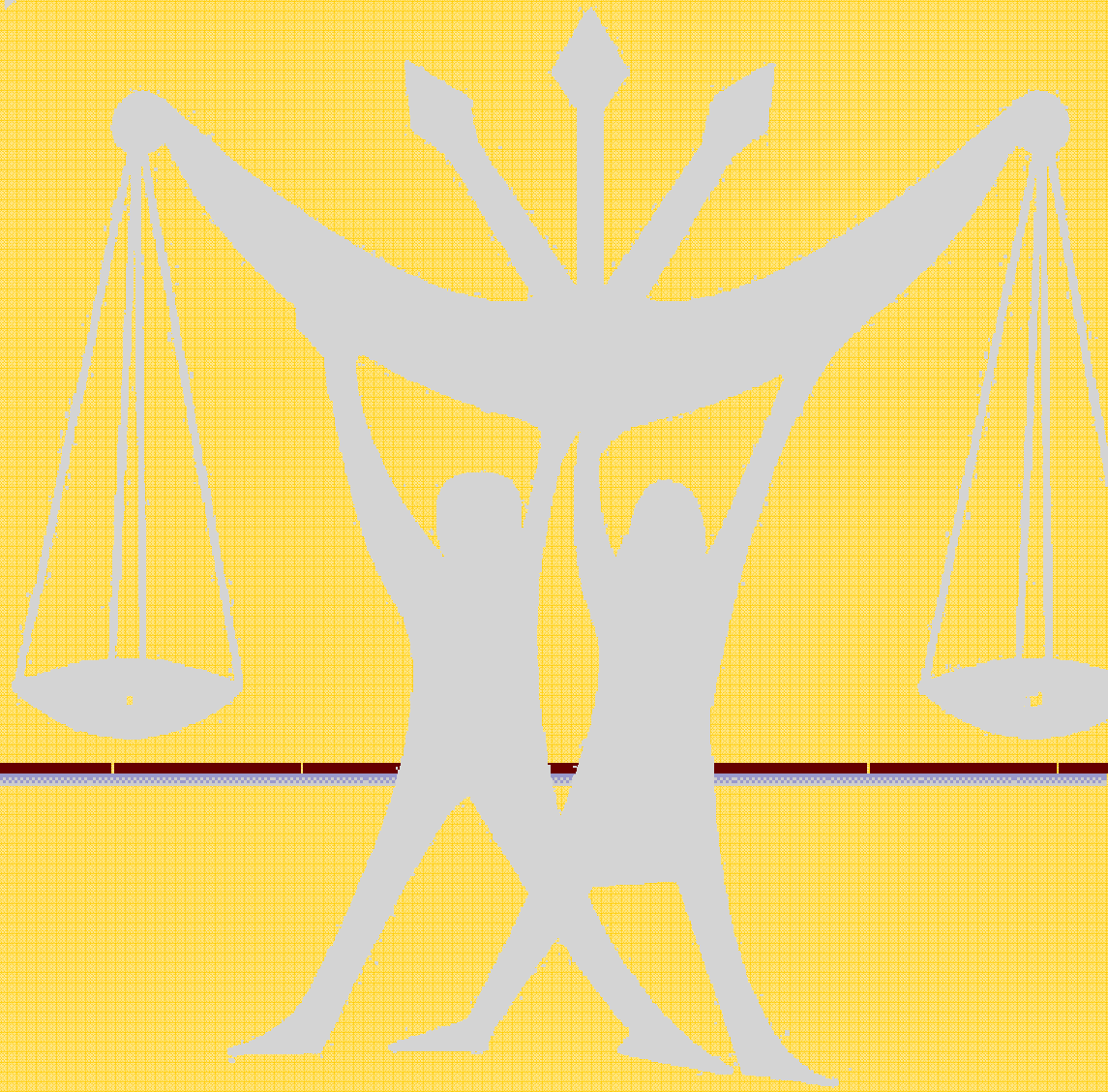


**Provedoria for Human Rights and Justice
Timor-Leste**



REPORT

APF 13

**Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2008**

This report summarizes the main activities carried out by the Provedoria for Human Rights and Justice (PDHJ) during the period of September 2007 to July 2008. This has the objective of reporting to peer institution in the Asia-Pacific region on the human rights developments in Timor-Leste and PDHJ's activities within its human rights' mandate.

