

Tais Timor

A monthly source of information published in Tetun, English, Portuguese and Bahasa Indonesia • distributed free of charge

INSIDE
2 Civil Registration

3 The Games


Foto: OCP/UNTAET

On 13 May 2001, the statue of Our Lady of Fátima was carried by Portuguese soldiers of the 2nd Infantry Battalion in a procession originating at the Becora Church in Dili, traveling down the streets of Dili until reaching its final destination at the recently re-modeled Motael Park in Farol, Dili. The statue was a gift by the city of Viseu in Portugal - where the 2nd Infantry Battalion received their training in preparation for deployment in East Timor - to the people of East Timor as a symbol of Christian solidarity towards the religious figure.

Editorial Note on Tais Timor Monthly

Things change, usually for the better. Over the next few issues of Tais Timor you will witness the metamorphosis of Tais Timor into a publication that will reflect current trends and realities in East Timor. With these changes, the Publications Unit wishes to reinforce the idea that Tais Timor is not a newspaper, but a publication that records the major UNTAET/ETTA initiatives, highlights and informs regarding their campaigns and is a conduit for useful development information for the Timorese people. The concept for Tais Timor came about from the need to have a regular vehicle for the dissemination of information for the population of Timor Lorosa'e following the destruction that ensued the popular consultation in 1999. At the time of its inception, the local media was in the initial stages of rebuilding their own resources which meant that Tais Timor had a crucial role to play in filling the vacuum created by the destruction imposed on the local media industry. Having started initially as a bi-weekly publication in four languages distributed to all the districts, Tais Timor will henceforth be distributed on a monthly basis. The Publications Unit hope you find the new changes encouraging and more in tune with your own information needs.

Victory in Arafura Debut

East Timor has garnered six gold, one silver and two bronze medals in the 6th Arafura Games, an international sporting competition held in Darwin, Australia, from 19-26 May. The new country has been the surprise package of the Arafura Games, winning an unprecedented number of medals in its debut appearance.

East Timor's Mariana Dias Ximenes finished an amazing athletics meet winning three golds in the women's 5,000-metre, 10,000-metre and half-marathon runs. Her teammate Calisto da Costa also ran away with two golds in the men's 10,000-metre and half-marathon runs. Timorese athletes' speed also proved too much for the Northern Territory in the final soccer playoff on the last day of competition, with East Timor bagging the gold 2-0 in the under-16 soccer event, a win that was described by Arafura organizers as an "unlikely" one.

Tennis players Antonio Mendez and Armindo da Costa, on the other hand, showed that the new country is in good form in the men's under-18 double tennis event, finishing with a silver medal.

Also contributing to East Timor's phenomenal success in athletics is runner Domingas Monteiro who won two bronze medals in the women's 800-metre and 1,500-metre runs.

About 130 athletes from East Timor came to compete in eight categories in this year's games. In addition to the above-mentioned categories, East Timor also vied for medals in boxing, basketball, volleyball, badminton and cycling. East Timor's participation at Arafura was made possible by sponsors including Phoenix Fuel, Delta Café, Australian beer company 4X, and others. At a send-off ceremony before the athletes left for Australia, CNRT president Xanana Gusmão personally thanked the companies that supported East Timor's athletes.

The Arafura Games started ten years ago as the Arafura Sports Festival, and they are now a leading international competition for developing athletes in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. The event is held every two years in Darwin, the capital of Australia's Northern Territory. This year, 25 countries came to compete in 29 sports events. >

Dollarization Campaign in Full Swing

The UN administration in East Timor has launched a campaign to enforce the use of the US Dollar as the official currency in Timor Lorosa'e. This move follows a recent executive order issued by Transitional Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello restricting the import of foreign currency and imposing fines on unlicensed money changers.

According to Fernando De Peralto, the head of the Central Payments Office (CPO), the Transitional Administration is taking legal and educational steps to ensure the currency becomes the sole legal tender in Timor Lorosa'e. "In order to address the implementation of dollarization more fully, a programme has been developed which will have political, legal and operational elements," said De Peralto recently.

Although the UN Transitional Administration declared the US Dollar the official currency in January 2000, the Indonesian Rupiah and the Australian Dollar are still widely used in Timor Lorosa'e. The UN administration hopes that a campaign to educate people about the US currency will encourage its greater use. A dozen countries and territories around the world already use the US Dollar as their legal tender, including El Salvador, Panama, Ecuador and Guatemala.

As part of the dollarization process, coffee co-operatives will be paid in US currency for their crop this year. Coffee is the biggest export earner and provides employment for nearly 200,000 farmers

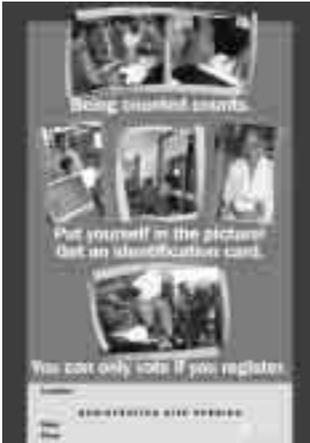
Continued on page 3

In this Issue

- 2 Q & A on Civil Registration
- 3 Arafura Games
- 4 ETTA News
- 6 Why I came to East Timor
- 7 International Voices
- 7 Sports Timor
- 8 News Briefs
- 8 District News
- 10 Voices of Timor Lorosa'e
Have you registered?
- 11 TiU on *Have you registered yet?*



Questions & Answers on Civil Registration



Who must register?

Registration is mandatory for every resident of East Timor.

During the registration process, the entire population of East Timor needs to be registered. The entire family: babies, children, women and men - from the very young to the elderly - are required to register. Every resident of East Timor who is at least 16 years old or whose 16th birthday occurs in 2001 must appear in person to register. Parents or family members must register children under 16 and persons with mental or legal incapacities.

There are two designations of residents: A habitual resident is either (1) a person born in East Timor or (2) a person born outside East Timor, but with at least one parent who was born in East Timor; anyone whose spouse falls under either of these two categories also qualifies as a habitual resident.

A long-term resident is a person, other than a habitual resident, who has resided in East Timor for more than 182 cumulative days within any 12-month consecutive period.

Representatives of foreign missions or governments and officials of United Nations organizations or other governmental organizations are generally excluded from registration.

Why do I have to register?

The registration of the whole population is very important for the efficient management of a modern government and for all central functions of society.

During the registration process, data will be collected and delivered to the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) on 24 June 2001. The IEC will prepare a voters' list on the basis of this data, which will include details of all persons eligible and able to vote for the Constituent Assembly on 30 August.

Why do I have to register my children, although they do not receive "proof of registry" and they are not eligible to vote?

It is very important that the registration of the population is accurate. Many government programmes and decisions depend on correct information about the country's citizens. Health-care planning, assignment of teachers and allocation of police protection are examples of programmes that require precise information on the local population, including children.

How do I register and what do I need to bring with me?

Bring documents that will prove your identity to the registration office, as you did in 1999 to register to vote in the popular consultation. The Registration Officer will ask you for additional information, such as marital status and the names of your children, which must be included in the Civil Registry.

There are a variety of suitable documents to prove your identity. The best is an official government document (from any government) that contains your photograph and your signature or fingerprint - i.e., passport, ID card or official travel document. To be safe, try to bring two or more such documents.

What happens if I do not have the proper documents?

You can still register. But you need either an affidavit and witness or two witnesses.

Applicants without sufficient documents can prove their identity with an affidavit of birth. This rule only applies to persons born in East Timor. Alternatively, identity and eligibility can be proved with the help of two witnesses.

During the registration process, the entire population of East Timor needs to be registered. The entire family: babies, children, women and men - from the very young to the elderly - are required to register.

What is an affidavit and how can I register with the help of an affidavit?

An affidavit is a legally sworn document. If you do not have any document that can prove your identity, an affidavit of birth is required. An affidavit proves a person's eligibility, and therefore an applicant can only use the affidavit option if born in East Timor.

The applicant swears the affidavit in the presence of either a Suco Chief or a religious leader. This event must be witnessed by a person who knows the applicant. Then the applicant has to bring the sworn affidavit and a witness to the registration site. The applicant may use the same witness to swear the affidavit as well as to accompany him/her to the registration site. The witness must have already successfully registered with the Civil Registry.

Why do I have to bring witnesses?

Those applicants who are not able to bring any documents or produce an affidavit need two witnesses to establish their identity and eligibility. Witnesses must not be family relations of the applicant. It is important that the witnesses have already successfully registered - i.e., proved their own identities with official documents - before they can testify to an applicant's identity. Applicants who have registered themselves with the help of two witnesses cannot act as a witness for any other applicant.

What if I still have an old registration document?

The new register will be the first accurate record of the population of an independent East Timor and will override any previous registry. Therefore, you must still register. However, you should bring previously issued registration documents with you to help prove your identity and status.

Will I have to wait long to register?

Each district is subject to different circumstances, but it is possible for Civil Registration Officers (CROs) to register as many as 250 people a day per computer workstation, provided the appropriate conditions are in place. Therefore a certain amount of waiting will be required while each person's details are processed. The CROs will try to process your information as quickly as possible. However, in case of any difficulties that may be experienced during this time, such as technical problems, your patience and co-operation are very much appreciated.

How many people have already registered?

