

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HUMAN RIGHTS, COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY

### DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE MEMBER STATES OF ASEAN, SOUTH-EAST ASIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

#### NOTICE TO MEMBERS N° 17/2001

**Subject: Ad hoc delegation for the observation of elections to East Timor's Constituent Assembly from 24 August to 3 September 2001**

**Members will find attached, for information, the report of the ad hoc delegation for the observation of elections to East Timor's Constituent Assembly from 24 August to 3 September 2001 to the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security and Defence Policy**

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR  
COMMITTEES AND DELEGATIONS

15 November 2001

# **EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

## **AD HOC DELEGATION FOR THE OBSERVATION OF ELECTIONS FOR EAST TIMOR'S CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY**

### **REPORT**

**on**

**the observation of the elections to East Timor's Constituent Assembly  
on 30 August 2001**

**Report from the Chairman of the ad hoc delegation, Mr Carlos COSTA NEVES,  
Vice-president of the delegation for the relations with the Member States of ASEAN,  
south-east Asia and the Republic of Korea**

**to the Chairman of the  
Committee on Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security and Defence Policy**

## **Introduction**

On the occasion of East Timor's Constituent Assembly elections on 30 August 2001, the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General and UN Transitional Administrator for East Timor (UNTAET), Mr Sergio Vieira de Mello, supported by the major local political parties, invited the European Union to send an international electoral observer team.

The European Parliament decided to witness this historic event and sent an ad hoc delegation as part of the election observation mission<sup>1</sup>, led by Mr Carlos Costa Neves (PPE/ED-PO), together with Mr Richard Howitt (PSE-UK) and Mr Toine Manders (ELDR-NL). The European Parliament thus confirmed its long-term commitment in support of the nation building process in East Timor. A delegation had already observed the Popular Consultation for independence on 30 August 1999 and, in April 2000, a delegation met with representatives of the Indonesian authorities, visited the refugee camps in West Timor and held meetings in East Timor with Mr Gusmão, Mr Ramos Horta, Bishop Basílio do Nascimento and various UNTAET representatives. Several resolutions adopted by the European Parliament over the years helped to keep East Timor on the international agenda. On October 4, 2001 the European Parliament adopted a resolution on the election results and future development in East Timor.

The violent incidences after the Popular Consultation in 1999 underlined the necessity for the presence of international observers at these elections in order to create a secure environment, defend the integrity of the electoral process and reinforce confidence in the results of the elections among the population.

### **EP delegation, part of the EU Election Observation Mission**

The EP delegation participated in the election observation as an integral part of the EU Election Observation Mission (EOM), which was the largest single contingent of international observers being deployed.<sup>2</sup> It consisted in a strong component of Short Term Observers (26 STOs from the EU Member States) and a Core Team of 4 experts. Mr Wolfgang Kreissl-Doerfler, Member of the European Parliament (PSE/D) was appointed Chief Observer of the EU Election Observation Mission. Logistical support for the EU observers fell under the responsibility of the EU core team.

The EP delegation concentrated on observing the last 5 days of the electoral campaign, the vote and the counting of votes. The EOM established since the beginning of July, covered the whole election campaign and the official announcement of the results several days after the elections.

On Election Day, the EU election observers covered all 13 districts. The EP delegation split into three teams and observed elections in 19 polling centres (each composed of 5 to 6 polling stations) in the districts of Dili (10) and Liquica (9).

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<sup>1</sup> Annex 1 list of participating members and staff

<sup>2</sup> In total 220 international observers. Larger international election observer teams were equally sent by Portugal, the Carter Center, the Asia Foundation, the Asia Network for Free Elections, Australia, Canada, Japon.

## **International Co-ordination**

According to UN Security Council Resolution 1338, the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET), in collaboration with the East Timorese people was exclusively responsible for the administration of the elections.

For this purpose, UNTAET created, on 16 March 2001, an Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) to be the supreme and exclusive authority for organising and conducting the electoral process.

