So Luis, since we are on this topic, could you give us the inside story on allegations of corruption within ETTA?

Luis: I think it is public knowledge by now that UNTAET has canceled a contract worth thousands of dollars, because an investigation determined that there had been corruption and collusion between Australian and Timorese supply companies. The ETTA Contracts Committee has

the task of formally reviewing all major contracts looking for any irregularities that might amount to corruption. A Procurement Policy Committee was also formed resulting from UNTAET's Regulation 2000/10. The two committees will be actively involved in anti-corruption efforts.

Mario: That's good news! It means that someone will be seriously looking into allegations of corruption; and it sends a clear message that KKN is just not acceptable anymore in the new Timor Lorosa'e.

Mario: In addition to the ETTA Contracts Committee and Procurement Policy Committee are there other anti-corruption mechanisms being established?

Tiu: In fact there are. Over the past few months, the World Bank, with the support of the Post Conflict Fund and the Danish Trust Fund for Governance, hosted a series of workshops and discussions to support the Timorese leadership and people in developing a national strategy and integrity in government.

Mario: And what actually happened in these workshops, Tiu?

Tiu: During the sessions, participants representing different segments of the Timorese leadership and civil society were divided into small groups to study case studies relevant to the East Timorese experience. International experts on governance also participated. The workshop, in fact, is the jumping-off point for drafting a development strategy that outlaws corruption.

Luis: One of the experts who attended the meeting was Robert Klitgaard, a professor from the Rand Graduate School in the United States and a consultant on

corruption for the World Bank. He published something about the workshop on the media.

Tiu: Yes, and if I remember correctly, in that article he emphasized three sectors to be targeted by anti-corruption efforts. These were the lucrative sectors related to the Timor Gap and Border Control, the Judicial System and the Public Administration.

Luis: Furthermore, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Mark Malloch Brown, was in East Timor and met with the East Timorese leadership to discuss how support for capacity building could be strengthened to ensure that an efficient, representative and independent government can be established. And he participated in the launch of a new UNDP-funded anti-corruption project, which will be implemented through the Inspector General's Office of ETTA. And this anti-corruption project worth US\$250,000 aims to prepare the ETTA office for guarding against corruption when Timor Lorosa'e is fully independent.

Maria: Uau, corrupters you better watch out.

Tiu: That is right Maria. And just as well. Corruption is a key issue that can bring down a nation swiftly. If we are trying to learn and live democracy, let's try and make sure we work on it 100 per cent and not on percentages.

Well, my friends, that was our take on corruption. Corruption is wrong and is most unfair, don't you think so? Let's create a fairer society in Timor Lorosa'e. It's time for a fresh start. Until next time, be safe and ciao! >

News Briefs News Briefs

improving and securing conditions at Becora and Comoro markets.

Deadlock Broken in Viqueque Land Dispute

On 24 February, an historical agreement was signed between two groups involved in a long and complex land dispute in Uato Lari sub-district, Viqueque District.

The disputed land is an area approximately the size of Dili, ideal for rice cultivation. The conflict stems from political and cultural rivalries between the two ethnic groups, Makasse and Naweti, and dates back to the 1940s. Each of the two groups occupies part of the land, but both claim the entire area.

The reconciliation process was initiated by representatives from East Timorese human rights NGO Yayasan HAK and the Justice and Peace Commission. While the agreement is a community-based initiative, ETTA's Land and Property Division played an important part as observers and advisers.

Indonesian Journalists Visit East Timor

A group of 21 Indonesian journalists arrived on 6 February in East Timor for a weeklong visit.

The visit was organized by the Indonesia-based refugee organization Task Force for the Settlement of the East Timorese Refugee Issue in East Nusa Tenggara. The visit was financed by USAID and facilitated by UNTAET, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Indonesian journalists last participated in an organized visit to East Timor in July 2000.

TVTL Increases Its Programming

The UNTAET-run Televisaun Timor Lorosa'e (TVTL) started its new programming on 5 February. The station broadcasts news in Tetun, Portuguese, English and Bahasa Indonesia - for a total of 168 hours per week.

