

Photos Timor

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Photographs Robel Mockonen/PIO/UNMISSET



PKF Force Commander Maj-Gen Tan receiving the UN Medal from President Gusmão

Honouring UN Peacekeepers

The first International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers was celebrated in Timor-Leste on 29 May 2003, in a ceremony at the Presidential Palace of the Ashes, in Dili.

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG), Ambassador Sharma, paid special tribute to "all the men and women, from all walks of life, who have served and continue to serve in peacekeeping operations of the United Nations around the world."

In his speech, President Gusmão thanked UN Peacekeepers for their "unwavering dedication and brave service in the cause of peace."

The SRSG also commended the "truly unique partnership where international peacekeepers have worked and continue to work alongside Timorese counterparts to build peace and stability that is enduring."

Representatives from UNMISSET, PKF, UNPOL and UN Agencies were also presented with certificates of appreciation by the Timorese leadership, in recognition of their commitment for the development, peace and stability of Timor-Leste.



Civilian Peacekeepers marching during the UN Peacekeepers Day Parade to the Presidential Palace of the Ashes



SRSG Kamalesh Sharma, UNMISSET's DOA Philip Cooper, President of the Timorese Parliament Lu-Olo, and PM Alkatiri



Minister Horta handing certificate of appreciation to Filipino UNPOL



UN Agencies Country Representatives were also awarded with certificates of appreciation for their commitment to Timor-Leste