Approximately 755,305 people -- representing 93% per cent of the estimated population of East Timor of 812,293 people -- have been registered by UNTAET's Civil Registration Unit. To speed up the process further, Civil Registration Officers are currently being transferred from districts with lesser populations to strengthen the registration teams in Baucau, Viqueque and Dili.

Do the registration teams come to every village?

The registration teams will try to visit as many villages as possible as part of their mobile site movement plans. But for logistical reasons they will not be able to come to every single village.

Is it possible to open more registration sites?

Sixty three fixed registration sites have already been established throughout the territory. In addition, more registration sites are being opened as our registration teams are now establishing a series of "mobile" sites throughout the districts. These temporary sites are being set up in more remote areas to register as much of the population as possible.

Locations will vary due to the different field requirements present in each district.

What will ETТА do with my personal information?

All the information you provide will be collected in a database that will be able to sort information. The Central Civil Registry will provide such aggregate data to those government agencies legally entitled to be given this information. No data will be sold, used in a malicious way or revealed to anyone for non-official use. The fundamental right of the individual will always be respected.

How do I register to vote?

No separate registration for voting is planned. You can only vote if you register with civil registration. It will not be sufficient to register with any political party or other group. The Independent Electoral Commission will prepare the list of people who will be eligible and able to vote, based on the data supplied by Civil Registry. Therefore, if you want to exercise your right to vote in the forthcoming elections on 30 August, you must register with civil registration as soon as possible, no later than 20 June 2001.

Is everyone who registers eligible to vote?

No. Only habitual residents age 17 or older who have registered by 20 June shall be eligible to vote.

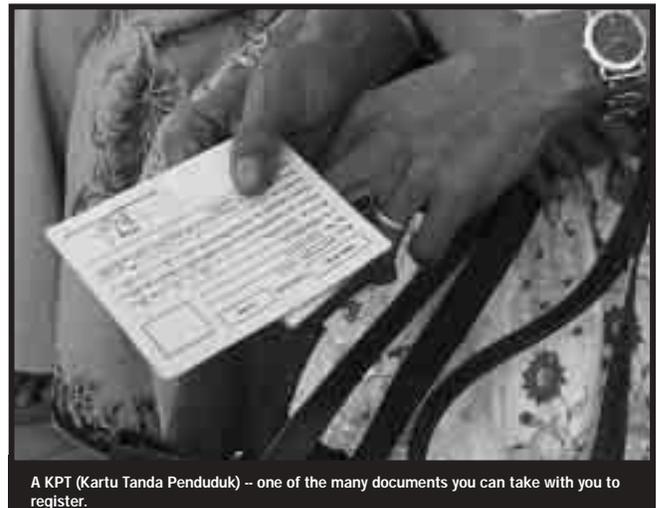
Can I register also outside the territory of East Timor?

No. Only in-territory registration is possible. You must register in East Timor. If you want to exercise your right to vote on the 30 August election, then you must come to East Timor before 20 June and register with Civil Registry.

Does this mean that I cannot register anymore as a resident of East Timor after 20 June?

No. It only means that you cannot be included in the voters' list for the 30 August elections. You will not be able to vote for the Constituent Assembly.

Civil Registry is an ongoing process, and, as a resident of East Timor, you will still be required to register with Civil Registry after 20 June. >



A KPT (Kartu Tanda Penduduk) -- one of the many documents you can take with you to register.

Dollarization continued from pg. 1

across Timor Lorosa'e. This change will benefit immensely the coffee farmers, as the Indonesian Rupiah, the earlier mode of payment, has suffered drastic depreciation in recent months.

The fact that the US Dollar is among the most widely accepted currencies today is one of the major motives behind the dollarization move. After the transition to independence, the political leadership of Timor Lorosa'e will have the choice whether to continue with the Dollar or opt for a new legal tender.

Why did Timor Lorosa'e choose the US Dollar as its currency rather than other currencies?

Since early 2000, a variety of major currencies have been in use throughout Timor Lorosa'e: Indonesian Rupiah, Portuguese Escudo, Australian Dollar and United States Dollar. In selecting a legal tender for Timor Lorosa'e, the following features were considered important:

- Stability in value
- International acceptability
- Political neutrality within the region

Both the Indonesian Rupiah and Australian Dollar have fluctuated widely over the past 12 months, and their value against the US Dollar has eroded. The Portuguese Escudo is also less stable and is not widely circulated. On the other hand US Dollar has maintained its value against all international currencies over a very long period, and it has become the most widely accepted currency internationally.

Furthermore, a significant portion of East Timor's international trade is conducted in US currency, led by coffee and

oil revenue with their vast growth potential. Therefore, use of US currency does not symbolize political or financial domination of Timor Lorosa'e by the United States or any other country within the region.

In what way will Timor Lorosa'e benefit by adopting the US Dollar as its currency?

The use of the US Dollar will promote monetary stability within Timor Lorosa'e while providing a sound reserve base on which a future government of East Timor may launch a fully backed currency of its own.

Of the total US\$25 million in our bank deposits, 92 per cent is held in US currency. Throughout the modern world, the United States Dollar is commonly used as the major reserve currency, which testifies to its stability and acceptance as a store of value.

Why shouldn't Timor Lorosa'e adopt its own currency now?

There are instances of newly independent countries opting for their own monetary units.

The government of an independent Timor Lorosa'e will have the right to issue its own currency if and when it so decides.

However, before issuing its own currency the government must consider the need for a sound legal and institutional framework, which is necessary for the issuing and management of a new currency. Such institutions as the legislature and the central bank must be developed to a level where they are capable of dealing with the formulation and implementation of effective monetary policy.

Are there any possible adverse effects?

There are no significant or insurmountable adverse effects anticipated from the adoption of the US Dollars. Inflation is a possibility with any currency, but the use of a single stable monetary unit reduces this risk.

Many people in Timor Lorosa'e are poor, and illiteracy is high. Will ordinary people be overwhelmed by this move, especially those in the rural areas?

Not necessarily. The people of Timor Lorosa'e are already familiar with several currencies. However, the CPO recognizes the need to intensify the efforts to educate citizens about the US currency.

In addition, the Coffee Cooperatives, representing 16,945 farmers, voted overwhelmingly to be paid in US Dollars for deliveries of coffee to Cooperativa Café Timor.

The National Consultative Council (NCC) decided to adopt the US Dollar on 24 January 2000. Why did it take so long to implement it?

Inadequate budgetary resources, as is the case with many other departments of UNTAET, had resulted in a lack of a sustained publicity campaign essential for a move such as this. Low supplies of US currency in small denominations (less than \$1) also had posed problems which we have now rectified. However, government employees have been receiving their salaries in US currency since January 2001 as part of the programme of dollarization.

What measures are planned in order to educate the people on this move?

In order to facilitate payment to coffee

farmers in US Dollars, the Central Payments Office has intensified its programme of educating residents in the farming districts about the US currency. Meetings are being held with farmers, vendors and other members of the community in the coffee-producing areas.

The CPO has also met with 80 education officers and school principals to promote efforts to familiarize teachers and students with the US currency. Alongside this campaign within the schools, the church will also play an integral part in the public awareness programme.

A public information campaign using radio, television, video presentations, seminars and pamphlets is another part of the CPO's plan. Samples of coins will be made available for display and purchase to ensure familiarity with the coins and an understanding of their values.

For many unemployed youth and even children, currency changing is a full-time job, earning them income. What will happen to them now, considering the fact that they are no longer allowed to perform these transactions?

Currency trading in the marketplace cannot be allowed to go unregulated. As in any developed society, persons dealing in currency will need to be licensed by the competent authorities in order to protect the public. In Timor Lorosa'e, there will be opportunities for genuine traders to apply for a license to legitimize their operations.

What is the penalty imposed on those who continue to change money unlicensed?

The offenders will be subject to a penalty not exceeding U.S.\$5000.

East Timor Strikes Gold at Arafura

Tuesday 23 May was East Timor's golden night at the Arafura Games in Darwin, Australia, with Calisto da Costa and teammate Mariana Dias Ximenes taking the gold in both the men's and women's 10,000-metres.

Da Costa, an Olympic marathon runner in the Sydney games, finished the 10km event in a time of 32:16. He was followed home by teammate Dias Ximenes in the women's division, who crossed the finish line at 40:33.

Dias Ximenes was just coming off a win in the 5km run on Sunday, which was East Timor's first gold medal in their debut appearance at the Arafura Games.

East Timorese athletics manager Helder Da Costa described the double gold win as "amazing." "Both runners have performed very well, and we are all very proud about the double win," he said.

Da Costa and Dias Ximenes spent three months training in Darwin in the lead-up to the Sydney Olympics. Calisto was selected for the East Timorese Olympic team and Mariana narrowly missed selection.

Editor's Note: In the half-marathon run, the final event of the Arafura Games, East Timorese runners Mariana Dias Ximenes and Calisto da Costa duplicated their double gold feat. Also on the last day of the competition, East Timor's football team took the gold in the men's under-16 category.



Double gold for East Timor, not just once but twice at the Arafura Games, as marathon runners Mariana Dias Ximenes and Calisto da Costa proved too fast for all the other contestants.

The Night East Timor Shone

"A very good athlete from a very good country," the announcer said as Mariana Dias Ximenes from East Timor crossed the finish line. Indeed, East Timor's long-distance runners were in blistering form that night, with Dias Ximenes and Calisto Da Costa running away with the gold in both the men's and women's 10,000-metre run events. This was just two nights after Dias Ximenes took the gold in the 5000-metre run.

