

By UNMISSET Spokesperson's Office

Dili, 21 October 2002

HAZARD REDUCTION

An Australian Company, G-Tek Australia Pty Limited has been selected to conduct an unexploded ordinance (UXO) hazard reduction operation at the Cristo Rei beach, east of Dili.

The company will carry out the main part of the hazard reduction operation over the beach, in accordance with International Mine Action Standards, Laws of Timor-Leste and the Australian Organisational Health and Safety Acts and regulations.

The operation started today and will be completed before 22 December 2002, after which the beach will be once again open to the general public and safe for recreational pursuits.

On July 1 2000 three Portuguese PKF members were injured on the beach and on 3 August 2000 a Bangladeshi PKF was killed by UXO, following which the entire area was closed to the public.

An UNOPS Quality Assurance Officer with the support of a UNPKF Senior Ammunition Technical officer will oversee the G-Tek clearing operation.

END