This report provides a summary on the human rights situation as related to the State of Siege declared in Timor-Leste earlier this year and the situation of IDPs in the country. This report also includes specific sections with an overview on human rights complaints and investigation, legal human rights analysis, cooperation with national and international institutions, training and promotional activities as well as capacity development initiatives. A brief session highlights recent institutional development of the PDHJ.

A. STATE OF SIEGE AND EMERGENCY

Following the 11 February 2008 attacks against the President and Prime Minister, a State of Siege was declared which lasted in some parts of the country until May. A curfew was put in place and restrictions were placed on the right of movement, right to assemble and demonstrate, and the right to privacy as provided in the Constitution¹. During the State of Siege, the national military and police carried out joint operations in several areas of the country, with a view to attempting to bring those responsible for the attacks before justice.

As the National Institution for Human Rights, the PDHJ monitored the human rights situation during the State of Siege. The activities of the PDHJ included monitoring of the actions of the security forces as well as analysis of the Constitutionality of the state of exception declaration.

Within this sphere, the PDHJ undertook daily monitoring of the police detention cell and special military prison, received complaints on abuse of authority and excessive use of force by security forces, undertook visits to places where military operations were taking place, published a specific report on its activities findings and directed recommendations on how to redress some of the human rights violations committed during this period of exception. The published report, widely disseminated, also included some of PDHJ's findings in relation to monitoring of the consequences of the State of Siege in the economic activities of communities living in Dili.

The Provedor has also provided directly to the Government, National Parliament and President, within the sphere of dialogue and cooperation, his opinion on the lack of justification for the extension of the State of Siege. Even though the State of Siege was extended, the Prime Minister acknowledged the Provedor's legal opinion showing appreciation to his position. The Law extending the State of

Siege had, nonetheless, incorporated some of the recommendations of the Provedor in relation to ensuring that legal certainty would prevail in relation to the rights' limitation². The Provedor was in March called before the National Parliament to report on his findings and activities related to the State of Siege. In the tender history of this institution, this was the first time which the PDHJ appeared before the Plenary Session of the National Parliament.

The Provedor has been able to establish its place as an important institution in a democratic Timor-Leste. Evidence to this is the fact that Laws authorizing the President to declare the State of Siege expressly mentioned the Provedor as a mechanism to be accessed by the community in case of allegations of human rights violations by public authorities.

In view of the need to ensure that the PDHJ would be accessible during a time where the human rights guarantees are more frequently put at risk, the PDHJ has made use of mass communication means – newspapers and television – to inform the public of its work, especially as it related to the State of Siege declared. Through notice on TV and newspapers, PDHJ provided community members with a clear picture of its work and with contact details on how to make a complaint about human rights violations, especially those allegedly committed by the PNTL and F-FDTL during the State of Siege's security operations³. The information provided by mass communication was supplemented with the production of a notice posted widely, including at the IDPs camps and Dili neighborhood and district levels. This material was also distributed to partners' NGOs. During the three days that the newspaper inserts and the television coverage were published, the Director of Public Assistance received 9 telephone calls and 3 SMS' from people who wanted to make a complaint or requested further information about the work of the PDHJ.

The number of complaints received by the Provedor between February and April 2008 saw a 99% increase when comparing to the monthly average complaints made in 2007⁴. While various factors have played a role in brining about this increase, PDHJ is convinced that the publication of the notice in the mass media coupled with the media coverage of the human rights monitoring work during the State of Siege, were the main factors which weighed for the sudden increase on the number of complaints.