The European Commission funded the EU Election Observation Mission with EURO 1 Million. Funding also provided for voter education actions to facilitate full participation of local NGOs and to help to create an environment conducive to the long-term establishment of democracy in East Timor. The European Commission contracted the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as the implementing agency for electoral co-ordination support to observers, both East Timorese and international, in order to avoid duplication of efforts and to achieve a coherent, comprehensive observer coverage of the elections.

Other components of the electoral assistance project of the UNDP consisted in civic and voter education and constitutional development and support to the electoral campaign through the establishment of resource centres for political parties and independent candidates.

## **Framework Programme of EP delegation**

The EP delegation<sup>1</sup> participated in general briefings for international observers given by the UNDP and the IEC. The EP delegation met bilaterally the Chief Electoral Officer of the IEC, Mr Carlos Valenzuela, the Transitional Administrator, Mr Sergio Vieira de Mello, the UNTAET Deputy Director of the Department of Political Affairs, Mr Andrew Whitley, and the UNTAET General Prosecutor for Serious Crimes, Mr Mohamed Othman.

The EP delegation met with EU Chief Observer, Mr Kreissl-Dörfler, Mr Duffy, Deputy Head of EU EOM, the Heads of Mission of the EU Member States in Dili from the UK, Ireland and Ambassador Pedro Moitinho de Almeida from Portugal and the European Commission Special Representative in Dili, Mr John Keating.

An important part of the programme consisted in meetings with Mr Xanana Gusmão, Mr José Ramos Horta and with representatives of political parties, such as Fretilin, PSD and UDT and in observing campaigning.

The EP delegation visited the Districts of Ermera and Baucau; the delegation met with the District Administrators and Electoral Co-ordinators and in Baucau, in particular, with Bishop Basílio do Nascimento.

Further meetings were conducted with representatives of human rights and women's rights associations, the UNHCR, the Worldbank and the International Organisation for Migration.

At a press conference on 31 August 2001, the EU Chief Observer, Mr Kreissl-Dörfler, presented a summary of the provisional findings of the EU Election Observation Mission, together with

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<sup>1</sup> Annex 2 Programme  
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the EP ad hoc delegation and the EU Presidency in-office, represented by Ambassador Luc Darras (Belgium) .<sup>1</sup>

### **Meeting with UNTAET Transitional Administrator, SRSG Sergio Vieira de Mello**

Mr Vieira de Mello stressed the important role the EU played in financing the transition process in East Timor. It was important to keep up this effort after independence; the UN would also need to continue this effort by keeping both military and civilian personnel on the spot, while gradually reducing their number, according to developments. The expenditure should be financed from an assessed budget and not from voluntary contributions.

The EU financial contribution would have a positive impact on several on-going projects, including the strengthening of the judicial system, which was confronted with severe problems, including the lack of infrastructures and of competent investigators.

Mr Vieira de Mello asked the EP delegation to pass on the message that speedy and timely payments of the EU financial contributions are of essential importance.

International pressure should be kept on Indonesia for the prosecution of crimes committed in East Timor in 1999.

The Administrator also outlined efforts to speed up "timorisation" of the administration (hampered by the lack of qualified local personnel) as well as efforts to organise return of the refugees living in the camps in West Timor. He considered that, although an amnesty would reassure militia leaders and speed up the return of refugees, "serious crimes" should continue to be effectively prosecuted.

### **Meeting with Mr Xanana Gusmão**

Mr Gusmão welcomed the continuing interest of the EP in following the situation in East Timor and supporting the independence process. He was confident in a peaceful transition to independence, including the election process.

On justice issues, he underlined that the aims of punishing crimes and reconciling the population had to be combined, on the basis of the principle that amnesty could be granted only after justice had been administered.

Reconciliation was essential, also in order to divert expenditure from security to reconstruction and economic development; furthermore, most crimes had been committed not by the Timorese, but by the Indonesian military: an effective prosecution of these crimes in Indonesia was unlikely.