Moments later, Dias Ximenes was limping and had to be attended by a medical team. But she was happy. And so was everybody else, it seemed—the East Timorese athletes, the other contestants, the crowd, even the organizers. There was the feeling that East Timor finally got what it deserved.

"Viva Timor Lorosa'e!" "Good...East Timor good!" "Ita boot...bele!" went the cheering.

It was one of the most interesting moments in the Sixth Arafura Games. East Timor, a country preparing for independence, is currently waving the United Nations' flag as its national flag. And what now serves as the national anthem, the song Foho Ramelau, must be the most upbeat national anthem in the world, with a lot of clapping and stomping of feet along with the singing.

Fortunately, Dias Ximenes was soon on her feet to receive the gold medal from East Timor Foreign Minister Jose Ramos-Horta. When her name and her country of origin were announced, Dias Ximenes kissed and held the UN flag before she climbed the victory stand. From the way she breathed, it was obvious that her heart was pounding.

From the moment the gun signaled the start of the race to the time the Timorese were spontaneously singing and dancing "Maubere buy bere" to celebrate their victory, nobody could stop East Timor that night—not anybody from the 24 other participating countries, which included the United States, Brazil and the Asia-Pacific countries. On this night the new country simply shone.

And it is fitting that it should happen in Arafura, a word that comes from the Portuguese mare aurifera, meaning "sea of gold."

ETTAnews

East Timor Transitional Administration

School Mapping Project Launched

On 14 May, the mapping of East Timor's schools was begun with the aim, among other things, to determine which schools should be retained, renovated or rebuilt or whether new schools should be constructed.

A team from ETTA's Division of Education, Youth and Cultural Services and staff from Instituto Superior Técnico of Portugal will visit all schools in East Timor and locate them on a digital map.

Every school principal will complete a questionnaire, which will provide data on the physical condition of each school and the facilities available. The project will also compile information on the area served by each school as well as current numbers of students and teachers.

The three-month project, which is funded under the Trust Fund for East Timor as part of the Emergency School Readiness Project, will produce interim reports at the end of each phase, and a final report is due in September.

Progress in "Dollarization" of East Timor Economy

As of mid-May, Cooperativa Café Timor, a cooperative of 16 coffee producers, will buy coffee with US dollars. This development follows a February vote by the coffee farmers, who overwhelmingly chose the US dollar as the payment currency. Fernando DePeralto, General Manager of ETTA's Central Payments Office (CPO), sees the change as "a good step in the 'dollarization' of the East Timorese economy."

To facilitate payment to the coffee cooperatives and farmers, CPO has recently purchased a total of US\$5 million in bank notes. CPO already imported US\$300,000 in coins last year.

The Central Payments Office has US\$10,000 in one-cent coins in stock, to be distributed. In addition, US\$400,000 in 25-, 10- and five-cent denominations, plus US\$90,000 in one-cent coins are currently under way to East Timor. This is to ensure that the transactions in US dollars is done without an inflationary impact.

On 26 April, Acting Transitional Administrator Jean-Christian Cady signed an Executive Order prohibiting the unlicensed importation of foreign currencies. It also makes it illegal to engage in currency exchange without a license issued by the CPO. Violation of the order carries a maximum fine of US\$5,000.

Civic Education Training for District Administrators and Students

District Administrators, their Deputies and advisers took part in a two-day civic education training on 10 and 11 May, conducted by ETTA and local and international NGOs. Among the topics discussed were the strengths and weaknesses of previous civic education efforts in East Timor, key characteristics of effective district government, and the role of civil society and political parties in a democracy.

The training aimed at ensuring that

District Administrators are fully aware of how the national civic education programme is managed, sharing ideas between district administrations about civic education and clarifying essential steps in the transition to independence.

In addition, 442 students from the East Timorese Institute for Higher Studies of Economy and Management (ISEG) took part in a three-day civic education training from 10-12 May.

Transitional Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello, who attended the opening ceremony of the training, stressed in a speech that the students will play an important role in ensuring that the visions and aspirations of the East Timorese people would be reflected in the future Constitution.

Transitional Cabinet

On 9 May, the East Timor Transitional Cabinet endorsed a national telecommunications policy, which calls for the drafting of a Telecommunications Act. The Act will establish a body to oversee the delivery of telecommunications services to the public and establish a regulatory framework for the provision of commercial telecommunications services. Once agreed by the Cabinet, The Telecommunications Act will be forwarded to the National Council.

The Cabinet discussed the outcomes of the Cabinet Budget Committee deliberations on the Consolidated Fund for East Timor (CFET) budgetary support for the fiscal year 2001-2002. A budget covering all sources of public finances for East Timor, including CFET, the Trust Fund for East Timor and the UN Assessed Contributions Budget and bilateral donors, will be submitted for the Cabinet's consideration next week, and thereafter it will be presented to the National Council.

The Cabinet also discussed the first report of the ETTA/NGO Working Group on the provisions to be included in the interim country agreement between the Transitional Administration and the international NGOs operating in East Timor. The draft standard agreement will be submitted for the Cabinet's consideration, in line with the recommendations of the Working Group.

The Head of the National Planning and Development Agency, Ms. Emilia Poires, briefed the Cabinet on capacity-building initiatives within the Transitional Administration. More specifically, the Cabinet approved a capacity-building programme in land-conflict resolution skills to be funded by the Canadian International Development Agency. This programme aims to train national and district land and property officials and representatives from civil society groups on land-conflict resolution skills and processes.

Department of Social Affairs

Senior Civil Servants Sworn-In

Sixteen East Timorese top-level civil servants of ETTA's Division of Education, Youth and Cultural Services were sworn in on 9 May by the Transitional Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello.

One Director General, one Director of Culture, one Director of Institute of

Continuing Education and 13 District Superintendents took the oath.

"As public officials, you will for the first time in your history exercise administrative authority to manage the education affairs of East Timor," Mr. Vieira de Mello said in a speech to the civil servants.

"I ask that you handle this authority with transparency and accountability, always conscious of the need to uphold the law. As civil servants, your responsibility will be to the state, to serve the government of the day."

The East Timorese Cabinet Member for Social Affairs, Father Filomeno Jacob, called the appointments "a stepping stone in the Timorization process of the Transitional Administration."

As of 9 May, the Division has recruited 32 East Timorese at managerial levels out of 47 positions and has hired more than 5,300 East Timorese civil servants.

The Civil Service and Public Employment Office (CISPE) has so far recruited more than 8,000 East Timorese civil servants, which represents almost 80 per cent of the staffing level approved by the National Council for the current fiscal year.

New Appointed Public Service Commission Members

On 25 May, four high profile East Timorese were appointed new members of the Public Service Commission for the East Timor Transitional Administration (ETTA) in a ceremony conducted by Acting SRSG, Mr. Jean Cady. Ruben Braz Carvalho -- Dili District Administrator, Carmen da Cruz -- Radio UNTAET Broadcaster, José Teixeira -- Head of Investment Unit and Cesar Vital Moreira became part of the body that will ensure "the creation of a public service that is competent and transparent for the people of East Timor", said Mr. Cady. The Public Service has grown since its inception to a total of 8,000 public servants and it is expected that it will reach full capacity -- 10,500 -- for the new fiscal year.

Office of National Security Advisor Created

A new Position of National Security Advisor has been created in the East Timor Transitional Administration (ETTA). The position is in part the outcome of the King's College Study on Security Force Options for East Timor, conducted in July 2000. This study was led by Nici Dahrendorf, who took up the position as National Security Advisor on 23 April 2001.

The functions of the National Security Advisor are to assist the political leadership of UNTAET and ETTA in developing a strategy and formulating policies to deal with internal and external developments that may have security implications.

The office will be responsible for the collation, analysis and coordination of information and the establishment of good communication systems amongst the security agencies, both at the national and district level and between the security agencies and the leadership of UNTAET and ETTA.

The National Security Advisor will also convene meetings of the National Security Council (made up of senior UNTAET and ETTA staff) manage its sec-

retariat, as well as assist and advise the Office of Defence Force Development.

Report Into Human Resources Needed in East Timor

This is crucial in the Timorization process," SRSG Sergio Vieira de Mello said during the launch of the East Timor Human Resources Survey final report in early May. The Survey was conducted to gather information on the qualifications, occupations, languages, and training needs of the people of East Timor. It was conducted in each of East Timor's 13 districts from May through December 2000 targeting over 56,000 East Timorese people aged 17 and above. The East Timor Development Agency (ETDA) conducted the Survey with the objective of increasing East Timorese participation in the development of East Timor. "This report will help employers, District Heads and various Government departments to plan for staff and training requirements and respond better to the needs of the people of East Timor", said Ms Noronha-Melo, Director of ETDA.



National Council Approves Arms Purchase

On 4 May, the National Council unanimously approved a supplementary appropriation of US\$2.3 million to buy weapons for the East Timor Defence Force and Police Service.

The proposal is to buy 1,200 M16 rifles and other light machine guns for the East Timor Defence Force, 750 pistols for the East Timor Police Service - one per police officer - and equipment for the East Timor Police Service's Rapid Response Unit.

Cabinet Member for Finance Michael Francino presented the draft regulation after Brigadier-General Taur Matan Ruak appeared before the Standing Committee on Budget and Finance to express his support for the arms purchase.