The PDHJ also undertook *on site* monitoring of places under the military operation in the districts due to the possible presence of the suspects of the attacks. While the PDHJ's first attempt to enter the military zone was frustrated since military soldiers did not allow passage of PDHJ monitoring staff, PDHJ was successful in entering this zone in its second attempt. By not allowing PDHJ staff to enter the military zone, the military forces have undoubtedly violated the Law of the Provedor. The Provedor officially raised this issue with the military

command and requested full cooperation and strict compliance with the Provedor's Law. The Provedor also recommended the military to ensure that its officers were fully aware of the powers of the Provedor. PDHJ is aware that in certain situation the notification of authorities of PDHJ's intention of undertaking a monitoring activity can frustrate the objectives of the monitoring⁵. However, in view of the possibility of armed confrontation⁶, PDHJ was compelled to inform the military authorities of PDHJ's monitoring activities so as to ensure some minimum level of security to its staff. At that time, PDHJ had not received any specific information on the existence of serious human rights violations in the area; therefore the risk of providing authorities with the possibility of destroying evidence was minimal. Based on its view that civil society and the UN human rights section also has an important role to play in monitoring security forces actions during the State of Siege, the PDHJ invited their representatives to join PDHJ staff in the monitoring activity at the military zones, therefore assisting these institutions to have access to restricted areas.

PDHJ embraced the State of Siege as an opportunity to increase communities' knowledge of its work and to educate the public on the actions of security forces and the main human rights issues during this period. For this, PDHJ produced a brochure on rights during arrest and detention which was widely distributed in and outside the capital, as well as detention centers during the State of Siege. PDHJ also produced radio and TV programmes on this topic.

While this was the second time in the young history of PDHJ that Timor-Leste went through a large scale politico-military crisis, the PDHJ, with its limited but extremely committed staff, accepted the challenge in ensuring it would undertake a systematic monitoring and investigation of human rights alleged violations during the State of Siege. In PDHJ's view, PDHJ was extremely successful in not only putting pressure in the security forces to make their members accountable for their actions, but in raising our profile together with the community and State authorities.

PDHJ acknowledges that the need to arrest ex-military armed personnel suspected of committing the attacks against the President and Prime Minister was a challenging task for the security forces. PDHJ believes that the fact that police and military worked well together and showed a great degree of coordination gives an important message to the community following the confrontation between police and military in 2006. PDHJ also congratulated the Government in using a considerable small amount of force to capture the fugitives. Indeed, as per information gathered by the PDHJ, lethal force was not used to directly arrest the fugitives. Instead, a process of dialogue was pursued. This approach by the Government provided an important message to the community and was an inroad to re-establishing stability in the country.

The large majority of those allegedly involved in the attacks against our heads of State surrendered to the authorities. More than twenty of them are currently held in preventive detention, and are awaiting their trial. PDHJ regularly monitors their condition in prison.

The Provedor highlights that most of alleged abuses were committed by the police and military, which included arbitrary arrests and other unlawful actions against civilians who were not suspect of any criminal activity related to the attacks against the President and Prime Minister during regular patrolling activities. This reality shows that there is in the police and military a serious lack of discipline and severe abuse of authority.

B. THE SITUATION OF THE IDPS

Since the start of the ‘National Recovery Strategy’ in December 2007, the Government and humanitarian agencies have assisted IDPs’ return to their homes or relocate to alternative places. To date, 17 IDP camps have been closed and approximately 3500 families have received ‘recovery packages’ which include money to re-build their houses and one-off rice packages. With the relatively stable situation within the country from April onwards, confidence was built for people to move out of IDP camps. We are, nonetheless, aware that there is the potential for conflict when people return to areas from which they previously fled or move into new areas where they are not welcomed.