On the future of East Timor, he stressed the importance that international assistance would have in the transition period, for supporting capacity building, training and development of human resources.

Political stability was crucial, and the future Constitution should deliver a stable political model for at least 15-20 years.

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<sup>1</sup> Annex 3 Summary of provisional findings  
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## **Meeting with Bishop Basílio do Nascimento**

Bishop Nascimento described the Timorese political situation, in particular the "democratic euphoria" which had resulted in 16 political parties contesting the elections.

In his view, Fretilin had raised excessive expectations in party activists, who might react violently to more mitigated results.

On Timorisation, he considered that optimising international presence was essential, since the Timorese could supply lower and middle-echelon administrators, but the higher cadres were simply not available. On priorities, while stressing that the food situation was satisfactory, he indicated education and health as being the main challenges for the future.

On the return of refugees, he remarked that persons responsible for serious crimes were using innocent people as a sort of lifesaver. The evolution was positive but Mr Gusmão's declarations on amnesty had raised strong opposition. He thought however that reconciliation among the Timorese would eventually take place, while the Indonesians would probably never prosecute their own military.

International public opinion should continue to follow East Timor, and technical assistance was necessary for at least 10-15 years.

Timorese society had been traumatised by what had happened; violence had become a way of life (even domestic violence) and "hearts could not be repaired as easily as streets".

## **Meeting with Mr Mohamed Othman**

Mr Othman indicated that delays in prosecution stemmed from a delay in the starting point: investigations of serious crimes could only start effectively in October 1999, and the main challenge had been bringing charges against people already in detention.

Out of the 10 priority serious cases, five were almost ready, and one was already in court (Los Palos case).

Mr Othman gave details on a series of "serious crimes" procedures, and insisted that evidence gathered could lead to the indictment of at least 200 people in Indonesia; prosecution in Indonesia was difficult, however, since thorny issues of applicable law and international law principles were involved.

Generally speaking, Indonesians were suspicious of encroachments on their rights, and would not agree to transfers of their nationals. It was therefore essential to influence Indonesian procedures so that Indonesian courts accept evidence collected by the East Timor judiciary.

The Atambua case trial had been widely criticised (including by the EU), but he was not confident on the outlook for the appeal procedure.

On the situation in East Timor, he stressed the weakness of the justice infrastructure, including investigating teams, lawyers, and courts. The high turnover of international personnel and language problems also contributed to the general slowness of procedures.

Minor crimes should therefore be settled at community level by "traditional justice". The "serious crimes" programme would continue at least until July 2003, and the 10 priority cases would be ready for trial by mid-2002.

However, older procedures were still open (including cases from 1975). Extra resources were not easily available, and the UN budget system was systematically late in dealing with requests for supplementary funds.

### **Meeting with Representatives of Fretilin (Mr Mari Alkatiri, Mr Lu Olo)**

The representatives of Fretilin were confident in an election victory, but confirmed that a "national unity government" would be formed, based on abilities, not on party allegiance.

This government would have to deal with priorities, such as

- Refugee return and the reconciliation process, "Reconciliation with justice" was necessary or acts of vengeance would take place;
- Timorisation: international assistance was helpful, but was not proceeding to adequate transfers of skills to the Timorese cadres. The reduction of international presence would have to go ahead, but military staff in the Western districts would have to be kept at present levels. The situation was especially serious in the health sector where ICRC and MSF were in charge of day-to-day administration, instead of running specific emergency programmes, as they usually do;
- Future international integration: East Timor would have to evaluate on a cost/benefit basis, whether to join ACP or ASEAN (or both), it would, of course join the UN as soon as possible,
- Future economic and political development: eradication of poverty was the first priority. Funds would be needed to invest in tourism; Europe should try to be of assistance.