Department of Justice

Third Crimes Against Humanity Indictment Filed

An indictment against militia members Anastasio Martins and Domingos Gonçalves, containing charges of Crimes Against Humanity, was filed by ETTA's Prosecutor General on 3 May.

The crimes were allegedly committed in Liquiça District as part of the orches-

ETTAnews

East Timor Transitional Administration

Photo by OCPH/UNTAET



Ruben Braz Carvalho, Carmen da Cruz and Jose Teixeira at their swearing-in as member of ETTA's Public Service Commission on 25 June 2001.

trated campaign of violence surrounding the 1999 popular consultation, incited by members of the Indonesian Army (TNI) and the pro-autonomy militia group Besi Merah Putih (Red White Iron).

Anastasio Martins is suspected of killing three individuals in Metagou, Liquiça District, on 4 September 1999 and of murdering one individual in Atapupu, West Timor, on 14 September 1999. Domingos Gonçalves is suspected of the murder of three individuals in Buka Mera on 7 September 1999.

Martins and Gonçalves, currently in detention in Dili prison, are also accused of deporting civilians from Buka Mera and Legumea villages in East Timor to West Timor between 5 and 11 September 1999.

Training Starts For Women Political Candidates

Training started on 1 May of 169 potential East Timorese women candidates for the Constituent Assembly in political participation, decision making and basic knowledge on becoming a candidate in the 30 August elections.

The training follows SRSRG Sergio Vieira de Mello's announcement of measures to encourage women's participation in the elections, in connection with the signing of the regulation on elections and registration of political parties on 16 March.

The training is arranged by UNTAET's Gender Affairs Unit in conjunction with the United Nations Fund for Women (UNIFEM), who supplied three trainers. Organizations throughout East Timor have been asked to help in identifying women who may be interested in running either as independent or political party candidates. The women participating in the workshops come from all 13 districts and represent a large variety of organizations. Those who finally decide to run for the elections will receive additional training in the coming months.

Department of Economic Affairs

Fishery Project Launched

ETTA's Division of Agricultural Affairs in conjunction with the NGO Timor Aid

has launched a fishery project in the waters near Dili. Fish-aggregating devices - long series of floats and suspension lines with palm leaves attached, to serve as breeding and feeding areas for fishes - are being lowered in the waters outside Atauro Island and Hera, helping fishermen catch larger quantities of fish.

The material has been donated by the Australian aid agency AusAID. In addition, 72 containers of fishery tools, such as

nets, boat engines, hooks, sinkers and storage containers arrived in East Timor in late April. The Division will now deliver the tools, donated by the Chinese Government, to fishermen in the country.

Increased Efforts to Clean Up Rubbish

ETTA's Division of Energy, Water and Sanitation and the World Bank, through its Trust Fund for East Timor, are stepping up

efforts to rid Dili of rubbish.

Companies that have registered with the Transitional Administration's Business Registration Unit and that can supply trucks, staff and tools for rubbish collection will be considered in the tender process. The deadline to submit the forms was 30 April, and a dozen companies have registered their interest.

The contract is for three months and is expected to start by June. The work includes collecting rubbish, cleaning drainage and transporting the garbage to the dumpsite in Tibar outside Dili.

Two local companies have been cleaning rubbish in the central area of Dili for the past months, using two trucks supplied by UNDP.

Division of Health

Senior Health Staff Sworn-In

The first 19 East Timorese Senior Civil Servants of the Division of Health of the East Timor Transitional Administration were sworn-in on 7 June by Transitional Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello. Rui Maria de Araújo was sworn-in as head of the Division of Health Services of ETTA and Rui Paulo de Jesus as Deputy Head. This is the second largest swearing-in ceremony of senior staff within ETTA departments this year, after the Education Division ceremony in May.

RECYCLING IN EAST TIMOR

Aluminium Cans & Plastic H2O Bottles are now being collected by East Timor Metal Recycling (ETMR) and shipped to Darwin and Indonesia (respectively) for recycling. ETMR can collect from any location within Dili, Aileu or Liquiça. Phone 0407 023 833 and talk to Fatima to arrange collection. Alternatively you can deliver your recyclables to ETMR in Audian, Dili near Dili market.

Aluminium collected by ETMR • You receive 1000 Rp per kilo Aluminium delivered to ETMR • You receive 2000 Rp per kilo
No payment for Plastic Bottles

UNTAET and ETTA staff

Bring your aluminium cans and plastic water bottles to the containers behind Building 1, GPA in Dili (just inside the main gate) for recycling.

Further enquiries

Ring the Environmental Protection Unit (x5707) or contact the Environmental Focal Point in your district.

Why recycle?

Packaging increases the amount of waste that goes to landfill. In East Timor this is a big problem because there are not enough resources to collect all of the waste and therefore much waste is burned (increasing health problems) or dumped illegally. By recycling aluminium and plastic water bottles you also decrease the amount of natural resources being used in their production.

What else can you do to decrease waste and protect the environment?

- Feed your food waste to the animals
- Food waste that animals don't eat and garden waste can be composted and used for your garden
- Buy products without packaging, don't use or use less plastic bags when you shop
- Establish a communal waste facility so that waste can be more easily transported to the nearest tip

PKF - How can you protect the environment and build relationships in your local community?

1. Establish aluminium recycling in your barracks
2. Identify a local or international NGO who travel to Dili on a regular basis
3. Give them your aluminium cans so they can bring them to Dili and receive money for them

Local and International NGOs - How can you protect the environment and increase funds for your projects?

1. Make contact with your local PKF barracks
2. Encourage them to establish aluminium recycling
3. Arrange to collect their aluminium cans and bring them to Dili whenever you have an empty truck going there!
4. Take the cans to ETMR and receive 2000Rp per kilo!

		Dili Market
East Timor Metal Recycling		Telstra

Home and Away: destination Timor Lorosa'e

Everything happened so fast. In only a brief few days, after a year working as a journalist in South Africa, I found myself thousands of kilometers away from there and from my home in neighboring Zambia. I had arrived in East Timor, and there was no turning back now. As the UN flight touched down at Dili's Comoro International airport, anxiety and excitement crowded my emotions. Questions raced through my mind:

Do the East Timorese like foreigners? How will they perceive me? Will I fit easily into this culture? Is it a violent society?

I first applied for a UN mission over a year ago. But identifying the right posting was a challenge. I was turned down for this and that assignment -- six in all -- with different reasons each time. Highest among them was the fact that I was not yet 25.

I initially wanted to go to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, but after I was told there were no vacancies in my area of specialization, I had no idea where or when I'd get a posting. Finally after eight months, I received the call to serve in East Timor. I was thrilled, but then the real shock set in -- they wanted me there immediately!

I wouldn't even have time to go home to Zambia to bid farewell to my family. Following medical examinations and interviews with the UNDP office in Pretoria, I had just two days to pack my bags, move from my flat and wind up my work. After having waited so long for a UN assignment, I found it bizarre to be so hurried; but maybe in the end my fast-paced exit made the transition psychologically easier.

Nonetheless, there was nothing easy about those first moments in East Timor. As a journalist, I make a practice of following international news, and from what I knew about East Timor, it seemed to be a truly frightening place. News coverage has

mainly focused on the violence perpetrated by a few groups opposed to change and the masses of refugees who have suffered with the aftermath. I pictured the militia with machetes, and hordes of traumatized people and malnourished children begging for food. My fears were based not just on the news, but on what I had heard and seen in countries exposed to political turmoil.

Unfortunately, as my colleagues in the media will surely agree, bad news tends to be good news for journalists around the world. We seek out the trouble spots and the centers of power because we believe that when things go wrong, getting at the facts and telling the real story will cause people to react and make changes for the better.

Before joining the UN, I reported on political conflicts and epidemics in Africa, and the experience sparked a desire in me to serve in a post-conflict region. I grew up in a home strongly guided by Christian principles, and the impulse comes naturally for me to do humanitarian work and serve people more disadvantaged than myself. Working for the UN presented an opportunity to pursue my interest in journalism while bringing help to people who need it. So after a short phone call and a long plane flight, the time for me to serve in my little way had come.

But now I found I had a new hurdle to overcome - how to find my way in a culture with a language and customs so different from my own. I knew it was my intention to help people, but would they help me as well? In many countries, foreigners are perceived as a threat, opportunists who take from society but give nothing back. I have seen firsthand the brutal treatment of foreigners who have found themselves in the wrong place at the wrong time - in one case, it was actually police officers who were the attackers. I hoped that in East Timor things would be different.

In a world where race, culture and territorial borders isolate people less and less, it is important to comprehend the intentions and aspirations of foreigners posted to a foreign country. I want my Timorese friends to understand why a person like

me would leave his or her homeland to live and work in a foreign land.

So why did I come to East Timor? I gave one answer to a group of young boys hanging out near the entrance to my temporary home on the Amos W. barge: "It's to serve you. I want to help you rebuild your country by sharing my experiences with you. That's is why I am called a volunteer. I also want to learn about you."

It was the best explanation I could give to 12-year-olds. I would have been happy to continue, but how could I explain principles of democracy, human rights or even the constituent assembly to these young people? In return, the boys welcomed me with a Tais cloth, and they always greet me with "jambo," which means hello in Kiswahili, a language spoken in East Africa. They had learned the word from another African working in East Timor, and were eager to try it out on me.

