

UNTAET, East Timor shape new cabinet and legislative body

The new cabinet of the Transitional Government in East Timor - comprising four East Timorese and four international staff - recently held its first two meetings, representing the first time in history that East Timorese leaders participated as equal partners in the governance of their country.

The first session followed the historic announcement and swearing in of East Timor's Transitional Cabinet on 15 July at UNTAET Headquarters. A range of organizational issues was discussed, including cabinet procedures, a code of conduct and frequency of meetings.

At the second meeting, the Cabinet agreed to appoint Mari Alkatiri, who is in charge of Economic Affairs, and Peter Galbraith, who is responsible for Political Affairs, to the Ministerial Council for the Zone of Cooperation in the Timor Gap.

"We can from now on provide to the Timorese population as well as to our international partners one single point of entry; one single focal point in each of the main sectors of public activity to the government of East Timor," Transitional Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello said after the ceremony.

The international cabinet members in addition to Mr. Galbraith are: Jean-Christian Cady, the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General who will be responsible for the portfolio of Police and Emergency Services; Judge Gita Honwana-Welch, who will oversee Justice, and Michael Francino, responsible for Finance.

Besides Mr. Alkatiri, the Timorese cabinet members are: Judge Ana Pessoa, in charge of Internal Administration; João Carrascalão, responsible for Infrastructure; and Father Filomeno Jacob, responsible for Social Affairs.

Mariano Lopes da Cruz was appointed Inspector-General for the Cabinet.

Meanwhile, the National Consultative Council (NCC) approved a regulation on the establishment of a National Council, its successor law-making body. Minor modifications were made to the draft regulation on the Council, including a name change from the National Legislative Council (NLC), to emphasize the consultative nature of the new body.

The current 15-member NCC will be dissolved at the first session of the National Council, which will comprise 33 East Timorese members from the political, religious and private sectors. The Transitional Administrator will have the final say in the approval of any draft regulation proposed to the cabinet by the NC.



Photos by OCPI-UNTAET

Saying Goodbye: Members of the Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment (above) at the memorial service for Pvt. Leonard William Manning, the first UN soldier to be killed in action in East Timor since the deployment of UN troops on 1 February.

CNRT President Xanana Gusmão (right), in a moving tribute, thanked Pvt. Manning and all those who died for helping the people of East Timor during "our liberation struggle and in our efforts to rebuild a new country with peace and democracy."



East Timor mourns slain UN peacekeeper

United Nations senior officials and East Timorese leaders turned out to pay tribute at a memorial service for a New Zealand peacekeeper killed in a recent clash with suspected militias.

"Thank you for helping us, Leonard," CNRT President Xanana Gusmão said in a moving funeral speech for Private Leonard William Manning, the first UN soldier to die in action in East Timor since the deployment of UN troops on 1 February. Pvt. Manning died on 24 July near Suai of gunshot wounds to the head and shoulders after an armed group fired at his five-man tracking team.

"We fought for 24 years, we died for this country, for this people," Mr. Gusmão told the packed congregation in Dili's Motael Church. Now, for the first time, "a peace-keeping soldier died for us."

As commander of a small guerrilla army, Mr. Gusmão recalled, the lesson he had learned was not to cry for the dead, but to honour them. "Thank you all who lost their lives here in East Timor," he said in tribute. "All of you will live forever in our history, in our liberation struggle and in our efforts to rebuild a new country with peace and democracy."

Transitional Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello emphasised that "there is no room within these walls for revenge - none whatsoever." The need was for justice, and he would demand the extradition of the murderers if they were found on the other side of the border.

The hope was that Pvt. Manning's death

would help achieve the aim "we are all here to achieve - banning violence from the lives of all Timorese," Mr. Vieira de Mello added.

Lt. Col. Dransfield, commander of the Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment, pledged that Pvt. Manning's killing would not deter the United Nations peacekeepers: "We owe it to Len not to walk away from East Timor." They would carry on with the work he and others had started. "You can be assured we will push on with renewed determination to succeed," he pledged, before New Zealand soldiers sang a lilting Maori hymn to the accompaniment of guitars.