Fretilin was committed to the Pact of Unity amongst political parties; it would support Mr Gusmão's candidacy, if a consensus developed in the political spectrum.

### **Meeting with the President of the UDT, João Carrascalão**

The President of the UDT considered that the election process was basically flawed from the beginning. Elections had been insufficiently prepared, information was lacking, and the IEC could not monitor the situation in the villages. The results would not, therefore, be of great significance. His party had filed complaints about episodes of voter intimidation, but without result. Furthermore, he feared that secrecy of the vote would not be guaranteed.

On the problems of Timorese society, he indicated that nepotism and corruption were widespread, while public administration was largely ineffectual.

### **Meeting with the President of the PSD, Mario Carrascalão**

The President of the PSD, while stressing his positive judgement on the UN administration, considered that the lack of an overall development plan significantly hampered economic

development and the process of Timorisation. Crucial legislation on land rights and investments had not been introduced, while the development of the dollar economy would result in inflationary processes and a two-tier economy (dollar/rupee).

Politically, "the parties created by the UN had become the new masters". In particular Fretilin had benefited from its close links to the UN administration. Intimidation cases during the campaign had occurred. The PSD would probably take second place in the elections.

In the future, Timorisation should continue rapidly, and only technical staff from foreign countries should remain. However, two years had been lost for economic development; everything was imported from Australia and even for the coffee sector no initiative was being taken. Prospects for oil revenues were still vague and essential work on the irrigation and road system was progressing very slowly.

### **Assessment of the pre-election phase**

According to the Electoral Regulation 2001/2, the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) operated as an independent body and exercised its functions without regard to any improper influence, direct or indirect, from any source. The IEC consisted of five Electoral Commissioners and a non-voting Chief Electoral Officer, Mr Carlos Valenzuela. The IEC was responsible for the organisation and conduct of the electoral process (i.e. procedures, guidelines, and registration of political parties, prevention and control of election irregularities, inquiries and rules on complaints, counting the votes cast).

The IEC advised the Secretary-General of the United Nations Organisation as to whether the criteria for a fair and free election had been met and had the power to certify the results of the election. The Chief Electoral Officer determined the elected candidates.

All persons eligible to vote who had registered in East Timor and who were present on polling day could vote for the Constituent Assembly's representatives. The eligible voters had to be included on the electoral roll established by the IEC. The total number of registered voters was 409,019.

Voter lists were established from the data collected during the nation-wide Civil Registration exercise. The primary concern was to build public confidence in the development of an electoral roll, which was crucial for a free and fair election in East Timor, both for this election and for future democracy in the territory. East Timorese voters had been turning out in large numbers for the IEC's public exhibition of the preliminary electoral roll, checking their names and learning of the location of their polling station. By the 27 July deadline, 233,450 East Timorese had checked the data, and some 28,000 people requested corrections.

Sixteen political parties were registered for the Constituent Assembly elections. 968 party candidates and five national independent candidates were competing for the 75 national seats (allocated on a nation-wide proportional representation system), and 84 party district candidates and 11 district independent candidates were campaigning for the 13 district seats in the Constituent Assembly (allocated on a simple majority system).

Human rights representatives underlined that the lead up to this election to the Constituent Assembly was notably characterised by the lack of constitutional debate, both during the civic education campaign and the campaign of the political parties.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Yayasan HAK (Law, Human Rights and Justice, Dili), 3.9.2001  
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Having also observed the final days of the election campaign, the EP ad hoc delegation was able to assess the peaceful atmosphere in which the campaign was conducted. Human rights representatives also confirmed that the political parties largely acted with decorum and respect.<sup>1</sup>

### **Assessment of the election day**

The high turnout of 91% (98.6% in the 1999 Popular Consultation) proved the desire of the East Timorese people to have a voice in their future.

Election day was peaceful. The EP delegation gave an overall positive assessment for the conduct of the poll in all polling stations observed and for the orderly conduct of the vote count in the count centres. The climate was good, voters did not seem to feel threatened in any way and there were no reports of intimidation or serious incidents.

