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UNTAET and CNRT officials who spoke at the opening ceremony stressed that East Timor’s future Administration would be free of favouritism and no longer a haven for clock-watchers.

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“The East Timorese people must know that in their government, good jobs will not be bought, nor secured through personal favours,” he added.

In a related development, the Public Service Commission has approved the job description for the number two post in each District Administration.

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East Timor marks Freedom Day

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“We will not tolerate people carrying rocks, sticks, machetes or any object that could be used for a violent purpose,” Transitional Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello said. “They will be detained and sent before a judge.”

Mr. Vieira de Mello’s remarks came after an incident on 30 April in which a gang of around 70 people went to Dili’s sports stadium and attacked spectators watching a martial arts presentation prior to a soccer match. In addition to the five people who were injured and admitted to the hospital, two motor vehicles, two motorbikes and a house were also damaged. There were no fatalities.

When the disturbance broke out at around 4 p.m., UNTAET Civilian Police (CivPol) dispatched officers to the stadium, where they were later joined by the Rapid Response Unit and UN Peacekeeping troops. Calling it a “provisional allowance,” Mr. Vieira de Mello authorized CivPol to carry sidearms.

After several hours, the forces of law and order, in cooperation with the National Council of Timorese Resistance (CNRT), brought the situation under control and arrested 11 people. Two more people were detained the next day and around 60 sticks were confiscated.

In a Radio UNTAET interview following the incident, Mr. Vieira de Mello asked people not to over-dramatize the situation, “since this is a group of people determined to sabotage the normalization process... and make the economic and social situation even more difficult.”

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Traffic concerns growing in Dili

Dili’s street traffic has become increasingly congested and dangerous with careless, inexperienced drivers on cars and trucks in perilous mechanical condition.

Drivers’ concerns about road safety have grown right along with the number of traffic violations and vehicle accidents. “The problem has gotten quite bad,” said Guillermino da Costa, a driver for Father Manuel Freitas of the Salesian order. “There are so many drivers who drive without their lights on in the dark, they just don’t care and cause problems for others.” Speeding and drunk driving are also of mounting concern. CivPol officials note that internationals are often the “more flagrant violators” in these categories.

Traffic laws do exist, on paper says CivPol. They are the former Indonesian traffic laws. The National Consultative Council (NCC) adopted them as an interim measure in February as part of Regulation No. 1 in which it declared that all laws that existed prior to 25 October 1999 were applicable until new ones are drafted (as long as they do not conflict with international recognized human rights standards).

Enforcing the law is the letter is difficult. CivPol officials point to the fact that no licensing or registration system is in place, and detention space for those committing traffic violations remains limited.

Nonetheless, the wheels are beginning to turn. Deputy Commissioner of CivPol, R.A. Grimmer, says that CivPol is currently working with the Dili Traffic Authority in drafting future traffic regulations, including ones to restore traffic signals and signs to the Dili streets. They are also developing an education campaign for drivers. As well, the NCC is currently considering regulations regarding vehicle registration. They are expected to be adopted soon.

According to Officer Aquilino Pacis, the Chief of CivPol’s Accident Investigation Unit, between 21 November to 11 May there were 147 reported vehicle accidents in Dili. However, those statistics probably do not reflect the true number of vehicle mishaps, a number, he stressed, that is probably quite large because of the number of unrecovered incidents.

Meanwhile, Timorese traffic wardens, with their distinctive orange hats and vests, have been doing their best to help CivPol keep the vehicles flowing safely around some of Dili’s traffic hotspots. Some of the most dangerous intersections include the areas around the Scout Monument; the Market in Dili, the junctions in Balide and Audian and a crossing near Sang Surya, the building opposite the Cathedral.

Silvestre de Oliveira, the chief of local traffic wardens, said that each day the wardens witness a series of moving violations, sometimes major ones, but they do not have the power to stop the drivers, who simply ignore or disobey them anyway. At times the wardens themselves have been threatened by local Timorese drivers, who they say are in a state of interviews in UNTAET vehicles.

Making driving safe has not been an easy job but the tougher task may be in getting drivers to change their bad habits. “There are so many careless drivers nowadays,” said Lopouto do Rego Amaral, a driver with UNTAET’s Political Affairs Division. “Citizens must learn to respect the traffic signs and controls like they used to. That’s the first step toward making the roads safe again.”

One last sobering thought for anyone driving dunked in the Dili’s Indonesian law is a Draconian one and if strictly enforced would put you behind bars for 3 months or hit you with a 3 million rupiah fine.

World Press Freedom Day also offered East Timor an opportunity to celebrate the reemergence of Timorese media that now includes four print publications and two radio stations.

While the voices of East Timor’s new media are currently small - given their limited circulation and transmission ranges - they are vibrant and diverse in both coverage and opinion. They are also an essential and welcome component to East Timorese independence. Here is a brief description of each:

* Lalenok is a weekly magazine distributed principally in the Dili area. A copy costs Rp. 4000 and can be bought from delivery boys.

* Timor Post is a four-page newspaper that is published twice weekly and is currently only available in Dili and is sold by newsboys for Rp. 5000.