TVTL broadcasts more than five hours of Tetun programming a week, five hours of Indonesian, 7 1/2 hours of Portuguese and the remainder in English. The Tetun program includes news, culture, educational programs, special reports, talk shows, cartoons and documentaries.

TVTL is broadcasting programs from BBC, Indonesian Television, Portuguese news channel RTP and MTV. >



A gala ribbon cutting with SRS Sergio Vieira de Mello and Mario Carrascalão doing the honours. The East Timor Central Payments Office (CPO) on 28 February in a ceremony at the institution's newly renovated building, in central Dili.

Voices of Timor Lorosa'e

FALINTIL's transition to FDTL



Felix Freitas
Farmer
Baucau (Loi-Lubo)

FALINTIL had an important role to play in East Timor during Indonesian times. They gave their lives, suffered under extreme conditions, rain, sun or wind, all because the people wanted freedom. The transition from FALINTIL to FDTL is a good thing for our nation because the new force will receive all kinds of professional training from the Portuguese on how to defend our border.



Zito
Phone card vendor
Becora

I think that it was not just FALINTIL who fought for Timor before; the people also participated. This is why I ask the leaders to be wise when they make a decision to prevent certain political parties from instigating unrest among the people. I also ask the parties to be disciplined in their actions so that the people would not suffer anymore. And while there are no laws within the country, UNTAET has to carry its mandate accordingly. We have yet to see the work of the FDTL, but I know it is a good thing to be part of the peacekeeping operations and to be ready in the event of a threat.



Paulino Borges
Road Sweeper
Becora

Basically FALINTIL and FDTL are two organisations with the same responsibilities, which is to defend our nation. I want this transition to end quickly because the new armed forces will be important for our country. The new force will have a crucial role to play in protecting our border after the peacekeeping forces have left.



Rui de Carvalho
Vendor
Quintal Boot (Balide)

The work carried out by FALINTIL before was very important for the nation. We still do not fully understand why we have changed FALINTIL to FDTL. I asked my children who go to school and they told me that FDTL is the defense force of East Timor during the transition period that will end this year. The FDTL role will be similar to that of the FALINTIL and, still according to my son, one day this defense force will be posted at the border.



Joaquina Hendrique
Housewife
Becora

My husband died 24 years ago and my two children have also died. I was alone so I adopted someone else's child and now I have someone to talk to. Whether FALINTIL is or not the defense force of East Timor, I leave it up to the leaders, as long as the new force works towards protecting the nation.



Domingos de Deus
Head of the household
Mascarenhas

I know that FALINTIL is no longer the defense force of Timor Lorosa'e. After the transition period, that should end this year, an organization like FDTL will be perfect to defend our country. I am so happy with the new force because they are getting training from the Portuguese army.



Lizeti
Student
Villa-Verde

I believe that FALINTIL is great and I ask why it has been changed into FDTL. During all these years, FALINTIL made a crucial contribution towards expelling the enemy from our nation. FALINTIL and FDTL, will they have different roles? If not, then why did they change the name?



Alito Fernandes
UNTAET Driver
Becora

I think that the transition from FALINTIL to FDTL was appropriate. The name FALINTIL refers to a time when we were fighting against our enemy, when we were shooting the enemy to steal their weapons so that we could use them. That's how the name FALINTIL came about. Now, I believe that we as a new nation need to re-name our defense force to Força de Defesa de Timor Lorosa'e (FDTL) so that the world can know that our nation has a defense force ready to protect us if a nation like Indonesia tries to provoke us. That is why the United Nations recognizes the FDTL and many other nations recognized the legitimacy of the new force during the celebrations in Aileu.



Maria Imaculada
Housewife
Baucau

I am already old and security for me is important only in terms of national security. Whether they change it or not is irrelevant when it is a decision made by the leaders. This new defense force, I haven't seen them in action but they have the advantage of having experience from the Indonesian times. I ask the leaders not to forget the isolados contribution in defending us against the invaders.