With the beginning of the return programme of the IDPs, PDHJ has recommenced its monitoring of IDPs and returnees in June 2008. The focus in this monitoring is on the security for returnees, as well as general protection monitoring for people in transitional shelters, which includes police actions and omissions in this process. PDHJ has identified that secondary occupants and land disputes represent the major problems for IDPs’ return. Based on a well established relationship with the competent Ministry, the PDHJ is regularly providing information to the Government on its findings and opinions with the aim of assisting in the efforts in resolving the problem of IDPs and, therefore, ensuring that their rights are fully respected.

C. COMPLAINTS AND INVESTIGATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

From September 2007 to July 2008, the PDHJ received a total of 201 complaints. Out of these, 108 were within the human rights mandate of this institution⁷.

Out of these 108 complaints received in the area of human rights, the Provedor decided to open 46 investigations. The Provedor has also opened one investigation on his own initiative related to allegations on police misconduct during policing of a peaceful demonstration by students in July 2008.

Even though the investigations are not complete and in some cases the Provedor has not yet concluded the preliminary assessment process, it is worth of mentioning some of the areas of the complaints made to the Provedor:

- Constitutionality of the Pardon given by the President of the Republic in May 2008⁸
- Actions of the Police during Peaceful Demonstration
- Actions of the Joint Military and Police Force during the State of Siege
- The Constitutionality of the Pension Law to Ex-Parliamentarians⁹

These examples show that the Provedor is involved in a variety of issues and it also shows wide access to the PDHJ by the public.

In 2007, the Provedor had decided to forward most of the complaints against the police to be investigated under the police internal system. The main reason for this policy was the Provedor's belief that under UNPOL leadership, the professional ethics office would undertake investigation against police officers more efficiently and impartially. Some six months after this decision, the Provedor reviewed the development of investigations by the professional ethics office to realize that the results were not as expected. The internal investigation system showed to have serious institutional and structural problems which created considerable obstacles to the delivery of accountability to police members. With this, as from the second quarter of 2008 the Provedor has decided to investigate most of the complaints against the police so as to ensure that a credible and objective investigation is undertaken.

Currently, the PDHJ has 65 human rights cases under investigation which includes complaints made from 2005 to date.

To facilitate the investigations by the PDHJ, the Provedor requested the police authorities for a complete list of its members. The police readily accepted the request of the Provedor and provided to the PDHJ a complete list of detailed information on the police services' members. The same request was sent to the military, who has so far not cooperated. The Provedor aims at following up this request with the military with the expectation of having access to this information in the near future.

D. ANALYSIS OF LAWS AND POLICIES

Irrespective of its limited human resources, the PDHJ was able to provide comments to key draft legislations or policies in Timor-Leste.

Based on an invitation from the National Parliament, Provedor presented his comments about the Draft Law on Truth and Amnesty Measures. Based on the

fact that the draft law would provide amnesty to those responsible for crimes and human rights violations, the Provedor expressed his view that this draft law would negatively impact on bringing those responsible for human rights violations to justice¹⁰.

The Provedor also provided comments on the draft Law on the Martial Arts based on a request by the Minister of Justice, before the draft was submitted to Government's approval. In the revised version approved by the Government, the majority of Provedor's comments were incorporated.

The PDHJ also provided comments to the Weapons Draft Law and the Draft Law on Legislative Making Procedure. In relation to the last, the Provedor requested the Government to provide more wide access to draft laws through both the electronic and print media. Provedor also recommended that the time for the provision of comments needed to be sufficient so as to allow a real opportunity for the provision of comments by interested persons. Neither of these two draft laws have been approved and are still subject to ongoing legislative processes.

The PDHJ also provided comment on the policy for the creation of a juvenile justice system in Timor-Leste. Most of the comments were provided by the PDHJ as a member of the Working Group on Juvenile Justice organized by the Minister of Justice. The recommendations of the PDHJ related to the reinforcement and clarification of the role of the police in relation to the juvenile justice system and alternatives to court processes for juveniles.

E. PROMOTIONAL AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES

The PDHJ has been engaged in various activities of a promotional and training activities during the period under reporting.