According to a spokesperson for the UN Peacekeeping Force (UN-PKF), an armed group fired at Pvt. Manning's team from about 10 metres, forcing the peacekeepers to withdraw. Once the New Zealand group had reassembled, they noticed that Pvt. Manning was missing. His body was found near the location of the fire-fight.

Spokesperson Lt. Col. Brynjar Nymo said the assailants acted as if they had received some kind of military training.

Pvt. Manning's squad was following up on a report of nine armed individuals dressed in green fatigues wearing wool masks over their heads. The patrol had moved from south to north, following the suspected militia tracks.

Whether the group is pro-integrationist militia that crossed from West Timor, or a group that for some time has been operating within East Timor, was unclear, according to Lt. Col. Nymo.



CONSTITUTION AND INDEPENDENCE

Second in a series

What is a constitution? Textbooks say it is a country's highest law, with the greatest authority and power. This is not always so, however. Sometimes it is a mere piece of paper that everyone safely ignores. But when it is the result of real decisions and commitments, then constitutions are genuinely important.

Many people have the impression that a constitution is something you write, like an article in *Tais Timor*. If they know a lot about constitutions, they might also mention the British case as an interesting exception: an unwritten constitution. But the writing itself is not that important. If Britain has an unwritten constitution, that only means there is no separate piece of paper bearing the title "The Constitution of Britain." But Britain is committed to some basic principles of government, some of which are written down in law, and that is the British constitution. Whether something is written down on paper is not that important: a constitution is something you must decide. A decision and a commitment are key. You write it down simply to have a clear record of what you decided. But you do usually write it down. It is a document, a text written on paper.

Haitians have a saying that constitutions are paper, but bayonets are iron. In a conflict between the two, bayonets will win. So what good are constitutions? Not much, if they remain on paper, as many do. In such cases, they are not records of decisions and commitments, but are usually propaganda documents that can be safely ignored.

On the other hand, if a constitution is the product of a real decision then it can be the foundation of your future independence, a foundation in law.

To become independent, a country often goes through two stages: a fight for independence, followed by a period of building independence. You must first get rid of foreign rule. But chaos can easily replace foreign rule, so a nation must also create the institutions necessary for it to govern itself. It must be able to make decisions and to act.

The most important of those institutions are established by the constitution. These stages can be called the stage of the guerrilla and the stage of the constitution. East Timor is now right between those two stages.

The fighting stage has one main task: to get rid of foreign rule. The building stage, by contrast, has many tasks. The two stages are very different, and people everywhere have found transition from one to the next

quite difficult. One big difference is this: commitment to the struggle during the first stage is shown above all by willingness to make immediate sacrifices. But during the building stage you have to think in a long-term way.

It is a bit like building a big solid house. You begin with the foundation. That is a constitution. "Constitution" comes from the Latin word that means "to create" or "to build." You want to build a house that will not collapse tomorrow. You must think of all the dangers the house will have to face in the years to come: rain, wind, fire, perhaps even an earthquake. You want to build a constitution in that way, too, so that it can withstand whatever dangers your country will face. What could these dangers be? Unfortunately, every country faces many possible dangers in its future: the danger of external invasion, but also the danger of civil war, the danger of gridlock and paralysis so that government cannot function, or the danger of corruption when public officials go after private gain at the expense of public purpose. And there is always the danger that some group with guns will try to take power. A good constitution should diminish all these dangers.

So one big difference between the fighting stage and the building stage is this: when you are fighting you think of immediate dangers, but when you are building, you think

also of dangers in the long-term future.

There is another important difference between these two stages. At the fighting stage, unity is crucial and many disagreements can be postponed. There is one clear task, to get rid of foreign rule. At the stage of building there are many tasks, and disagreements cannot be postponed. So everyone must learn how to disagree with each other. During the stage of fighting, "unity" is the right slogan. At the stage of building, I believe the best slogan is that adopted by the First National Congress of Women in East Timor: "Unity in Diversity."

You now face many disagreements that you can no longer postpone: that is the "diversity" part. But there can still be an element of unity if you don't let the disagreements divide you from one another.