793 domestic electoral observers were deployed throughout the entire electoral process. The groups reported no problems in receiving accreditation or in gaining access to any aspect of the electoral process. Domestic observers and party agents were present in all polling stations observed. For organisational reasons, local observers, unfortunately, did not have the right to vote in a district other than their own when they were deployed to monitor the election day in that district.

A few polling centres, which had lines at 4 p.m., continued operating until the last person in the queue was processed. In the end, 8 centres continued handling voters until well after the official closing time, with the last centre handling its last voter at approximately 9 p.m.

Problems, which the EP delegation observed, regarded the late opening of polling stations due to organisational problems and in some cases the management of voter queues.

Inaccuracies in the voter lists resulted from the documented errors in the IEC registration database. The number of people concerned (9,719) however did not significantly influence the outcome of the vote.

In some polling centres, IEC local staff could not communicate well with the IEC international staff, responsible for polling centres (District Electoral Officers) because of language problems.

The lack of provision for absentee voting disenfranchised people in hospitals, the elderly, the disabled and people in prison.

Local observer groups regarded the capacity-building aspect of the election as disappointing because East Timorese poll workers (5,000) were frequently not included in the processes of opening and closing the polling places. The people of East Timor had few opportunities to learn how to organise future elections on their own.<sup>2</sup> This fact is of particular relevance as one of the IEC's primary tasks had been to develop the capacity of East Timorese to administrate future elections. Local administrators must receive training in preparation for the next elections.

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<sup>1</sup> International Federation for East Timor

<sup>2</sup> International Federation for East Timor

Another concern relates to insufficient voter education leading up to the vote. Local observer groups found that many voters, particularly the elderly and women, did not understand the purpose of the elections.<sup>1</sup>

### **Count process**

In order to minimise the security risks, sealed ballot boxes were sent to District centres immediately after the close of the polls. In many instances, electoral observers, agents and the media accompanied the vehicle convoy transporting the ballot boxes to their destination in the district capitals. They were then placed in secure storage under continuous CivPol guard. Party agents, observers, and media were able to monitor ballot boxes throughout the night.

The counting involved a number of phases (amalgamating and mixing ballot papers and counting votes). Based on the experience of the violence after the proclamation of results of the Popular Consultation in 1999, the IEC's highest priority was protecting the secrecy of the vote, including guaranteeing that no result could be traced back to any particular village or polling centre.

The counting was done exclusively by International IEC staff. Domestic observers and party agents observed the entire count process.

### **Election results**

East Timor's main independence party, Fretilin (the Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor), won a majority of 55 seats in the 88-member Constituent Assembly: 43 (57.37%) of the 75 national seats and 12 of the possible 13 district representative posts.

In capturing the majority, Fretilin far outdistanced the other political parties. The Democratic Party (PD) won just seven seats (8.72%), followed by the Social Democratic Party (PSD) (8.18%) and the Associacao Social-Democrata Timorese (ASDT) (7.84%) with six each.

The Timorese Democratic Union (UDT) (2.36%), the National Timorese Party (PNT) (2.21%), Klibur Oan Timor Asuwain (KOTA) (2.13%), the People's Party of Timor (PPT) (2.01%) and the Christian Democratic Party (PDC) (1.98%) each won two seats.

The remaining three seats went to the Socialist Party of Timor (PST) (1.78%), the Liberal Party (PL) (1.10%) and the Christian Democratic Party of Timor (UDC/PDC) (0.66%).

No seat went to Associacao Popular Democratica de Timor (Apodeti Pro.Ref.), PARENTIL, Worker's Party (PTT) and the Democratic Party Maubere (PDM).

The 24 members of the new Council of Ministers of the Second Transitional Government replaces the Transitional Cabinet and is composed entirely of East Timorese officials. The new Government was appointed three weeks after the elections and has 10 members from Fretilin, three members from the Democratic Party and 11 independents.