The *2007 Annual Report* of the PDHJ has been recently submitted to the National Parliament. The production of this report is a statutory duty of the Provedor and represents a systematic mechanism for a dialogue with the National Parliament on PDHJ's activities, findings and recommendations. Provedor also considers to be an important means for the transparency to the work of the PDHJ.

From the results of the monitoring of the detention center in Dili, PDHJ did in November 2007 a *Roundtable on the Rights of People held in Detention*. PDHJ invited relevant stakeholders including Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health, Secretary of State for Security, Prosecution Office, PNTL, Public Defender, Lawyers' Association and civil society representatives, to sit and discuss the main findings of PDHJ and identify possible actions to remedy the concerns highlighted. While some of the authorities participated with a defensive approach,

the vast majority of the authorities came to the table with openness and provided ideas on how to better redress the problems identified. This was the first attempt of the Provedor in having a multi-disciplinary dialogue with relevant authorities with the aim of involving the authorities in the identification of possible remedial actions. PDHJ is currently following up on its recommendation during that activity and the implementation of redress actions by authorities. At this same opportunity, the first thematic monitoring report was published by the PDHJ.

The 2007 *Human Rights Day Celebration* included various promotional and educational activities. The 10th December 2007 was celebrated by the PDHJ with a range of activities in partnership with civil society organization, the Government of Timor-Leste and UN human rights unit.

Following the approach employed in other promotional activities to celebrate special dates in East Timor, “16 days of campaign” was implemented, culminating in activities on the 10th December in Dili and selected districts. Activities implemented in this celebration which were directly lead by the PDHJ included: daily radio programmes, school competition (Human Rights Quiz, drawing and team games) in Dili, Manatuto and Oecussi, tug-of-war competition in Dili and Oecussi and a walk for human rights in Dili. At the national level, the human rights day activities culminated in the “Human Rights Stage” in Dili on the 10th December. This celebration, counting with the presence of the President of the Republic, the SRSB, international community and CSOs representatives, and was accompanied by music and theatre activities.

Through a well planned process lead by the Organizing Committee composed of representatives of different partners, the PDHJ – leading this process – was able to ensure that the celebration of the 59th Anniversary of the UDHR impacted on the increase of people’s knowledge and awareness about human rights. This partnership included more than 10 NGOs, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Justice, the Secretary of State for Promotion of Equality as well as the UN human rights unit. Costs of the countrywide activities were shared amongst all members to this initiative, showing a true partnership.

Of all activities as part of the Human Rights Day celebration, the Human Rights Quiz with secondary school students was believed to be the one which have reached the highest degree of success. Calls came from all quarters, including from the Ministry of Education, to increase the reach of the Human Rights Quiz to district levels and to attempt to do a national activity in 2008 to include TV and radio live debate.

PDHJ delivered various trainings to specific target groups. Trainings organized by the PDHJ included *IDP training* to selected IDPs camps coordinators, in partnership with JRS. Basic human rights training to the police were also

organized to those who have not yet undergone the screening process and work at the district level. **Police training** was implemented in close coordination with the Government, Office of Prosecution, Police, NGOs and the UN human rights unit. While PDHJ aims at integrating human rights in the Police Academy curriculum as a long term measure, and will be working on this in 2009, PDHJ believes that it is important to provide some training to those police officers who are now not scheduled to undergo training at the Academy in the near future.

PDHJ recently joined forces with the UN human rights unit and Ministry of Education for the delivery of **training to primary school teachers** on integrating human rights education in the schools. The UN human rights unit has drafted a Human Rights Education Manual which is being currently revised by the PDHJ. As it relates to the curriculum of primary school, the curriculum was developed before UN human rights unit and PDHJ could mainstream HRE into the development of the curriculum, therefore there was the need to develop separate materials. However, with the expressed commitment of the Ministry of Education, PDHJ believes that HRE will be fully integrated into the pre-secondary school curriculum which is to be developed next year.

PDHJ also participated in various training initiatives organized by NGOs, both national and international.