Unity in diversity means that both elements are present: serious disagreements exist, but they do not divide people completely. Unity is present as well. Unity in diversity is a wonderful ideal in many spheres of life. I was very moved when I saw it as the theme of the Women's Congress. It seems to me the perfect theme as you move from the stage of fighting for independence to the stage of building it, beginning with a constitution.



School Teachers with Vision: After a team of Australian optometrists tested the eyesight of Timorese school teachers in a joint UNICEF-WHO programme, 70 of them tried on their new spectacles at a 28 July ceremony. Thirty teachers also received training to screen for students with poor eyesight. UNICEF is also supporting a programme of corrective eye surgery at the Dili ICRC Hospital for Timorese kids who need it.

Photos by OCPI/UNTAET

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News Briefs

The Government of Japan, UNTAET and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) recently signed six project funding agreements worth US\$27.5 million - the largest contribution made so far for the **rehabilitation of infrastructure in East Timor**.

Projects include rehabilitation and improvement of the water supply system to give the population in the Dili region access to safe drinking water; rehabilitation of the Dili-Ainaro-Cassa road, which will improve the distribution of humanitarian and other supplies and boost economic recovery; irrigation rehabilitation in Manatuto, which will increase agricultural productivity and enhance food security; restoration of navigation aids and the fender system in Dili port; and rehabilitation of power stations and distribution networks in Dili and 13 rural areas.

UNTAET's Chief of Staff, Parameswaran Nagalingam, **met the former militia leader of the Aitarak group**, Eurico Guterres, in Kupang, West Timor, in July. The meeting included six other pro-autonomy leaders from the Forum for the Unity of Democracy and Justice (FPDK) and Front for the People of East Timor (BRTT).

The seven leaders indicated that they were interested in a "come-and-see" trip to Dili. UNTAET is currently working with CNRT to facilitate the trip and UNTAET's Kupang office is in close liaison with Indonesia's West Timor Commander, Major-General Kiki Syahnakari, in this process of reconciliation. Security details are being worked out by UNTAET. No date has been fixed for the visit yet.

Meanwhile, Gen. Syahnakari, speaking in Oecussi on 12 July, called on the East Timorese to put last year's violence behind them and welcome back the refugees, including former militia members. The General said he believed that thousands of refugees in West Timor wanted to return home but feared for their security.

The **first disbursement of loans to East Timorese businesses** were recently made as part of the Small Enterprises Project financed by the World Bank-administered Trust Fund for East Timor. The Portuguese bank, Banco Nacional Ultramarina (BNU), is the implementing agency.

Twenty applicants from Dili were granted loans worth a total of US\$307,000 for projects varying from a transport business and carpentry shops to a boutique and a guesthouse. The projects will create about 250 jobs. Ten of the loans went to female entrepreneurs.

A team from the Indonesian Attorney General's Office arrived in Dili on 19 July to **question witnesses and collect any resulting material evidence concerning the five priority criminal cases**

presented by the Indonesians.

The five cases are the Liquica Church massacre; the Suai Church massacre; the attack on Manuel Carrascalao's residence; the attack on Bishop Belo's compound; and the murder of Dutch journalist Sander Thoenes.

The 10-day visit is the result of the first working-level meeting between UNTAET's legal and political representatives and their Indonesian counterparts in Jakarta on 8 June.

The Indonesian team consists of 15 investigators, two legal advisers, two typists and two interpreters. They are accompanied by five Indonesian journalists.

The Pacific Area Newspaper Publishers' Association (PANPA) **launched a joint website for all print media in East Timor** at the organization's 31st annual conference in Sydney.

The East Timor Press Web Project is maintained and hosted by staff and students of the School of Media and Journalism at the Queensland University of Technology.

The site will be transferred to the management of East Timorese journalists in Dili early next year. The local journalists will be trained and supported in website development by UNTAET's Media Development Unit and Queensland University of Technology.

Two newspapers, *Timor Post* and *Lalenok*, will be on-line at

www.easttimorpress.qut.edu.au

District News

An assessment of the state of coffee production was undertaken in the **Aileu** district. UNTAET and CNRT agricultural staff visited seven villages in coffee growing subdistricts and interviewed 21 farmers. Results will be used in planning short- and medium-term intervention in coffee cultivation.

