



Statement

by

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of the
Permanent Mission of the
Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste
to the United Nations**

**to the
Operational Activities Segment of the
ECOSOC Substantive Session**

**17 July 2012
New York**

Check Against Delivery

Mr. President,

As this is the first time I am taking the floor, let me congratulate you on your Presidency, and for the able manner in which you and the Bureau are steering these discussions.

Timor-Leste associates itself with the statement made by the Ambassador of Algeria on behalf of the G-77 and China, as well as the statement delivered by the Ambassador of Nepal on behalf of the Least Developed Countries.

I would also like to thank the Secretariat for the briefings and presentations of the reports on this matter.

Mr. President,

Timor-Leste believes that the QCPR should reflect the lessons learned since the 2007 TCPR and improve upon the way in which UN operational activities for development are delivered. This includes increasing effectiveness and efficiency along with greater coordination with National governments and better alignment with national development priorities.

Timor-Leste, like many of the LDC's will not achieve the MDGs by 2015. The LDCs have specific vulnerabilities and challenges in not only attaining the MDGs but in addressing obstacles towards sustainable development, reducing poverty, addressing a lack of capacity, and in post-conflict reconstruction, rehabilitation, and recovery. As such, the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action, which outlines these obstacles and presents a way forward towards graduation, is crucial to providing further support to LDCs.

Timor-Leste has benefited from a strong partnership with the UN, including many operational activities and programs on the ground. Learning from our experiences and through our partnerships in development with the international community and the UN. The Independent System-Wide Evaluation Mechanisms Report posed the question, "how should the United Nations use the ISWE to improve the transition from conflict to development?" In this regard there are several aspects of UN operational engagement in the transition from relief to development in the post-conflict context that could be improved upon.

Mr. President,

First, aid effectiveness and quality should be improved. Aid should be delivered in a predictable manner that ensures rapid and flexible delivery, and allows programming to respond to changing situations on the ground. The equitable spreading of resources should also be addressed as a factor in improving upon aid effectiveness. It is critical that aid is able to reach all even in the especially in the rural and remote, and inaccessible areas to ensure that programming is effective and protects and strengthens the most vulnerable, this is vital to both sustainability and stability.

Second, UN operational activities should create the foundations for inclusive economic development, including sustainable livelihoods, employment and effective management of natural resources. It must be acknowledged that there can be no development without peace

and no peace without development. As such capacity development activities must integrate country-specific characteristics and challenges. Improvements in host country consultations would ensure that programs are country-lead and fully integrate national priorities.

Capacity building, especially efforts to support early recovery should pay special attention to women to ensure that their voices are heard and that they are included. Women have a particular role to play in the transition from relief to development in post-conflict settings as they are powerful agents of peace and potential drivers of economic growth and development.

Last, but not least, is the need for long-term engagement strategies and policies, that include the need to address shifting short-term and long-term priorities at the same time. Assistance during the planning process should ensure that there is a clear country-owned and lead long-term vision to guide development; such a process should also ensure that both the priorities as well as the country constraints are identified. Once national priorities are identified the UN must align all programming and activities with national development policies.

For example, in Timor-Leste the National Strategic Development Plan (SDP) through 2030 outlines both our short-term and long-term development strategies, policies and goals. Short-term goals include the consolidation of peace and stability, with a view towards building infrastructure and strengthening capacities across all sectors.

Timor-Leste is the current Chair of the g7+. We are a group of who seek to provide our perspective and shared experiences in order to improve the effectiveness of assistance from our development partners in order to assist the membership to transition out of fragility and conflict to sustainable peace and development. We have endorsed the New Deal for Peace and Engagement in Fragile States, which provides a new approach to how aid is delivered and is premised on principle on national ownership and vision. In this regard, we note the commitment and support of the UN to work through the New Deal. At the recent debate of the Security Council on the report of the Peacebuilding Commission, the Secretary General stated the United Nations "is committed to supporting the new model of partnership between fragile and conflict affected countries and their development partners, as envisaged last year by the g7+ countries and their partners in the "New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States".

Mr. President,

The QCPR provides an opportunity to improve upon how the UN delivers in its operational activities to ensure maximum benefit. My delegation looks forward to contributing to this process.

I thank you.