



## PNTL resumes primary policing responsibilities in four new districts



» UNMIT Photo/ Bernardino Soares

During the month of September, the *Polícia Nacional de Timor-Leste* (PNTL) resumed primary policing responsibilities in four new districts: Likisá, Ermera, Aileu and Manufahi.

The district of Likisá is the first to have a female district commander, Natercia Eufracia Martins (pictured). "Commander Martins, who as the first female district commander in Timor-Leste, now commands a district force of 100, including 24 females," said Ameerah Haq, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Timor-Leste during the ceremony in Likisá. "Your remarkable and well-deserved achievement is testament to the advances in gender equality that are being made, not only within the PNTL, but also in many spheres of government and society as a whole in Timor-Leste."

The SRSO has pledged that the United Nations will increase its focus on the mentoring and support of PNTL officers, as requested by the national authorities and endorsed by the Security Council of the United Nations.

The Government of Timor-Leste and UNMIT are jointly implementing the resumption process in a gradual manner – district by district, unit by unit. The PNTL is assessed in each district by a joint team comprising Government and UNMIT representatives, including UN Police and the PNTL. The team applies mutually agreed criteria to assess the readiness of the PNTL to resume primary policing responsibilities.

The resumption process started in Lautem district in May 2009. It continued in the districts of Oecusse in June, and Manatuto in July, and with the transfer of responsibility for the administration and management of the Police Training Centre in September, and the Maritime Police Unit and the Police Intelligence Service in December. Also in December 2009 Viqueque became the fourth district in which the PNTL resumed responsibilities. In April this year the PNTL resumed responsibilities for Ainaro and Baucau Districts and in September for Likisá, Ermera, Aileu and Manufahi.

UN Police will maintain their presence in the districts where the PNTL have resumed responsibilities, in order to monitor, mentor, advise and support the PNTL in a partnership approach, including in the area of human rights protection.



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## Second annual Tour de Timor ends

The Tour de Timor was "better than many Australian races," said Mountain Bike Orienteering World Champion Adrian Jackson who won the second annual Tour de Timor. Jacinto da Costa was the first Timorese to cross the line and came in overall 14<sup>th</sup> place.

Apart from the challenge of the race itself, the whole experience seems to have touched the riders. "The Tour de Timor was really great, even though it was so tiring! I think that all the riders were very happy to see how much support they were getting from villagers who cheered us on," said Stephen Malloch, a member of the UN team. "The views were spectacular, the mountains, the villages, the coast line- this country is really beautiful. The villagers really welcomed us and made our night stays as comfortable as possible. They also went to special effort to help provide us with shelter when it rained and to make sure that we were well rested for the next day's ride. I am personally very happy to have participated in the Tour de Timor."

A total of 342 riders, including 70 Timorese, took part in the grueling race which took riders from Dili to Balibo, Suai, Ainaro, Aileu and back to Dili. The Tour de Timor started on 13 September and ended on Friday 17 September.



» UNMIT Photo/ Bernardino Soares



## Timor's first graduation class of qualified doctors



» UNMIT Photo/ Bernardino Soares

**T**imor-Leste has just produced the country's first graduation class of qualified doctors. Eighteen young doctors, including nine women, recently received their degrees in a ceremony in Dili. They had completed their training in Cuba as part of a government program started in 2004 to send selected students abroad for specialized training. An increase of trained professionals will go along way to helping Timor-Leste overcome the challenges it faces on its road to nation and state building.

## Data from 2010 census to be checked

**T**o measure the reliability of the information collected during the 2010 Population and Housing Census, the National Statistics Directorate (NSD), under the Directorate General of Policy, Analysis and Research in the Ministry of Finance, will conduct a Post-Enumeration Survey (PES) between 2-16 October.

The PES will involve approximately 200 interviewers across 116 villages around the country.

"To verify the scope and quality of the data gathered during a census is standard procedure," said Elias Ferreira, Director of the National Statistics Directorate which is the government body responsible for the implementation of the Census. "Censuses are complex and very expensive operations, which mean that we have to make the census information as useful as possible. For this reason we need to know how reliable the information is."

The quality control method chosen by the Census Technical Team is called Post-Enumeration Survey. During a PES, a number of randomly selected rural and urban areas in all parts of the country are revisited by specially trained field staff. People in these 13,500 households will be asked a handful of questions, including

name, age, marital status, mother tongue and level of education. The answers, which will be kept strictly confidential, will then be compared with the information collected from the same households during the actual census in July this year.

"It is important that people in the selected areas understand that their communities have been chosen randomly and not because we are suspecting that the census was poorly done in these areas," says Elias Ferreira.

In an attempt to evaluate the census publicity campaign, 10 per cent of the households visited during the PES will also be given a few questions about how and where they received information about the census.

The PES, like the actual census, is supported and partly financed by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). As planned, the preliminary results of the 2010 Population and Housing Census will be announced towards the end of October. The main census report, with detailed demographic information, is due in April 2011 and is expected to assist the Government and its development partners in planning and implementing adequate and realistic public policies.

## Youth win friendly football match with police in Baucau



» UNMIT Photo/ Antonio Corbacho Moreno

**A** friendly football match between local and UN Police and members of the Baucau Youth Animist Association took place on 29 August in Baucau stadium. Organized by Senior Youth Coordinator Mr. Johnny Marques, the match was a community-building exercise aimed at strengthening relations between local police and youth.

The teams consisted of nine members of the United Nations police, seven national police officers, one language assistant and 20 youth from the Association.

The police only managed to score one goal during the two-hour match, while the Baucau Youth Association kicked their way to victory with an impressive four goals. More such matches are planned for the future. Apart from sports activities, the Association performs traditional dances, has a music band and maintains a gallery of art from local artists.

## Popular version of *Chega!* launched



» UN Photo/ Bernardino Soares

**A** five-volume popular version of 'Chega!', the report of the Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation in Timor-Leste (CAVR), has been launched in Dili. This illustrated version covers the history of the conflict as well as all key findings and recommendations in the national language Tetun. The popular edition was designed specifically for a national audience and will be distributed nationwide. A Tetun version of the original 2,800 page report is planned for publication

## 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Popular Consultation



» UN Photo/ Antoninho Bernardino

**C**ommemorative events took place in Dili to celebrate the anniversary of the 1999 UN-supervised Popular Consultation. On 30 August eleven years ago, 98.6 per cent of registered voters turned out to cast their ballot for the historic vote. Counting began on 31 August and was completed in the early hours of 4 September. Secretary-General Kofi Annan read the results of the ballot: 94,388, or 21.5 per cent, *in favour* and 344,580, or 78.5 per cent against the proposed special autonomy