Overall, the few weeks that I have been here have been enchanting! I have overcome most of my fears, and, of course, I've seen no machetes, at least wielded in my direction. I see smiling people around me all the time, and I pray that this continues. The number of children on the streets is just a fraction of what one might see in Africa, India or parts of South America. And some cultural and religious activities practiced by Timorese women are not so strange after all. The large Tais, for instance, reminds me of a piece of clothing called Chitenge that is found in my own country. It is a cultural symbol for us, worn around the waist to cover the woman's lower body as a sign of respect to the male folk.

Now that I am more accustomed to life in East Timor, I find the real challenge is the feeling of being far from home. It's a feeling shared by many internationals posted here. Some have left children and spouses behind. Some have had businesses fail in their absence. Others of us have foregone personal relationships, or have missed funerals of close family members - not because we wanted to but because we have a commitment to our work here. At times, it is not an easy life.

I was amazed to discover the loneliness of many of my colleagues here, how much they miss family and friends back home. Perhaps this loneliness explains the urge to socialize and make new friends.

Of course, this longing for home is familiar to some local UN staff as well. When violence erupted in Dili in 1999, Madalena Felipe Alves, a Timorese radio and television broadcaster with UNAMET, was evacuated to Australia with her fiancé, Nuno Alves. As she recalls, Madalena spent several desperate days before hearing any news of her parents. Soon after, the couple were invited to Sydney by their brothers and sisters, who had already organized a wedding ceremony for them. "As happy as our wedding ceremony was, it was tinged with sadness because our parents could not be present," Madalena says about her marriage.

But for all the difficulties, I feel the time spent here is worth it. Being on a UN mission with over 10,000 internationals from around the world and rubbing elbows with more than 700,000 Timor nationals is a tremendous opportunity for new experience. I would expect some cultural clashes to be inevitable, but with a basic understanding of UNTAET's role here, it seems that most people in East Timor today are getting along nicely and even appreciating their cultural differences.

I am particularly excited to be here during this rebuilding process, and although it is a process that requires patience and perseverance, progress is everywhere in evidence. And with the upcoming elections in August, the Timorese people will have the chance to participate in the democratic process that will lead to independence. It is a process I have witnessed in my own country and in South Africa, and I am pleased to be here and to help in my small way, as the Timorese rebuild their society. And I try to remember the words of my mother, whom I sometimes miss to the point of tears: Everybody in life is disadvantaged in one way or another-it is just the degree of need that differs. >



Photo by OCP/UNTAET

The future of the nation asking the right questions at a mock Press Briefing and Sergio de Mello reading the news -- all part of OCP's Open House events in which the public got to experience, hands-on, the work undertaken by OCP's Radio UNTAET, TVTL, Publications, Press Office and Media Development Units.

International Voices

Why did you come to East Timor?



MICHELE BRANDT
Gender Affairs Officer

It was while working for the International League for Human Rights in New York that I developed keen interest in East Timor's independence struggle. Having worked in Cambodia earlier, I knew all about the sufferings of people in conflict situations. When more and more harrowing tales of human rights violations began pouring in from East Timor, I desperately wanted to do something to help the people.

I arrived in Dili in November 1999, just a few weeks after the horror that followed the popular consultation. Tell-tale signs of rampant destruction were visible everywhere. It was heart-breaking. You felt the trauma. You felt real commitment to get the country back on its feet. Initially I lived for a month in the "Tent City" which now houses the office of the National Council.

My first assignment was to help establish an independent judiciary. Those days we used to hold meetings on the floor, we did not even have chairs. Conflicts particularly impact women. They are at the receiving end of poverty and gender-based violence.

My family doesn't necessarily understand why I am here. It is not easy to be far away from one's family. My grandfather died in January this year. He was very fond of me. I could not even attend his funeral. But I am incredibly grateful to have got a chance to be part of East Timor's renaissance.

When I eventually pack my bags for another destination I would like to leave behind me a country better equipped to undertake nation-building, with better access to resources and improved skills amongst its people.



SANDRA MARINKOVIC
Assistant to the Chief, UNV Support

"I wanted to be part of the team that is working to steer East Timor to total independence. My country, Croatia, has just undergone a similar transition period, which opened up my mind to the importance of elections and democracy. It's more of a learning process for me as well. This particular mission is different because it is the first in the history of the United Nations with the biggest number of volunteers leading a very basic life. I gave up a permanent job to come and work here. Most difficult is the fact that I am a single mother with a 12-year-old son who

is now with my parents. I would love to be at home with him especially now that he is growing into a teenager. But when I leave, I will be satisfied to have contributed to teaching the Timorese staff different skills, through the interaction with the many internationals that we (UNV Support office) recruit."



Dr. ZAID ABDUL WAHAB
Medical Doctor

For many years I have trained and worked with people and for people. I worked in Jordan, Russia and the United Arab Emirates as a medical doctor. I came to East Timor last November to continue my contribution in helping people with health problems. My experience as a researcher with the World Health Organization also opened my mind to the different medical problems faced by people. It has been easy for me to travel and work away from home because that is what my profession requires, it's about helping people and you cannot choose whom to help. The community I am staying with is appreciative of my presence because I help people with minor problems that do not require them to go to the clinic. I have enjoyed working at community level, especially in the districts because they are so calm, generous, and eager to learn. There is still need for training and I hope that by the time I leave, there will be proper medical learning facilities to train professional medical staff. I want to leave behind a health-conscious society.



THERESA KAMBOVE
Gender Affairs Unit

I am a mother of five children. I have left them behind. There are times I really feel that I must go back to Zambia where I come from, but I also feel that this is a very rewarding experience for me to be in East Timor. I am a UN volunteer and I am very satisfied with my work.

I came to East Timor in 1999 to work as District Electoral Officer in Baucau. After the consultation process I wanted to continue to work here especially for advancing the cause of Timorese women. Gender issues are very important for everybody to get involved.

I am happy to share my experiences and expertise with my fellow Timorese and that will be what I will leave behind. And I will take a lot of good memories with me too.



TRINA SUPIT
Education Officer

Balibo, Santa Cruz, Liquica, Suai: . . . these were names I knew before I arrived in Dili, in January 2000. I had taken part in the September 1999 demonstrations in Sydney against the reign of terror in East Timor. My father had fought in these parts during the Second World War. So, when an AusAID email requesting expressions of interest from professionals to support the reestablishment of the East Timor infrastructure appeared on my computer screen at work, I applied. Four months later I was in Dili with

the blessings of my family for what I thought was a six-month stint.

I have been privileged to participate in the reestablishment of the future Department of Education of East Timor. Working in collaboration with my East Timorese and international colleagues I organised the national primary teacher recruitment test and the provision of 1.7 million textbooks for students and teachers. More recent tasks have included the coordination of the national pilot tests in Math and Science for Grades 3 and 5 as well as work in the policy area.

I live with an East Timorese family. The warm family atmosphere and daily interactions are a comfort, but also a constant reminder of what I miss, particularly after hours and on weekends. Having my husband here for extended periods of time has eased the loneliness somewhat.

I know that when I depart, East Timorese education officers will be well able to take over the tasks I have performed. I will want to feel that I have made a small contribution to the improvement of learning outcomes for the children of this country. >

Sports Timor

Voz Esperança Cup 2001

Zeca Amancio, 26, is busy these days. In the mornings, he works local security for the SRS6. And now that the Vos Esperança Cup 2001 is on, afternoons are for playing football. This year's National Football Competition started 10 May, with 10 teams participating: Vos Esperança (Radio Falintil), Cacusan Becora, Rusa Fuik, Estrela Branca, Dom Maululu, Sporting Lorosae, Café Ermera, Cavolo Fronteira, Ribeira Maloa, and Porto Taibessi.

The results so far

Vos Esperança vs. Cacusan Becora	2-3
Rusa Fuik vs. Dom Maululu	5-1
Porto Taibessi vs. Café Ermera	2-0
Vos Esperança vs. Ribeira Maloa	3-2
Cavalo Fronteira vs. Sporting Lorosae	0-1
Rusa Fuik vs. Vos Esperança	4-1
Porto Taibessi vs. Sporting Lorosae	2-2
Cacusan Becora vs. Ribeira Maloa	2-0
Vos Esperança vs. Dom Maululu	2-1
Cavalo Fronteira vs. Café Ermera	2-0
Porto Taibessi vs. Dom Maululu	7-1
Café vs. Estrela Branca	2-0
Dom Maululu vs. Cavalo Fronteira	1-2

Matches are held every Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the Dili Sports Stadium at 4 p.m. The games have been drawing big crowds, with many fans coming from the districts to watch their teams. Amancio, who plays for Porto Taibessi, is one of the more popular players in the country. He is a seasoned athlete who played for sev-

eral years in Indonesia's National Football League while a university student in Jakarta. He says he looks forward to seeing the outcome of the games this year. Last year, the competition was called off as a result of violent incidents arising from the games. If all goes well for the Vos Esperança Cup 2001, it will mean a lot not only for Amancio, but also for the new democracy of East Timor.