PDHJ decided to undertake promotional and educational activities to celebrate special human rights days and occasions.

The torture prevention day was celebrated with a **Workshop on Torture Prevention** with police, military and prison guards. Through this workshop, PDHJ raised the knowledge of the target audience on torture, the Convention Against Torture as well mechanisms for preventing torture in their work. In addition to being an informative session, this workshop represented an open forum for participants to share their views, ask their questions and share their difficulties and concerns as they relate to torture. This activity showed to be an important activity to bring closer the relationship between PDHJ and security forces in view of the widely published criticisms of the PDHJ towards the security forces actions earlier in the year during the State of Siege.

A **Roundtable on the Convention on the Rights of Persons' with Disabilities** was organized as an activity to celebrate this treaty entering in force. PDHJ invited representatives of relevant organizations and amongst its participants about 50% were persons with disabilities. This activity represented the first time that the majority of CBOs had access and received information on the Convention. This activity also represented a chance for strengthening the relationship of PDHJ with CBOs working with persons with disabilities and for having a mutual understanding of the current situation facing persons with

disabilities. Representatives from Government institutions also participated in this activity. PDHJ also utilized this occasion to address representatives of persons with disabilities on its mandate to receive complaints on human rights violations, including discrimination on the basis of abilities.

Every year *international women's day* is celebrated on 8th March. This year, the PDHJ decided to deliver socialization sessions in the District of Manatuto at Suco Ili-heu and Kribas. These sessions were developed and implemented in full partnership with the Secretary of State for the Promotion of Equality and CSOs. The sessions were well attended with a total of 93 participants in both sessions. Participants included representatives from NGOs, local youth groups and Suco councils; their evaluation was overall positive and highlighted the importance of receiving information on women's rights at the district level.

The PDHJ, in partnership with the Government, public schools and NGOs, organized activities to celebrate children's day in June 2008. Amongst the activities included a visit by children to the Office of the Provedor.

Throughout the last year and first half of this year, PDHJ has continued its programme of awareness raising of the role and work of PDHJ in various districts. This mechanism - which joins all three areas of work of the PDHJ - is an important activity as it allows PDHJ to get in direct touch with communities at grass root level.

F. REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The Deputy Provedor for Human Rights and HRD Director participated in the *International Roundtable on the Role of National Human Rights Institutions and Transitional Justice*, which was held in Cape Town from 23 to 25 November. Through the presentation of the issue of transitional justice in East Timor, the PDHJ profited from a lively debate with participants on the statutory limitations of the Provedor's Statute and his role in the area of transitional justice. Gathering from the experience of other NHRI, PDHJ was also able to gain further insight into the importance of use of dialogue and other mechanism of similar nature to foster transitional justice in post-conflict societies. The importance of including cultural aspects in transitional justice mechanisms was also an important debate which is extremely relevant to the Timorese reality.

Earlier this year, PDHJ, represented by its Deputy Provedor for Human Rights, participated in the *ICC meeting* in Geneva. PDHJ was accredited by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in April 2008.

PDHJ has started developing a cooperation with the *Philippines Human*

Rights Commission in the aim of having this peer institution hosting a monitoring internship within the scope of the UNDP capacity development project¹¹.

G. INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The limited budget for the PDHJ remained a barrier to much institutional development in 2008. The Provedor had in his proposal requested around a three times increase of its 2007 budget. Plans included recruitment of more staff, enlargement of PDHJ's office and opening of district representations. However, the budget proposal put forward by the Government, and late approved by the National Parliament was much the same as 2007¹².

Failing the approval of the proposed budget, the PDHJ have so far not been able to establish branches at the regional levels, as initially planned. Irrespective of that, the PDHJ looked for external support and has secured funds to open a representation in Oecussi. It is expected that in October, this first branch of the PDHJ will open its doors. The choice of Oecussi as being the first regional office to be open has been a response to the non-existence of complaints from that district since PDHJ's establishment. The geographic isolation of this district - situated in an enclave in Indonesian West Timor - has been one of the identified reason for the lack of complaints. It was therefore clear for the PDHJ that this district should be one prioritized.