* Taltitakan is a newspaper published two times a week and currently distributed at the district level in the eastern part of the country for Rp. 10,000.

* Lian Masure is a weekly newspaper published by the non-governmental organization Forodem.

Radio Falintil/Voz da Esperança broadcasts throughout Dili and is beginning to publish its own newspaper.

Radio Timor Knamek is produced by the Catholic Diocese of Dili and is broadcast throughout Dili and in large portions of the country.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

EAST TIMOR ADMINISTRATION

CIVIL SERVICE AND PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT VACANCY NOTICE

Ref No. 77/00

TIMOR ADMINISTRATION is responsible for policy formation, recruitment, training, Human Resources management as well as being the regulatory authority for the Civil Service through the Public Service Commission.

The Department currently has a requirement for a DEPUTY DIRECTOR, CIVIL SERVICE & PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT to be based in Dili.

The duties of the Deputy Director include:

- Assisting the Director of the Department in the work of the Department;
- Taking responsibility for the daily management of the Directorate office including preparation of budgets and work program;
- Provide leadership to Branch Heads and promote a climate which encourages the operation of the Civil Service and the conduct of Civil Servants;
- Promoting a value - driven corporate identity and concepts of meaningful public service;
- Liaising with other Departments, NGOs, international organizations and donors;
- Providing policy advice to the Director and the Minister.

It is essential that prospective candidates have:
- An understanding of the role of the Civil Service within the framework of national governance;
- An understanding of the functions of respective organs/Departments within the Civil Service;
- The ability to manage people and foster a productive work environment;
- The ability to understand the acts, ordinances, regulations and rules affecting the operation of the Civil Service and the conduct of Civil Servants;
- Highly develop conceptual and analytical skills;
- The ability to develop and implement policy;
- The ability to prepare budgets and monitor expenditure;
- To this end candidates must have:
  - A university degree in Public Administration or similar field;
  - At least 7 years’ experience including some at management/supervisory level;
  - A high level of oral and written skills in English;
  - The ability to communicate effectively in Bahasa Malaya/Indonesian and/or Tetum or Portuguese;"
**District News Round-up**

**Aileu:** The District's regular food supply has resumed with the help of the non-governmental organization World Vision, and after a survey of the FALINTIL cantonment, which included dependents of the former guerrilla fighters who were in the UN World Food Programme's Vulnerable Group Feeding project.

The rations for each person consists of 15 kilograms of rice, beans, salt and oil each month and will go to 376 families, totalling over 1,000 people.

Fifteen tonnes of food also arrived to supplement the diet of about 400 FALINTIL members, and includes coffee, fruit salad, steak and onions.

**Baucau:** Former Timorese journalists and teachers have started a community newspaper with funds from the Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) in an effort to provide the area with more coverage of local events and put people back to work.

The eight-page *Matebian Post*, named after the mountain in East Timor where according to legend the souls of the dead go to rest, employs 12 staff members and publishes twice a month a variety of stories on news, opinion and humour.

**Covalima:** Eleven people, including one Peacekeeper from the New Zealand Battalion and four children, were injured in an explosion at a garbage dump on the outskirts of Suai.

The explosion happened at 4 p.m. near the Peacekeeping Force Headquarters on the road to Zumalai, about 14 kilometers northeast of Suai. Four people were seriously injured and were taken to the International Committee of the Red Cross hospital in Dili. The other seven had superficial burns and were transferred from the New Zealand field surgical hospital to the Suai Hospital. They are stable and in a good condition.

A preliminary report shows no evidence of the explosion's cause. UNTAET Civilian Police are still investigating.

**Same:** Sports instructors from five schools in the sub-district held a meeting to create a committee that would encourage schools to fix their sports facilities and promote competition between schools.

Schools were encouraged to submit proposals for cleaning up football and volleyball grounds and those who did would receive footballs, volleyballs and nets and basketballs donated by Concern Worldwide.

**Viqueque:** The Loi Huno community held a ceremony asking for safe drinking water during the dry season, the first time in 25 years that the community has been able to perform such a rite. Loi Huno is the source of Viqueque's town water.

Meanwhile, the town's main pipeline has burst, leaving residents without water for at least three days while equipment arrives for repairs.

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**New voices on Radio UNTAET**

Things have been moving forward at Radio UNTAET, the United Nations radio station for East Timor, as it recently moved into a new broadcasting studio in Governor's House.

Since the violence of last September, Radio UNTAET, like the rest of East Timor, has had to overcome many difficulties in its efforts to keep the Timorese informed about developments during the transitional period.

Almost all of the transmitters across the country were destroyed last September. Only in November did broadcasting resume in Dili, reaching also parts of Aileu, Manatuto, Liquica and Ermera. Some broadcasts started in April in Maliana and Baucau, but so far these are prerecorded from Dili, as there is still no way to broadcast directly to these districts. More transmitters have arrived from the United Nations in Italy and from Portugal and have been shipped to Suai and Oecussi. Work is still being done to prepare these places for broadcasting, but gradually the radio network is being restored and will cover more of the country.