Cycling

Ita boot...bele. Two local cyclists have debuted in the international cycling scene. Jorge Pereira (an employee of Jape Enterprises in Dili) and Johnny Maudobe, a high school student in Dili, left for a racing and training trip in Australia's Northern Territory. Riding on borrowed bikes, the two Timorese racers went through intensive training with UN international staff Skip Thompson and Martin Hardie. In May, they participated in the Arafura Games. They also entered the Top End Tour, a major race on the Australian National Race Calendar and a breeding ground for many young riders who now race professionally with major European Tours (such as the winner of the final stage of the 1999 Tour de France, Robbie McEwen). The team is looking to build a cycling club in Dili and a cycling federation in East Timor. According to UNTAET's Mr. Hardie, steps are also underway for the Cycling Federation of East Timor to join the UCI (Union Cycliste Internationale). >

News Briefs News Briefs News Briefs News Briefs

UNTAET and UNDP Sign Election Assistance Programme

A project document for the United Nations Development Programme's assistance to the Constituent Assembly Elections worth US\$ 400,000 was signed on 10 May between Transitional Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello and the UNDP Representative in East Timor, Finn Reske-Nielsen.

The overall budget for the project amounts to almost US\$4 million. It is intended to support the country's nation-building and statehood process through electoral observation coordination, voter- and civic-education programmes, and promotion of public participation in the constitutional debate.

"Integral to this initiative is training," Mr. Reske-Nielsen said at the signing. "Throughout the project period, core staff, including a number of experts, will provide financial and training support to 234 East Timorese participating in the electoral process."

Mr. Vieira de Mello urgently appealed to all political parties to approve and sign a pact of national unity in the electoral phase. "It is time for political parties to challenge each other with ideas and not with machetes," he said.

Attending the signing ceremony were Chief Electoral Officer Carlos Valenzuela, representatives from various political parties, the donor community and the diplomatic corps, among others.

Russian Ambassador to East Timor

On 7 May, Vladimir Plotnikov, Russian Ambassador to Indonesia, presented his credentials to Transitional Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello. Mr. Plotnikov will represent the Russian Federation from the Embassy in Jakarta.

There are currently 14 diplomatic representative missions in East Timor. Two countries, including Russia, are being represented from Jakarta.

CivPol Takes Over Bodyguard Duties

On 1 May, United Nations Civilian Police took over from the Brazilian

Military Police the duties of Close Protection in East Timor, including the bodyguard unit of CNRT President Xanana Gusmão.

In related news, 200 police cadets, 50 of them former police officers under the Indonesian administration, started classes at the Police College in Dili. They will attend training on human rights, investigations and self-defence, among other things.

Transitional Administrator Meets With Political Parties

Transitional Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello met on 4 May with the heads of all political parties to discuss political participation of women in the 30 August elections.

Mr. Vieira de Mello stressed the importance of women's representation in the Constituent Assembly and appealed to parties to put female candidates in winnable positions. He also announced that the training for potential women candidates would be extended to 260 individuals, to include all applicants. The training started on 1 May.

Registration of political parties and independent candidates who wish to run in the elections started on 7 May. Political parties now have all the necessary information to complete their lists of national and district candidate nominations.

The Chief Electoral Officer emphasized the need for party leaders to relay all the information to their district representatives and to encourage them to contact the Electoral Coordinator within their districts. The Independent Electoral Commission decided to focus the next meeting on the relationship between the civil registration process and the electoral process, as parties have expressed concern on the subject.

Forty Seven Per Cent of Destroyed Homes Rehabilitated

A poverty study carried out by ETTA's National Planning and Development Agency shows that more than 67,000 homes in East Timor were made unlivable during the 1999 violence. Of those, 47 per cent have since been rehabilitated.

The report also reveals that only 20

per cent of the country's 2,329 aldeias (villages) have electricity, which is ten per cent lower than before 1999. Ninety-eight per cent of East Timor's 498 sucos (neighborhoods) reported that its households had benefited from food distribution since August 1999 and 63 per cent had received shelter kits. The National Polio Immunization Campaign covered 90 per cent of the villages.

Over 236,000 students attend the more than 900 schools that are currently operating, according to the report. It also shows that East Timor has 210 functioning health facilities, eight of them hospitals.

The Agency is collecting extensive data with a view toward long-term planning to increase the quality of assistance for the country's poorest families.

The project is implemented in partnership with the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and UNDP.

Agreement Signed on Oecussi Ferry

An agreement was signed on 4 May between UNTAET and the Australian shipping company Haritos East Timor Shipping on the operation of a weekly ferry service between the Oecussi enclave and Dili, a 12-hour sea journey. The new, improved service started on 21 May.

For the past ten months, there has been limited service for 50 passengers per week aboard a cargo ship. The new arrangement offers regularly scheduled trips aboard the same vessel, which now takes 150 passengers and provides more comfortable travel. Improvements to the ship include a covered area with seats, toilets, showers and a kiosk.

The Portuguese Government has donated US\$200,000 to subsidize ticket prices, and US\$175,000 from UNTAET's budget will go toward construction of port terminal facilities in Oecussi and Dili and the modifications and improvements to the vessel.

Press Freedom Day Observed

Transitional Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello joined the World Press Freedom Day celebrations on 3 May by attending the inauguration in Dili of the new offices of a local magazine, Talitakum. Representatives from the diplomatic corps, the East Timor Defence Force, the East Timor Police Academy, various NGOs and journalists attended the ceremony.

In a speech, Mr. Vieira de Mello asked all journalists in East Timor to adhere to the highest standards of professional integrity, to refrain from hate-mongering and not to be biased in their news coverage.

"I would like to appeal to the Timorese journalists to help us prepare for the forthcoming elections in a spirit of democracy and tolerance," Mr. Vieira de Mello said.

"You have a crucial role to play. You must ensure that information of high quality is available to the public, in order to create awareness among the population and help them develop their own critical judgement."

Currently, two daily newspapers and about ten magazines are being published in East Timor. Aside from Radio UNTAET, there are three radio stations broadcasting in Dili and four community radio stations operating in the districts.



Photo by OCP/UNTAET

Community Police and Justice Conference

Freedom House, a US NGO in Dili that receives funding from USAID, organized a four-day conference in Laleia, a sub-district of Manatuto district, from April 25-29. The conference focused on the subject of community police and justice.

Participants included more than 160 people from Laleia's three villages of Cairui, Haturalan and Lifau. They discussed issues such as the role of police in their villages, the legal status of the village chiefs, traditional and systemic justice, and domestic violence and the police. During a town-hall type of meeting, participants were given ample opportunity to ask questions of guest speakers. Among the speakers were Paulo Martins, Director of the East Timor Police Training College, East Timor Police Service (TLPs); officers of the Vulnerable Persons Unit of CivPol; and representatives of East Timor Women's Organization (OMT) and East Timor Jurists Association.

Freedom House received support from the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Philippine Battalion.

UN Volunteers Beef Up Electoral Department

In late May, 122 United Nations Volunteers - 76 men and 46 women - arrived in East Timor from 45 countries to join the Independent Electoral Commission as District Electoral Officers.

Before arriving in East Timor, District Electoral Officers attended a five-day briefing in Darwin starting 17 May. The briefing, led by Chief Electoral Officer Carlos Valenzuela and Kevin Gilroy, Chief of the UNV Support Unit, focused on principles of election administration and electoral regulation, as well as the organization plan for the 30 August elections.

The District Electoral Officers will be assigned to district offices, from which they will be deployed to each of East Timor's 65 subdistricts. At each locale, the officers will be responsible for the preparation, organization and conduct of polling. They will also disseminate voter education and information and oversee recruitment and training of East Timorese polling staff.

The District Electoral Officers have a minimum of three years practical experience in development fieldwork, and many have a working knowledge of Portuguese, Bahasa Indonesia or Tetum. >



Photo by OCP/UNTAET

Televisaun Timor Lorosa'e

BBC, Metro Sports, TVTL Nightly News, Indonesian News, RTP News, News Features and Wrap ups, Cartoons, Current Affairs, Education Sitcom, Talk Show, CulturePogram, Special Reports, Children Programming, Documentaries, MTV, Soccer.

See Schedule in 12-25 March Issue of Tais Timor.

District News District News District News



Photo by OCP/UNTAET

Maliana

MARKING WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY

Shortly before the 1999 referendum, a group of students from Maliana got together and produced Kudu Ulun Lian (Voice of the Horse's Head), an alternative to the official newspaper, Suara Timur Timur. Around a hundred copies of Kudu Ulun Lian were subsequently distributed in the subdistricts of Kailaco, Maliana and Lolotoe. The students knew they were risking their lives, and one of them, Augusto Martins, was murdered on his way back from delivering copies of the publication to Lolotoe subdistrict.

This same group of students was part of the organizing commission formed to celebrate the 1st World Freedom Day in the Independent East Timor in Bobonaro District. The day started with acting District Administrator Stephen Lukudu asking for a moment of silence in memory of all journalists who lost their lives in the line of duty. Maliana's young people offered dozens of wreaths, flowers and candles in memory of Augusto Martins, as well as all the journalists who lost or risked their lives during the 24 years of Indonesian occupation.

NEW WOMEN'S COOPERATIVE

Mulheres Timorenses (Timorese Women) officially opened their cooperative on 2 May at the Maliana market. They plan to start activities immediately with sewing-weaving courses.

The cooperative will promote the products on local markets in East Timor and the members will then invest the income in support of other activities like developing their rice fields.

The September 1999 rampage put many women in a very vulnerable position as widows and they have organized themselves into the Mulheres Timorenses in Maliana.