The party's secretary general, Mari Alkatiri, has become Chief Minister and Minister of Economy and Development. Mr José Ramos Horta (Independent) participates in the new

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<sup>1</sup> International Federation for East Timor

government as Senior Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. Mr Fernando de Araújo (Democratic Party) has been appointed Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. Mr Francisco Guterres (Fretilin) has been elected Speaker of the Constituent Assembly.

24 of the 88 Assembly members are women.

### **Final assessment**

As these were extraordinary elections, marking a process in transition, normal standards of election assessment could not be applied. A major difference to normal elections was the fact that the election administration and the count were undertaken by the UN. The EP ad hoc delegation shared the EOM's appraisal of "the IEC's prompt response to problems experienced during election day" and underlined "that the relevant sectors of UNTAET have worked enormously hard to make this crucial election possible."

But, given the special circumstances, campaigning (conduct of political parties, no intimidation, pressure or threats) and voting (high turn-out, disciplined behaviour of voters, high participation of domestic observers and party agents) at the August 30 ballot can be assessed as free and fair. The EP ad hoc delegation's assessment is in alignment with the official pronouncement of the IEC and the EOM Chief Observer.

Firstly, the elections vividly demonstrated the East Timorese people's desire for democracy and their commitment to voting. People of all ages, very often having arrived from long distances, waited calmly and patiently in the hot sun, often for many hours, to exercise their franchise. Although they were deprived of the right to rule themselves for nearly five centuries, they clearly strive for self-government. The EP delegation agreed with the preliminary findings presented on behalf of the EU Election Observation Mission by Mr Kreissl-Dörfler and "congratulated the East Timorese people on the conduct of the elections."

Secondly, all parties fully respect and implement the election results according to the (church-organised) Pact of National Unity which 14 of the 16 political parties had signed on 8 July 2001, committing themselves to create and maintain an atmosphere of peace and stability and to respect the results of the elections to the Constituent Assembly.

Thirdly, we can confirm the emergence of a pluralistic society in East Timor. Even if some people may not have understood the purpose of the election and differences in the political programmes were rather not a big subject during campaigning, voters were however informed about the different political parties. As Fretilin was the most well known party, identified with resistance and independence, it came out with the expected majority of votes, but the result is far less than the expected 80%.

For the adoption of the Constitution, 60 votes are required. Fretilin, being unable to rule alone with its 55 seats, needs the support of other smaller parties, such as the young PD party which came out as the second strongest party and participates in the second transitional government with three cabinet members.

## **Future developments**

East Timor's first ever democratic elections have been portrayed as a model for democratic transition by UNTAET. These elections were only one more step in a long process to a successful transition to nation building and democracy.

The Constituent Assembly will have 90 days to write and adopt a Constitution for an independent and democratic East Timor. In order to determine what type of political system will reflect the will of the East Timorese people, an information campaign and informed contributions by the people is crucial.

The Assembly, after adopting the Constitution, will transform itself into a Parliament. Presidential elections are likely to take place in early 2002. On 25 August, Mr Xanana Gusmão declared that he is ready to stand for Presidency. Formal independence is expected to be declared before mid-2002.

The European Union, together with the international community, must be prepared to continue to maintain the support required consolidating democracy, including the promotion of a constructive dialogue across the political spectrum of civil society. The assistance should further facilitate the process of the economic transition of East Timor and appropriate development programmes should pay particular attention to rural society.

As regards refugees and the investigation of serious crimes, Parliament's resolution of 4 October 2001 expresses the hope for a permanent solution to the problem of refugees wishing to return to East Timor and restates its conviction that those responsible for human rights abuses who are in East Timor or neighbouring countries must not go unpunished.