Many people also lost their radios in September and have no way of listening to the programmes. The Japanese Government has signed an agreement to buy more than 8,000 radios that run on solar and wind-up power. These will be distributed to places in East Timor that can receive radio broadcasts, therefore allowing more Timorese to hear information about what is happening in their country.

Nevertheless, some of the current programmes include a news service that runs four times a day, in Tetun and English, and live programmes in the mornings and evenings, which run interviews and commentary on a wide range of topics. There are also specialist programmes produced by groups from outside the radio station. These include a programme on the media; Makaer Fukun, presented by the Jurists' Association on legal issues; a women's programme produced by Fokupers; Servisau Hamutuk, presented by LAIFET, the Labour Advocacy Institute for East Timor; and other programmes focussing on agriculture, health, and students’ issues.

The newest programme to start are English classes on the radio, which have been donated by Radio Australia. Radio UNTAET has also requested programming from Radio Difusa Portuguesa (RDP) that teaches Portuguese as well, and hopes to begin broadcasting it in the near future.
Hello friends, here we are together again. We’ve been discussing a lot of serious issues lately - which we need to do - and I hope that you’ve learned a bit more about UNTAET and the changes that have been taking place in our country.

But it’s time now to talk about something lighter. We Timorese love to play, too, and we’re crazy about sports: soccer, basketball, volleyball - you name it, we’ll watch it or play it.

This time, I had a discussion with some of my young friends about Timor Lorosae and the Sydney Olympics, which will start 15 September and run through 1 October. Let’s see what these guys wanted to know...

The friends: Hey Tiu, Bondia! How are you?

Tiu: I’m bloody fine, but I hate being disturbed during working hours.

Antonio: Hey Tiu, what’s going on here?? You’re usually very nice to us! We would like to talk to you, of course. We don’t want to disturb you, but we heard some exciting news.

Tiu: Well, you are all very fine young people and I enjoy chatting with you. Tell me, what can I do to help you this time?

Josefina: Tiu we heard that Timor Lorosae is seeking a place in the Olympic Games in Sydney this year. Wouldn’t that be a great way to go before we can dispatch a team to Sydney. Without getting too optimistic, the signs are encouraging, though. I read in the papers recently that the Vice-President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), Kevan Gosper of Australia, said the IOC would support East Timor’s bid if the United Nations issued a statement that said the territory was “virtually independent.”

Ameu: Hold on Tiu, you’re telling us that there is a National Olympic Committee already and Senhor Horta is its head? Well, we’re almost as good as in, no?

Tiu: Just a second. Didn’t you hear what I just told you? Sure, we have an NOC and Senhor Ramos Horta has said that East Timor’s participation “would be a message of peace, a message of tolerance.” Who could argue with that? He even said that he’d meet the president of the IOC, Juan Antonio Samaranch, if invited in order to expedite East Timor’s bid as a fully accredited Olympic nation.

But before we get carried away with going to the Olympics, we have to realize that we probably won’t be able to fully participate this year, if at all. Nevertheless, I agree that it would be great for national morale. Only in the future when we’ve gained independence will we be able to field a competitive team. But until then, our participation in this year’s Games have enormous symbolic value. After all, it would have been less than a year since the country was totally destroyed.

Antonio: Oh, it would be so wonderful to have our representatives in Sydney. I wonder if Victor Ramos, the boxer who went to the Southeast Asian (SEA) Games in 1993 and the Asian Games in 1994, has heard about this news. Surely he would qualify for the Olympics.

Josefina: Yeah, and I’m sure there are a few more world-class athletes here in Timor Lorosae.

Tiu: Well my dear friends, I’m glad to see all of you cheered up now. After all that we’ve been through as a country and as individuals, it would be very nice to have Timor Lorosae’s participate in a world forum like the Olympics, to be recognized for our ability to overcome such difficult circumstances.

Josefina: Tiu’s right. In fact, aren’t we already participating on other international competitions? And besides, we also have our own tournaments in Timor Lorosae. Isn’t that right, Tiu?

Tiu: Right Josefina. There are sports activities happening in Timor Lorosae’s right now, like the Copa Voz Esperanca soccer tournament and the Cannosian basketball Cup for both men and women, which just finished on 9 May.

You probably already know, too, that Timor Lorosae’s was represented in April at a youth football tournament in Portugal, and then on the way back they stopped in Japan to play a youth team there. So you see, even without the Olympics, there are a lot of sports going on in Timor Lorosae.

Tiu’s Friends: Thanks a lot, Tiu. You always have the answers. We’ll let our friends know about this latest news.

Tiu: O.K. my friends, I better get back to work before it gets too late. I’ll talk to you guys next time, and don’t forget to read Tais Timor for your news. Goodbye buddies!!

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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 "capestry that is Timor Loroa". A bi-weekly public information service of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAEI). Published in Tetun, Indonesian, Portuguese and English. Written, edited and designed by the UNTAEI Office of Communication and Public Information (OCPI). Distribution 75,000. UNTAEI-OCPI, c/- PO Box 2436, Darwin NT 0801, Australia. Tel: +61-8-8942-2203 Fax: +61-8-8981-5167 email: untait-ocpi@un.org Not an official document. For information purposes only.