

# **MEDIA BRIEFING NOTE**

**By UNMISSET Spokesperson's Office**

Dili, 10 October 2002

## **RECONCILIATION MEETING**

UNHCR and UNMISSET Human Rights Unit yesterday facilitated a reconciliation meeting between the community of Maucatar, Covalima District and refugees from the same area.

During the meeting, UNHCR explained the consequences its decision to cease recognising nationals of Timor-Leste outside the country as refugees from 1 January 2003.

Local authorities warmly welcomed the return of refugees stressing reconciliation, respect for human rights, and the need to forget past political differences.

UNHCR will close and relocate its Suai office to Batugade, Bobonaro district on 7 November and intends to terminate its services at the end of the year.

## **FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT**

A World Food Program (WFP)-Food Agriculture Organization (FAO) Food Security Assessment Team finding concluded that the food security in Timor-Leste is not yet critical but might deteriorate if the next wet season does not produce sufficient rain.

The team stressed the need for close monitoring of the situation, and recommended the strengthening of the Government's National Disaster Management Office.

The Government of Timor-Leste requested the assessment in preparation for any consequence of the predicted El Nino.

The three-member team, 2 from WFP and 1 from FAO visited 9 districts between 1-9 October.

The visit was coordinated by FAO Dili's office.

## **WITNESS APPEARED AT JAKARTA TRIBUNAL**

One Timorese witness appeared at Jakarta Ad Hoc Tribunal yesterday testifying in the trial of Lieutenant Colonel Endar Priyanto.

Priyanto is charged with crimes against humanity in the attack on Manuel Carrascalão's house on 17 April 1999.

An UNMISSET Human Rights officer accompanied the witness.



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**UNITED NATIONS MISSION OF SUPPORT IN EAST TIMOR (UNMISSET)**  
**OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (OSRSG)**  
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