### **For further information:**

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# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## AD HOC DELEGATION FOR OBSERVATION OF ELECTIONS FOR EAST TIMOR'S CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

24 August - 3 September 2001

### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

#### Members of the European Parliament:

	Group	Country	Committee
Mr Carlos COSTA NEVES Chairman	EPP-ED	Portugal	Vice-chairman of Delegation for relations with the Member States of ASEAN, South-east Asia and the Republic of Korea Women's rights
Mr Richard HOWITT	PES	Great Britain	Development and Cooperation
Mr Toine MANDERS	ELDR	Netherlands	Legal Affairs and Internal Market

#### Secretariat of the Delegation:

Mr Carlo CHICCO	Administrator
Ms Ursula BAUSCH	Administrator

#### Interpreters

Mr Fernando FERREIRA (chef d'équipe)	Portuguese
Mr Brian CONNOR	English

#### Abbreviations:

EPP-ED	Group of the European People's Party (Christian-Democratic Group) and European Democrats
PES	Group of the Party of European Socialists
ELDR	Group of the European Liberal, Democratic and Reform Party

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## AD HOC DELEGATION FOR OBSERVATION OF ELECTIONS FOR EAST TIMOR'S CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

24 August - 3 September 2001

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### FINAL PROGRAMME

Main meeting places: EU EOM Office and UNDP Electoral Support Centre, Markas Compound  
UNTAET Office, IEC Office

#### Friday, 24 August

- morning Arrival of Staff at 7.45 a.m.  
Meeting with EU EOM core team and EC Representative, Mr John Keating
- 17.00 Welcome drink for EU observers organised by EU EOM

#### Saturday, 25 August

- Arrival of Mr Costa Neves at 7.45 a.m.  
Meeting with EC Representative, Mr John Keating

#### Sunday, 26 August

- Arrival of Mr Howitt and Mr Manders at 7.45 a.m.
- 10.00 UNDP General briefing for international observers
- 15.00 UNDP Special briefing on allocation of seats
- 20.00 Working dinner and briefing by Mr Wolfgang Kreissl-Dörfler, Head of EU Electoral Observation Mission, Mr Terence Duffy, Deputy Head of EU EOM, the Heads of Mission of the EU Member States in Dili, Ms Jane Penfold (UK), Ms Fionnuala Gilsean (IRL), Mr Pedro Moitinho de Almeida (PO), Mr Olivier Nicolas, First Secretary of French Embassy in Jakarta and the European Commission Representative, Mr John Keating

### **Monday, 27 August**

- 9.00 Meeting with the UNTAET Head of Department of Political Affairs, Mr Andrew Whitley
- 10.30 Meeting with the Transitional Administrator, Mr Sergio Vieira de Mello
- 11.30 Meeting with Mr Xanana Gusmão, at Fosca building
- 14.00 Meeting with Head of UNDP Electoral Observer Co-ordination Unit, Mr Nicholas Selsey
- 15.00 Meeting with the Chief Electoral Officer of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), Mr Carlos Valenzuela
- 16.30 Briefing by the Deputy Head of EU EOM, Mr Terence Duffy, and the EU EOM Co-ordinator, Mr Martim Freire

### **Tuesday, 28 August**

- 8.30 Departure for Baucau District
- 12.30 Working lunch with Baucau District Administrator, Senior Adviser, Electoral Co-ordinator and Political Officer
- 14.30 Meeting with Bishop Basílio do Nascimento
- .... Return to Dili
- 18.30 Reception for outgoing and incoming UNTAET Force Commander, given by Special Representative, Mr Sergio Vieira de Mello
- 19.00 Reception given by Australian Head of Mission, Mr James Batley

### **Wednesday, 29 August**

- 09.30 Meeting with Prosecutor General, Mr Mohamed Othman
- 11.30 Meeting with Representatives of FRETILIN, President Mr Lu Olo and Vice-President, Mr Mari Alkitiri
- 13.00 Working lunch with Cabinet Member for Foreign Affairs, Mr José Ramos-Horta
- 14.30 Meeting with President of UDT, Mr President Joao Carrascalao
- 15.30 Meeting with President of PSD, Mr Mario Carrascalao
- 18.00 Pre-election open house reception, given by Portuguese Head of Mission
- 19.30 Reception in honour of Japan's Senior Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs

