

## **By UNMISSET Spokesperson's Office**

**Dili, 20 October 2003.**

### **PNTL officer killed in car accident**

The Office of the UNPOL Commissioner today announced with great sadness and regret the death of PNTL officer, Agent Amaro da Silva [No. 11201].

Agent da Silva died on Friday [17th October] when the police vehicle he was driving rolled some 60 metres down a cliff-side as he was heading back to Becora Police Station.

He was working in Dili District Traffic Control when he was requested to assist Becora Station in the arrest of a suspect in the Becora area. Along with a fellow PNTL officer from Dili Station, and three other officers from Becora Station, Agent da Silva helped with the arrest and was returning to Becora Station with the arrested suspect when the accident happened. He was killed at the scene. The passengers were injured, and taken to hospital for treatment. The suspect and two PNTL officers have since been released from hospital.

Agent da Silva was born in Uatolari, Viqueque on 8 June 1979. He joined the PNTL on 23 July 2001, as a member of the 17<sup>th</sup> Class. Upon completion of his training, Agent da Silva was deployed to Dili District in October 2001, and worked in both Traffic and Patrol.

Senior PNTL officers attended the funeral in Viqueque this morning. The Office of the UNPOL Commissioner extended the deepest sympathies and condolences to Agent da Silva's family, and all fellow PNTL officers and said that "Agent da Silva's death is a huge loss to both the PNTL and law enforcement as a whole. He will be sadly missed".

