

By UNMISSET Spokesperson's Office

Dili, 25 October 2002

TIMORESE BEGIN TRAINING IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

The Japanese Engineering Group -- UNMISSET's Peacekeeping Battalion that is responsible for heavy equipment road and bridge repair and other civil engineering projects in Timor-Leste -- will begin on 28 October, a training programme for Timorese Public Administration employees.

The initial group of ten Timorese will have two months of theoretical and practical training in civil engineering. They will also learn to operate and maintain heavy construction equipment. The Timorese trainees will work alongside the Japanese engineers at their headquarters and on various engineering tasks including a shore protection project in Liquica District.

The JEG will continue to train other groups of Timorese with the objective of preparing Timor-Leste's Public Administration to assume full responsibility of the new country's engineering tasks and to have the capability to operate and maintain the heavy equipment the Japanese will be donating to Timor-Leste when they leave at the end of the UNMISSET mission in 2004.

END