Anito Matos
Artist
Surik Mas

I believe that previously, FALINTIL was the armed forces of the people of Timor Lorosa'e, during a time when we were fighting against the invading forces of Indonesia. Its contribution was very important to East Timor and the name became part of our history. The whole world knows of its achievements and of its contribution over 24 years of war. But now many disagree with the change-over FALINTIL is going through. I believe that this transition came at a time when our nation will have to stand on its own feet, we therefore need a defense force to ensure the security of our people. FALINTIL has reached a stage where it needs to change its name because the need now is for a national defense force. This defense force is crucial because we cannot expect the peacekeeping forces to remain permanently in East Timor. We have to post already our own forces at the border alongside the peacekeeping forces.



Salvador Guterres
Head of household
Becussi Baixo

My understanding of why FALINTIL has put down their weapons and changed to FDTL is because we are now preparing ourselves for total independence. I think that FALINTIL needs to become the national army because every nation needs a defense force to protect the nation. This is an important step towards the end of the transition period in 2001. Because now we are under UNTAET and we are like a tape-recorder where you put a tape and it starts playing. We will never forget our brother's and sisters who have fought and their feats are written in our history and the whole world has heard of their efforts. The FDTL isn't a political party but the defense force of Timor Lorosa'e, it is not subject to party alliances or organisations, it is for the people. The new defense force is a very positive step for our nation.



Abe Barreto Soares
Information Assistant,
UNTAET
Becussi

The decommissioning of FALINTIL and the creation of East Timor Defense Force (ETDF) is a natural process. Personally, I welcome this transformation. FALINTIL has done its noble duty in the past. It is no doubt that the majority of East Timorese have a great respect towards FALINTIL and the name, I am sure, will be kept vividly in the memory of the people of East Timor in times to come. But time demands change. Of course, it is not always easy to adapt to it when it comes. I can fully understand other people's reluctance in regards to the decommissioning of FALINTIL and the creation of East Timor Defense Force (ETDF). But the show has to go on. Time is ticking. I look forward to seeing the eloquent performance of the new emerging defense force. Viva FALINTIL! Viva FDTL!

East Timor Transitional Administration

The East Timor Transitional Administration (ETTA) requires services of a professional contractor to organize deliveries of foodstuffs for the Falintil Contingent in Aileu and provide catering services for the Dili General Hospital. Eligible suppliers may obtain further information on this procurement at 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



The UNTAET-supported print consortium received a new round of funding worth US\$100,000 from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). The consortium is being run as a non-profit organization, but the print shop takes in commercial work to help subsidize the printing of 10 Dili-based newspapers and three magazines.

Land & Property continued from pg. 2

buyer to Court. Should this happen, the seller might be faced with a claim for compensation from the buyer and possible criminal charges.

For the same reasons, rental of land can also be risky.

My house has been destroyed and I now live in a building that does not belong to me. Can I stay here?

Many persons are currently occupying property that belongs to others. It is unlikely that they will be able to stay in those properties forever. It is important for people to try to rebuild their homes and move back to them. If the owner of the house returns and wants to reoccupy it, you should ask your local authority to help you to discuss your problem with that person. Perhaps you can get an agreement with the person to stay for a few months more in the house, while you try to fix your own home.

What about Public and Abandoned Land?

Because of the destruction that took place in September 1999, there is a shortage of usable buildings in East Timor. In cases where buildings on Public or Abandoned land can be used and are not needed by the government for its own use, Land and Property makes them available to approved applicants. This is done through the issuing of Temporary Use Agreements (TUAs). In such cases, a monthly rental has to be paid.

In some cases persons occupying Public or Abandoned land will be required

to leave the land. Because of the shortage of housing and commercial sites, the government will try to keep this to a minimum.

As an alternative, people will where possible be given the chance to enter into a Temporary Use Agreement and to pay rent for using the land. This will be determined by the Land and Property Unit. The occupants will not be required to fix the property at this stage. But any works done to the property are at the occupant's risk and expense and they may not be able to remove them when they leave the property.

If you are occupying Public or Abandoned land, you should discuss this with the Land and Property staff in your district who will help you to complete an "Application to Use Public or Abandoned Land".

Who decides how much rent will be paid, and where does the money go?