### **Thursday, 30 August**

#### **Election Day**

Upon return informal meeting with the Head of the EU EOM

### **Friday, 31 August**

- 11.00 IEC Press conference
- 12.30 EU EOM Press conference
- 15.00 Debriefing with IEC Chief Electoral Officer, Mr Carlos Valenzuela,
- 17.30 Meeting with the Head of the East Timor NGO Forum, Mr Arsénio Bano, and Representatives of national NGOs for human rights and for women's rights

### **Saturday, 1 September**

- 09.00 Meeting with UNHCR (Mr Howitt only)
  - 10.30 Meeting with IOM (International Organisation for Migration) (Mr Howitt only)
  - 08.30 Rest of the EP delegation, departure to Gleno/Ermera District
  - 11.00 Meeting with Ermera District Administrator, Senior Adviser, Electoral Administrator and Political Officer
- Return to Dili

### **Sunday, 2 September**

Observation of Count, Dili Count Centre

### **Monday, 3 September**

Departure of Mr Costa Neves

Observation of Count, Dili Count Centre

### **Tuesday, 4 September**

Departure of Staff

#### **Programme Co-ordinator**

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EUROPEAN UNION ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION  
Electoral Support Centre  
Markas Compound  
Dili – East Timor

**PRESS CONFERENCE**

**European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM)  
Election Press Centre, Friday 31 Aug. 2001**

***Wolfgang Kreissl-Doerfler MEP, Chief Observer***

**Summary of the Provisional Findings of the  
European Union Election Observation Mission**

We would like to congratulate the East Timorese people on the conduct of this historic election. The voters have demonstrated exceptional patience during the whole election process. The overall atmosphere appears calm and suggests that the election has been conducted in a peaceful manner. Our feed-back suggests a very high turn-out which we believe is most encouraging for East Timor's transition process.

With over forty observers, the largest single contingent of observers being deployed comes from the European Union. The Presidency of the European Union, Ambassador Luc Darras (Belgium) is joined by the European Parliament delegation led by Mr Carlos Costa Neves from Portugal, representing the European People's Party; together with Mr Richard Howitt from the United Kingdom, representing the European Socialist Party; and Mr Toine Manders from the Netherlands representing the European Liberal Party.

Our mission has been in East Timor since the start of July, establishing our office, and conducting an assessment of the campaign and of the pre-election situation. Our Short-term Observers have been in all districts since 27th August. We have received detailed reports from our observers in all 13 districts

We have received no information of serious incidents or shortcomings relating to the conduct of the election. The main issue of importance has been the late opening of the majority of Polling Stations observed. Our reports do suggest some examples of difficulties of management (queue control etc.) at some Polling Stations. We do not regard these reports as significantly detrimental to the election process.

We would like to praise the IEC's prompt response to problems experienced during election day. We would also like to state that the relevant sectors of UNTAET have worked enormously hard to make this crucial election possible.

As one of the major donors to East Timor, the European Union is glad to note the remarkable success of this election. Our observation mission continues to monitor the count process. The Chief Observer and core-staff will remain in East Timor until after the official announcement of the result.

The presence of the observer mission from the European Union, following the mission for the 1999 Popular Consultation, underlines the continuing commitment of the EU to supporting the East Timorese people and the development of their democracy. The issue of East Timor's independence was, in particular, the subject of several resolutions in the European Parliament which were crucial in keeping East Timor on the international agenda.

The European Union will publish a declaration on these elections, after receiving the results of the observer mission.

The Chief Observer, on behalf of the mission, would like to take this opportunity, on this historic day, to express every good wish for the continued success of East Timor's democracy and the prosperity of its people.