Celebrations for the patron saint of **Baucau**, St. Antonio, took place on 8 July. Although this is an annual ritual, this year the district celebrated particularly vigorously with various traditional cultural events and religious processions.

About 500 participants from 12 organizations attended the Youth Congress in **Dili** in mid-July. The meeting expressed support for Portuguese as the official language and Tetun as the national language, and the Fretilin flag and the 1975 National Anthem as national symbols.

The Commander of UN Peacekeeping Forces (UN-PKF), Jaime de los Santos, visited **Ermera** in early July and participated in the opening of the two Bailey Bridges on the Hatolia Road. The Bangladesh Engineering battalion, with the help of local labour, repaired the two bridges, which will enable humanitarian agencies to restart their activities in the area.

In other news, 90 water buffaloes, 84 Bali cows and 7,690 chickens will be distributed in the district as part of the World Bank-funded project. The poorest farmers will be given priority in distribution.

On 21 July, Televisao UNTAET **began broadcasting every Friday from 6 p.m.** The new time-slot, changed from Tuesdays at 5 p.m., followed numerous requests to delay broadcasts to allow workers time to get home to watch the programme. The one hour per week broadcast will continue until early September when facilities at a new radio and television complex will make it possible for enhanced transmissions to begin.



Because of security concerns, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) **closed its office in Betun** but will continue to deliver basic services such as food aid distribution and provide repatriation services to the 120,000 refugees in West Timor. The decision came at a meeting in Denpasar, Indonesia, with UN agencies and non-governmental organizations working in West Timor. UNHCR staff were relocated to Atambua, where they will carry out their functions in the Belu district.

The first Congress in **Lautem** of the National Council of Timorese Resistance (CNRT) took place in Lospalos on 3-6 July. Participants from all subdistricts discussed political, security, education, culture, health and agricultural issues. The nation state and the choice of political system were discussed at length, with the majority of participants agreeing that East Timor should adopt a republican, democratic constitution.

Radio Same (99.3 FM) of **Manufahi** is now on air during evening hours. Television signals can also be received.

In the **Oecussi** subdistrict of Pante Makassar a suspected case of typhoid fever has resulted in one death in Bunei village. A health care non-governmental organization (NGO) is monitoring the village and surrounding areas for further cases.

Reconstruction of a secondary school and rebuilding of a community centre in Fohorem subdistrict of **Suai** recently began under the Temporary Employment Project (TEP). The reconstruction work is expected to be finished by the end of August. Because of the bad condition of the road after the heavy rains a few weeks ago, UNTAET in Suai and the TEP workers from the subdistrict used horses to bring the materials to Fohorem from Tilomar subdistrict. So far, about US\$3.8 million has been spent in funding TEPs in East Timor. By 31 August, US\$4.5 million will have been spent. Approximately 50,000 people currently work under TEPs territory-wide.

Tiu answers questions about...

The coalition government

Dear readers, I know many of you around Timor Lorosa'e still have questions or are confused about the idea of a "coalition" government. Things like how it would be implemented. When would it start? How would the Timorese participate in this "co-government?"

Well, some of you dropped by my home and we talked about it. Listen in to my discussion with a few young fellows who wanted to learn more about this new partnership between UNTAET and East Timor.

Alau: Hello Tiu. Diak ka la'e?

Tiu: I'm fine, and you? Why are you and your friends here? Tell me what's troubling you.

Aniku: Well Tiu, you remember last time I was here with my friends discussing UNTAET and what it's doing in Timor Lorosa'e? This time my colleagues and I would like to talk about this new coalition government. Would you mind helping us understand what it all means?

Tiu: Of course not, fire away.

Ameu: Well, this might be a dumb question, but what exactly does coalition mean?

Tiu: Ameu, there is no such thing as a dumb question. There are a lot of things in life that we don't understand, and it's quite important that we make the effort to ensure that they are clear to us, both for our own sake and for the good of the country.

A coalition in this case is a partnership between UNTAET and East Timorese political leaders. UNTAET is indeed handing over leadership positions and giving East Timorese a stake in how Timor Lorosa'e is run, while East Timorese will bear some of the responsibility for the policies and decisions made by the administration. So you see, both sides are finally putting into practice what each has often publicly stated they wanted.