The rental that is charged is decided through negotiation between the applicant and the District Administrator, or someone appointed by the District Administrator. It is prescribed that the rental will be "fair", that is set at "market value". The money that is collected goes to the transitional government of East Timor on behalf of the people of East Timor. (Note: It does not in any way fund the UN or its International Staff.)

If I have to leave a property that I do not own, will I be paid compensation?

It is not likely that you will get compensation for having to leave a property. >

Elections continued from pg. 1

If I meet the eligibility criteria, do I need to do anything else in order to vote?

In order to vote in the Constituent Assembly election, eligible voters must appear on the voter lists that will be established from the data collected during the Civil Registration exercise. So even if you are eligible to vote, you must still register with Civil Registration in order to vote.

You do not need to be living in East Timor to be eligible to vote. However, you need to register with Civil Registration in East Timor, and be present in East Timor on election day to be able to cast your vote.

Where will I be able to vote?

Voting will take place only in East Timor. Voters will vote at polling stations to be established near the place where they registered with Civil Registration.

Will I be able to vote for both National and District representatives?

All eligible voters who appear on the voter lists will be able to vote at their designated polling station for National representatives. To vote for a District representative, an eligible voter will need:

- I. to have registered with Civil Registration in that District; and
- II. to have a home in that District; and
- III. to be present to vote at their designated polling station in that District.

The Independent Electoral Commission

Who is responsible for the administration of the election?

According to UN Security Council Resolution 1338, administration of the elections is the exclusive responsibility of UNTAET. For this purpose, UNTAET has created an Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) to be the supreme and exclusive authority on electoral matters. The IEC is headed by five Electoral Commissioners and a non-voting Chief Electoral Officer who are appointed directly by the Secretary General of the United Nations. Three Commissioners will be internationally recognized electoral experts, and two Commissioners will be East Timorese.

Who will provide security during the elections?

PKF will ensure a peaceful environment in East Timor for the elections. CivPol will enforce law and order during the election period.

Will there be observers during the electoral process?

Yes, there will be national and international observers, as well as political party agents. >

East Timor Transitional Administration

Central Administrative Services
Procurement Unit

ETTA Central Administrative Services (CAS), Procurement Unit invites Interested Companies to bid for the supply of motorbikes.

This Invitation to Bid (1092-B) is requirement for thirty-five (35) Kinroad motorbikes.

The public opening of bids is set for 15 March 2001 at 15.30 hours in ETTA Procurement Unit, Fomento Building, Dili, East Timor.

Interested Vendors can obtain further information at:
ETTA Procurement Unit
Fomento Building, Rua D. Aleixo Corte Real
Dili, East Timor
Tel: + 61 8 8942 2203 ext. 6331
Fax: + 61 8 8942 2198
e-mail: ivankov@un.org

East Timor Transitional Administration

Central Administrative Services
Procurement Unit

ETTA Central Administrative Services (CAS), Procurement Unit invites Interested Companies to bid for the supply of vehicles.

This Invitation to Bid (1091-B) is requirement for seven (7) vehicles (Suzuki Jimny JX).

The public opening of bids is set for 16 March 2001 at 15.30 hours in ETTA Procurement Unit, Fomento Building, Dili, East Timor.

Interested Vendors can obtain further information at:
ETTA Procurement Unit
Fomento Building, Rua D. Aleixo Corte Real
Dili, East Timor
Tel: + 61 8 8942 2203 ext. 6331
Fax: + 61 8 8942 2198
e-mail: ivankov@un.org

Heroes in Action

Photo by OCP/UNTAET



Heroes at work! The bombeiros respond to a brush-fire near the Pertamina Deposits in Dili on 3 March.

23 April will mark the one year anniversary of the Bombeiros. 66 Bombeiros have been providing fire-fighting services in Dili, Baucau and Aileu.



The Pascoa Cup (Easter Cup), driving young and old soccer teams into fierce competition to win the much-coveted award. The event organized by Yayasan Don Carlos Belo and Fokupers marks the start of preparations for Easter celebrations. The annual competition takes place at the soccer field opposite the residence of Bishop Belo in Lecidere-Dili.



Photo by OCP/UNTAET



UN CivPol

**24 HOUR
EMERGENCY NUMBER IN DILI
0408839978**

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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