



Asamblea General

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Consejo de Derechos Humanos

20º período de sesiones

Tema 3 de la agenda

**Promoción y protección de todos los derechos humanos,
civiles, políticos, económicos, sociales y culturales,
incluido el derecho al desarrollo**

Información presentada por la Institución Nacional de Derechos Humanos de Timor-Leste*

Nota de la Secretaría

La Secretaría del Consejo de Derechos Humanos transmite adjunta la comunicación presentada por la Institución Nacional de Derechos Humanos de Timor-Leste**, que se reproduce a continuación de conformidad con el artículo 7 b) del reglamento que figura en el anexo de la resolución 5/1 del Consejo, según el cual la participación de las instituciones nacionales de derechos humanos se basará en las disposiciones y prácticas convenidas por la Comisión de Derechos Humanos, incluida la resolución 2005/74, de 20 de abril de 2005.

* La institución nacional de derechos humanos tiene la acreditación de la categoría "A" ante el Comité Internacional de Coordinación de las Instituciones Nacionales para la Promoción y la Protección de los Derechos Humanos.

** Se reproduce en el anexo como se recibió, en el idioma en que se presentó únicamente.

Anexo

[English only]

Written statement on behalf of the National Human Rights Institution of Timor-Leste on the Report of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights on her mission to Timor-Leste

**20th Session of the Human Rights Council
(18 June - 06 July 2012)**

Distinguished Members of the Human Rights Council,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The National Human Rights Institution of Timor-Leste, the Provedoria for Human Rights and Justice, welcomes the opportunity to once again present its statement by video.

The visits of Special Rapporteurs and the interaction with other UN mechanisms are excellent opportunities for the State and civil society to review and analyse the fulfilment of human rights obligations and discuss in a constructive manner how to improve the realization of human rights in a country.

The Provedoria appreciates the report of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, describing with concern the serious vulnerability of several segments of the Timorese population, in particular those living in rural areas.

As the report indicates, despite the country's rapid economic growth, most Timorese continue to experience poverty, deprivation and insecure employment. Food insecurity, poor access to adequate water and sanitation facilities, rising income inequality, limited quality and availability of education, are just some of the challenges many Timorese continue to face today.

The Provedoria recognizes the positive initiatives that the State has taken to address these challenges during its few years of independence, and also the progressive nature of the realization of economic, social and cultural rights. However, the Provedoria urges Timor-Leste to make greater efforts in using the maximum of its available resources, in an effective way, to ensure the satisfaction of at least the minimum essential level of enjoyment of those rights for all the citizens.

The Provedoria would like to highlight the urgent need for the State to give adequate support to the many women in Timor-Leste who live in poverty and are subject to different forms of gender-based violence, including domestic violence. More needs to be done to combat discrimination and assure that women have access to and complete education. If educated, women are in a much better position to compete on equal terms with men for employment opportunities, to participate in political life, to access justice and to defend their rights. The Provedoria supports the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the need to improve the implementation of the Law against Domestic Violence and the Law on the Protection of Witnesses, and to increase resources for the Vulnerable Persons Unit of the National Police.

Finally, the Provedoria would like to reiterate its commitment, in accordance with our mandate, to assist the Government of Timor-Leste in implementing the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur.

Thank you.