Aje: But Tiu, why now? Why didn't they do this from the beginning of the mission? East

Timor would have been much different by now, right?

Tiu: You may be right, East Timor might have been different by now. But remember, UNTAET is here under the authority of the UN Security Council's Resolution 1272, which stressed the need for the Transitional Administration to consult and cooperate closely with the East Timorese and to look towards developing local democratic institutions.

In less than year after arriving in Timor Lorosa'e, UNTAET's decision-making process has evolved from input from the Timorese through the National Consultative Council (NCC) - which had only 15 members and included international representatives - to a cabinet in which four Timorese and four international members will share responsibility for running the government. The NCC has also been transformed into a 33-member National Council that is wholly Timorese and that represents all segments of society - women's groups, student organizations, each of the 13 districts, to name a few.

The transformation of these bodies is a real effort to prepare Timorese to take over the governance of the territory when UNTAET leaves.

Atoi: Can you tell us what are UNTAET's other objectives for bringing more Timorese into the government?

Tiu: Of course. You guys might have heard Sergio Vieira de Mello's live interview with Radio UNTAET on 14 July. He said that there would be recruitment of up to 10,000 East Timorese into the new Government's Civil Service. They'll receive training and work alongside international staff to gain practical experience. Timorese will also gradually be put in charge of certain government departments.

You guys have to understand, this is the first time in the history of the United Nations that it is sharing transitional leadership with

the leadership of the local community.

Dua Kay: OK, that's great. But why can't it be done faster? We've waited 500 years to finally be able to have control over our own lives.

Tiu: Young man, it is quite easy to say that, but not so easy, of course, to actually turn our wishes into reality. It needs a process of organizing and managing. The important thing about the length of the transition period, Mr. Vieira de Mello said in his radio interview, is that there is a danger when you're moving too fast or too slow. He said that the timeframe suggested by CNRT President Xanana Gusmao and Vice-President José Ramos Horta regarding the holding of elections and the proclamation of an independent state of East Timor was reasonable. That means some time next year Timor Lorosa'e will begin the process of setting up its very own country.

Well guys, listen, it is very important to get information about what is happening here in Timor Lorosa'e.

And you all know that the NCC meetings are open to the public, so you guys really should go over and listen to the discussions, and determine whether your voice is being represented. And from that, you can register your criticisms or suggestions.

Anyway guys, sorry, but I'm in a hurry to join a meeting in the office today. But we'll talk more soon.

Goodbye!



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World Sport News

East Timor

Zebra Baucau and **Kakusan** fought out a goalless draw in the final of the first-ever Copa Voz De Esperanca and it was decided that they would be joint winners of the competition. **Black Stone** was awarded the "fair play" trophy and striker Jeka of **Kakusan** was judged best player. The tournament's top goal-scorer was **Zebra** striker Victor with 19. The award ceremony took place on 30 July.

Soccer transfer market

Benfica cleared speculation over the transfer of two of its players when Jose Luiz Vidigal left to play for **Napoli** and Nuno Gomes agreed to move to **Fiorentina** as a replacement for Batistuta, who left for **AS Roma** for a record US\$37 million transfer fee.

Not to be outdone by rivals Roma, **Lazio** upped the record by signing Hernan Crespo from

AC Parma for US\$54.6 million. Then on 24 July Portuguese national mid-fielder Luis Figo became the world's most expensive player, moving from **Barcelona** to **Real Madrid** for US\$56 million.

Manchester United turned down bids from **Milan** and **Barcelona** for right-winger David Beckham. **Man U** has repeatedly said Beckham is not for sale. **Barca's** new management also raised the issue of persuading Zinedine Zidane to play at Nou

Camp, while the De Boer brothers seem to be among those on the club's "for sale" list.

Juventus completed a deal to acquire French national striker David Trezequet from **Monaco**.

Boxing

Lennox Lewis remained world heavyweight champion and declared himself the world's best fighter after knocking out South Africa's Francois Botha in the second round in London on 15 July.



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

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