

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

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### **CVTL WINS SASAKAWA AWARD**

Cruz Vermelha de Timor Leste (CVTL) or the Red Cross of Timor Leste was awarded a Certificate of Merit by the United Nations Sasakawa Award for Disaster Reduction for this year 2002. CVTL was cited for their “significant efforts in contributing to disaster reduction and providing general assistance to victims of disasters despite a difficult political context”. The WHO East Timor office nominated CVTL for this year's awards.

CVTL, the newest Red Cross organization in the world, has been working with several international and national organizations and government in strengthening disaster preparedness by building capacity of communities. CVTL has other projects in the areas of health (e.g., HIV/AIDS, first aid) and community development.

Francisco Ximenes, the Secretary General of Cruz Vermelha Timor Leste will be accepting the award in person on behalf of the organization in ceremonies to be held in Geneva, Switzerland on Wednesday, 9 October 2002. The award consists of a certificate and a cash prize.