THE BEST RICE CROPS IN THE LAST TWO YEARS

Rice harvesting has started in Bobonaro and it is projected that over 3,500 Mt of rice would be available from the crop, the best yield in the last two years.

Bobonaro is one of the largest rice and maize producing districts of East Timor. As per 1997 statistics, 22 per cent of the total food grain production was from this district. The World Bank will soon open a Pilot Agriculture Services Center here, from which farmers will be able to get professional input at a reasonable price.

Manufahi

DIRECT DIALOGUE WITH THE VOTERS

Voter educators may know the right answers, but do they know the right questions? Direct dialogue with the voters aims at finding out what the right questions are.

As a part of the Voter Education Campaign in Manufahi District, Electoral Officers are carrying out a direct dialogue with the potential voters in the villages. This direct dialogue about the forthcoming elections has become an integral part of the democratic process in East Timor. The session starts with a videotape of a TVTL news presentation, which includes developments in Civil Registration and the electoral process. Afterwards, the international officers explain the meaning of the forthcoming elections. During the open sessions, potential voters pose questions to the Electoral Officers such as:

- In 1975 there were three political parties and they each provoked violence. What will happen now that there are many more political parties?
- What will happen if any party resorts to intimidation?
- Can any party have its own Security Department?
- Who will choose the president of East Timor?
- How will UNTAET support the political parties logistically during the electoral process?

Electoral Officers explained that during the coming election, the UN Transitional Administration will guarantee a peaceful environment in the territory, and there would be no repetition of the violence that erupted in 1975. They also explained that UNTAET is taking every measure to encourage all political parties to participate fully and fairly in the August 30 election.

Cooperation of the Suco Chiefs is a very important factor in the success of these meetings. Electoral Commission and Public Information Officers coordinate with local leaders to make sure that all villages are covered, even the isolated ones. About 100 to 250 persons have attended every session, roughly 80 per cent of them men. There have been 15 such sessions in the first month of the campaign.

In the Turisca subdistrict, where 90 per cent of the total population has already registered, a meeting was also held with the local leaders, including the Priest of Paroquia Nossa Senhora de Fatima.

Covalima

COUNTRYSIDE LIVENS UP WITH CIVIL REGISTRATION

Civil Registration sites have become community-gathering points in the slower-paced countryside. Adults and children alike seem mesmerized by the sight of all the computers and digital cameras. They sit and watch the same civic-education VCD over and over, and registrants stare into the camera without flinching. Registration officers work ceaselessly, knowing eager ID-card seekers are observing their every move as they race against time to beat the 20 June deadline. Not only are local community leaders working with Civil Registration offi-

cers to bring people in when the registration team comes to their area, but some of them have also been hired as Language Assistants by UNTAET.

At the UNTAET compound, Civil Registration has also become a spectacle. In the only UNTAET office in Covalima where smoking is allowed, a steady stream of registration observers enters the smoke-filled chamber for progress reports. Military Observers, Civpol, district administration staff and PKF all come for the latest updates, and perhaps for a smoke or just to observe the furious work of the Civil Registration staff. Resembling the trading floor of a stock exchange, the Civil Registration office is in a continuous state of frenzy, with updates and analysis of registration sites, tallies of registrants each day and car deployment details keeping the white board very busy.

Ainaro

SPORTS DAYS IN AINARO

Every afternoon last month, a crowd of several hundred people assembled around the playing fields in the center of Ainaro for the match of the day. Over 30 teams from Ainaro and surrounding villages competed in football, basketball and volleyball, with the last two events divided into male and female leagues. The crowd was very enthusiastic, especially when watching football. They cheered wildly as Adelino Agapito, a member of the national team, led his side to victory.

Sports Days of Ainaro was organized by Youth Group Ramelau and Centre Comunidade Ainaro (CCA), with modest financial support from the UNTAET District Administration. According to Valentin Spinola, Sports Days' initiator and co-organizer, the aim was to involve Ainaro youths in activities other than political ones. True, there was the risk of flaring tempers and unfortunate incidents, but as Civpol officer Chris Kilian stated, there was a conscious effort by the community to prevent such conflicts. Suco Chiefs and other community leaders were one in declaring the sports events a great exercise in community building.

The Sports Days proved to be a big success, and the organizers are thinking of follow-up events. If financial resources allow, there will be a similar event again in Ainaro in August.



Photo by OCP/UNTAET

Viqueque

MUSIC FOR PEACE, RECONCILIATION

Thirteen groups from the different sub-districts of Viqueque participated in the song contest organized by UNHCR in mid-May. About 200 people gathered in the Community House of Viqueque and cheered the music bands, whose songs revolved around the theme "Peace, Friendship and Reconciliation".

The group Lemorai from Uato Lari won the first prize with their song "Reconciliation" while the second place went to the group Civi Lori Tace from Viqueque, which sang "Hakmatek" ("The Way to Get Peace"). The third prize was bagged by Gritandu from Ossu, which sang "Tenke Hodi Dame" ("We Must Bring Peace"). "This contest is a part of the reconciliation process in Viqueque," said Manuel Guterres, member of the special jury.

Manatuto

NEW MARKET IN MANATUTO

The first market in Laclubar sub-district, Manatuto district, was officially opened by Abel dos Santos Fátima, the District Administrator of Manatuto, on 13 May.

The market project was funded by USAID with a total of \$US11,300 and implemented by the Laclubar Youth Organization. Markets are held every Thursday and Sunday with people from neighboring areas bringing goods to sell. >



Photo by OCP/UNTAET

Voices of Timor Lorosa'e

Have you registered?



Bernardino da Silva
Student
Loidaha
village/Liquica

We came to register after listening to the news on Radio UNTAET. It said to come to the registration center with our identification documents, such as a birth certificate and an Identification Card (KTP). If all these documents got burnt we can bring two witnesses with us instead. Civil registration is being done to elect persons to be posted in cabinet positions. Similar to the Indonesian elections, to choose members of the General Assembly (Majelis Permusyawaratan Rakyat).



Fernando Valentine Lay
Carpenter
Kampung
Leupan/Liquica

I am happy to hear that people want to know how the registration process is going in Liquica. If possible, it is necessary to increase the number of staff in charge of the registration, especially those people who go out to our villages to announce registration.



João Nesi
Logistics
Liquica

I hope that East Timorese will come together and avoid problems until the elections are over. I also would like to ask those responsible for the registration not to give preferential treatment to their family members. That is why I think registering in one's own village is more efficient.



Mario Dos Santos
Fishermen
RSS/Liquica

In my opinion, civil registration is a good opportunity that we can look forward to, so that we can choose whoever has the capacity to take seats in the Constituent Assembly of the future. A lot of us are expecting to register in the coming days. There is a lack of people to operate the computers. However, we will wait until we register, then we will return home to do our work.



Celestino João
Cleaner
Mau-Meta/Liquica

I am already registered. I have heard that children can also register but that priority will be given to adults for the elections. By the time we came to register, we had already heard on Radio or TV or read in the papers that we would have to bring with us documents such as a birth certificate, KTP, visa, or passport. And that if we did not have any documents we could bring two persons who had already successfully registered.



Abilio da Silva
Police Officer
Kampung
Kamalelaran
(Desa Dato)/Liquica

I haven't registered yet because in Liquica there is only one computer to take our photos. There are too many people registering, and we will wait until there are less people to go and register. I am not entirely sure why we have to register. For example in Indonesian times, those of us who were police were not required to vote. But that was before-now everyone has to register.



Teresa Alves Correia
Household
Cailo (Dato)/Liquica

I have been registered for a month and three weeks already. During Indonesian times we faced too many difficulties. They burnt our houses and that is why now I believe that East Timor is a much better place for me to live in.



Berta dos Santos
Vendor
Lauhata/Liquica

We from Lauhata haven't registered yet. We are still waiting for our children to be ready and for our village chief to tell us to go and register. We don't really know where to go to register because UNTAET officials in Liquica haven't clearly informed us in our village of what documents we need to take with us.



Rosita dos Santos
Vendor
Lauhata/Liquica

I haven't registered yet because, the Selkom and Nurep haven't told us to go and register yet. And they haven't told us what documents to bring with us; we have only heard about these on Radio UNTAET. We are supposed to take our birth certificate or KTP. In Lauhata we do not know when the registration starts or when it will finish.



Bibuti
Vendor
Lauhata/Liquica

I haven't registered yet and I haven't seen any posters about Civil Registration. I wonder if it is possible if before registration begins, the malaes can outline a plan on how we are supposed to register. They should copy the way it was done during Indonesian times.



Rosa Perreira
Household
Fatu-Hada/Dili

I am on my way to the registration centre. We were told that in order to register you must get a number beforehand. We are aware of the documentation we will have to take with us so that we can register. According to what I heard from friends and from the media, we have to take our birth certificates. I feel that the registration process was more efficient during Indonesian times.



Felizarda da Silva
Farmer
Bairo-Pite
(Hudi Laran)/Dili

I have registered already, but we came early in the morning and it wasn't until noon that they called our number to register. I was very hungry. I only took my KTP to register.



Justa Madeira
Student
Bairo-Pite (Hudi
Laran)/Dili

I am here at the registration site because I too want to register, but I can't because I am too young. I like what is happening because it is good for this nation, for which our brothers and sisters fought so much. I might be young still, but I ask everyone to come and register, so that they can vote for the Constituent Assembly that will build our new nation.



Terezinha de Jesus
Household
Kampung Baru/Dili

I have been here since morning, and it's already three o'clock and I still haven't registered because there are so many people waiting. I was given a card with a number. The registration process isn't much different from before. But this registration will be good, since we can decide who will sit together and make decisions for our nation.

Tiu on... Have you registered yet?

Hello, dear friends. I hope all's well with you. Have you registered yet? I hope so. Remember, the registration process ends on 20 June 2001. If you don't register by then, you won't be able to vote in the upcoming elections on 30 August 2001! I actually went to register myself the other day. Maria, her parents, Joaun and Ana, and I went together to the registration site in Kaikoli. Maria's parents were nervous because they didn't have documents to prove their identities. Anyway, this is what happened. Join us as we go register:

Maria: Tiu, good morning, I'm ready to go register. I'm so excited!

Tiu: And good morning to you, Maria. Where are your mother and father?

Maria: They're still getting dressed up because they know they will be photographed and receive ID cards with their pictures once they have registered.

Tiu: And how do you know that, my little one?

Maria: I've been following you around and listening to your conversations. So you better watch what you say, Tiu (ha-ha-ha)!

Tiu: I will remember that, Maria. Now what is taking your parents so long?

Maria: MOTHER, FATHER, we are all waiting!

Mother: Maria, stop rushing us.

Father: Mother, I cannot find Maria's birth certificate!

Maria: What? But Father, you told me you had it!

Tiu: Well, I guess Maria will not be able to register after all.

Maria: Oh no!

Father: Oh, what is this? I think it's Maria's birth certificate! You are so lucky you have a father who remembers these things (ha-ha-ha).

Maria: Father, don't do that to me. I really want to get registered, and I need that birth certificate.

Mother: Well Father should have been more careful with his own documents, and mine as well. We haven't got proof as to our identities!

Tiu: Don't worry. You'll still be able to register but you'll have to bring two witnesses.

Mother: Yes, we also heard that, on the radio, I think. Marta and Lidia are going to

meet us at the registration site, and Father has witnesses too.

Tiu: Very good. We're ready now, so let's grab a cab and get to the registration site before it closes.

(A few minutes later)

Maria: Tiu, there it is over there! Look at how many people are already in line.

Tiu: Driver, can you stop right over by that tree? Thank you!

Father: I hope we won't have to wait too long on line.

Mother: Oh, stop that. We will wait as long as we have to. We are doing this not just for ourselves but for our nation.

Father: Yeah, yeah, OK. We will wait as long as it takes. I know how important it is for all East Timorese to register themselves. I waited 25 long years for this opportunity, and there's no way, I will miss the chance now.

(Inside the registration site)

Tiu: Good morning, Pedro. Did you come to register as well?

Pedro: I just finished registering. Look at my card! Apparently, only people with this card will be able to vote in the 30 August elections, because it proves we have registered.

Tiu: Congratulations, Pedro. But let me line up, otherwise I'll never get my own card. Come on, Maria, you stand with me.

(Twenty minutes later)

Civil Registration Officer (CRO): Good Morning, Sir. How are you?

Tiu: I am well, thank you, and excited about doing this.

Tiu Language (LA): Can I measure your height before you sit down, Tiu?

Tiu: Of course.

CRO: And what kind of documents are you bringing with you?

Tiu: Well I have my KTP (Kartu Tanda Penduduk). I also have my birth certificate. It's a bit damaged because it's so old. Is it enough?

CRO: That's fine. Give us all the documents you have with you. [*The CRO looks at Tiu's documents...*] These are fine. This is just to help us verify that you are who you claim to be. It is also to help us gather your personal details like birthplace, date of birth and so on, more quickly. We must follow this procedure. It's the same for everyone - even wise old men like you.

Tiu: Old, yes - but I'm not sure about wise!

CRO: Are you married, Tiu?

Tiu: Oh, a long time ago. I'm a widower now.

CRO: And where do you live?

Tiu: In Taibessi, Dili.

CRO: Are you registering any children?

Tiu: No, my own children are already old enough to register by themselves.

CRO: OK, Tiu, please face the camera and smile. Right! That was easy enough. Just wait a little while longer. We'll issue you your card - it's proof that you have registered. It won't take too long.

Maria: Is it my turn now, Tiu?

Tiu: Wait, I still don't have my card.

CRO: Hold on, little one, how old are you?

Maria: I'm 14 years old, going on 15 in December.

CRO: Well then, I have bad news for you. You are not yet old enough to register by yourself. Your parents must register first, and then they will give you details to the Civil Registration Officer.

Maria: But will I get a card?

CRO: No, you will not be able to get your own card. You will be registered as part of your parents' application. Your name will only appear on the application. Don't be sad, you will be able to register for yourself in only two more years. Then you will be able to get your own card. Nonetheless, you are welcome to sit down here and watch how it goes with registering your parents, who are next in line.

Maria: Mother, sit here, you're next.

Mother: Wait Maria, don't rush me. This is a very special day for me.

LA: Can I take your height first? OK, please have a seat. May I see your documents?

Mother: I don't have any documents on me.

CRO: That's okay, you can still register. The procedure we follow for people in your circumstances is the following: you need either two witnesses or an affidavit of birth and a witness.

Mother: I heard about the affi...affi, that thing that you just mentioned. I got the two witnesses instead.

CRO: An affidavit is basically a document, a piece of paper, legally sworn, that can prove who you are. The applicant swears the affidavit in the presence of either a Suco Chief or a religious leader. This event must be witnessed by a person who knows the applicant. Then the applicant has to bring the affidavit and a witness to the registration site. You can use the same witness for the affidavit and registration. But the witness must already be registered with the Civil Registry. The affidavit can only be obtained by persons born in East Timor.

In your case you brought with you two

witnesses, right?

Mother: Yes, Marta and Lidia.

CRO: And are these two witnesses members of your own family?

Mother: They are my cousins.

LA: Blood cousins?

Mother: No, actually they are my good friends. We grew up together, and we just call each other cousins.

LA: Mr. CRO, they are just friends. You know how it is - everybody in East Timor is everyone else's cousin.

CRO: Oh yes, I am well aware of the extended family system. And do your witnesses have proof-of-registration cards?

LA: Yes, here they are.

CRO: Very good. I can see they had all their own documents when they came to register. Because it is our procedure that applicants who have registered themselves with the help of two witnesses cannot act as a witness for any other applicant. Okay, everything seems to be in order. You are obviously married.

Mother: Yes, my husband is registering next.

CRO: And where do you live?

Tiu: In Taibessi, Dili.

CRO: Are you registering any children?

Mother: Yes, this is my daughter next to me.

CRO: And what is her full name?

Mother: Maria Fatima Conceição da Costa Faria e Silva.

CRO: My, you have a very long name for someone so little! OK, Mrs. Silva, please face the camera and smile. Just wait a little while longer. It looks like your husband is next in line, and after he is finished registering, we'll issue your proof-of-registration cards.

(Ten minutes later)

CRO: OK Tiu, sir, ma'am. Here are your proof-of-registration cards. With these cards, those of you who are eligible will be able to take part in the voting for the Constituent Assembly on 30 August this year. Congratulations!

Well, dear friends, I realise registering requires us to find identification, which some of us do not have, and that sometimes it is hard to understand all these pieces of paper or witnesses that they ask us to bring, but let's think long-term. Registering will be extremely important in determining how we develop as part of this new nation. Until next time, be safe and don't forget - you only have until 20 June to register, and if you don't register, you cannot vote. Spread the word!

RADIO UNTAET

Nightly News in English, Tetun, Bahasa Indonesian, Portuguese.
Current Affairs, Music Program, Culture and Society Pogramme.
See Schedule in 12-25 March Issue of Tais Timor.

• 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)



Heroes hard at work fixing roads around Dili. Making sure we keep the number of road accidents to a minimum while trying to avoid those holes and also helping reduce repairing costs on our vehicles. Thumbs up for a job well done!

Heroes in Action!



Photo by OCP/UNTAET



Photo by OCP/UNTAET

East Timorese Youngster Wins Prize in UNEP Childrens Painting Competition

Eight-year-old Liliانا Yap dos Santos of Dili tied for fifth prize in the Tenth International Children's Painting Competition on the Environment. The competition is organized by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Foundation for Global Peace and Environment. This year the contest attracted more than 12,500 entries from 56 countries, with prize-winners being selected by leading Japanese graphic artists and illustrators.

The annual painting competition is open to children between 6- and 15-years of age. This year's theme was "Preserve the Beautiful Oceans, Skies and Forests for Future Generations."

In East Timor, more than 300 children participated in the competition. On January 11 this year, the Environmental Protection Unit (EPU) organized a painting afternoon at the Acait Bistro in Dili, which was attended by 250 children. Twenty entries were selected by EPU national staff and sent to Japan, where the winners were announced.

All winners received prizes related to the environment and ecology. Their paintings have been used for exhibitions, calendars, publications and posters. Entries are being stored at the National Museum of Ethnology in Osaka, Japan, and UNEP is developing an Internet site to display the winning paintings.

"Through the paintings, we realize that young people from all over the world have produced an inspiring collection of drawings to depict our global environment," said Klaus Topfer, UNEP's Executive Director. "I am pleased that so many children entered this competition. It confirms my conviction that young people are enthusiastically dedicated to their future - a future where Mother Earth is healthy and where people work together to solve environmental problems."



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: Jin 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)