The National Parliament is at the time of writing of this report debating the rectification budget for 2008. PDHJ has requested an approximate further 20% increase in its original year budget. After PDHJ has provided its proposal, it was revealed that the current Government is requesting for more than the initial budget for 2008 as the rectification budget. PDHJ, within its mandate of good governance, believes that the request of such a substantial amount as rectification budget actually shows a limited level of planning in the part of Government and other State institutions.

The Government has not authorized the PDHJ to recruit additional staff or to change the nature of the current staff contract from temporary to permanent staff¹⁴. Currently, every recruitment for a public body is centralized by the Minister of State Administration. In response to the non authorization, the Provedor has already voiced its disapproval, highlighting the provisions of the Law which requires PDHJ to have the necessary staff to carry out its mandate, to the Prime Minister, Minister of State Administration, President as well as SRSB. In general, the Provedor believes that donor support should not cover staff costs since it can challenge the sustainability of the institution. On this basis, Provedor has refrained from requesting donor assistance to recruit additional staff and has opted to undertake advocacy work together with relevant authorities so as to attempt to change this picture in the near future.

At the institutional level, 2007 saw the establishment of a voluntary advisory council (VAC) of the PDHJ. This represented a step forward into involving relevant stakeholders in the work of the PDHJ.

The establishment of a temporary voluntary advisory council within the PDHJ steams from the need of increasing its pluralism. This need has been pointed out by both national and regional stakeholders: an enhanced pluralism of the PDHJ would ensure greater legitimacy and representativeness of the institution and, in turn, further compliance with the Paris Principles. Such a measure has also the potential to further build on the trust that the public has demonstrated to the PDHJ over the last two years. Pending the amendment of the Provedor's Law, the set up of a temporary voluntary advisory council can be seen as an interim initial measure to ensure civil society and relevant stakeholders' involvement in the PDHJ's activities.

Until July, the PDHJ has already held 3 meetings with the Advisory Council. The first two meetings aimed mainly at informing VAC members on the work and mandate of the PDHJ and discussing in general the activities and role of this institution. In the third meeting - held in July 2008 - the Provedor requested VAC's opinion on issues of interpretation of its law as it relates to presidential pardon and on the desirability of a public release of its report on human rights violations committed in the 2006 crisis.

H. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

PDHJ activities have been well supported by ongoing capacity development activities.

PDHJ has been receiving the support of UNDP, in partnership with OHCHR, through a three year capacity development programme.

The project, which started in 2007, runs until the end of 2009. Amongst its activities it is included a series of trainings, mentoring support, internships, production of promotional materials and development of training materials. Since its start, the Project has already provided support to strengthen PDHJ's capacity in the area of investigation (including training on the complaints management system), monitoring (including specific monitoring of elections and IDPs and mentoring support to develop internal systems) and human rights education and promotion (including development of human rights education strategy and provision of mentoring assistance to develop PDHJ's training methodology capacities)¹⁴.

In addition of having the opportunity to develop its capacities through this project, PDHJ staff have also been having the opportunity to participate in and

other capacity development activities organized by peer institutions, UN agencies and international NGOs. Amongst these are included the APF and Raoul Wallenberg Institute training on National Enquiries, UNIFEM training of women's rights and gender and follow-up training on the CEDAW Optional Protocol by IRAW Asia Pacific in Vietnam and Regional Training on Gender and Gender Based Violence Programming in Thailand.

Endnotes:

¹The Constitution of the Republic of Timor-Leste generally prohibits the conduct of search of homes during the evening unless there is a serious threat to life or physical integrity of someone inside the home (article 37(3)). The State of Siege provided limitation to this constitutional right by granting the possibility of undertaking house searches at night when authorized by a warrant issued by a judge.

²The Provedor sent to the Government, National Parliament and President recommendations to ensure that the security forces would not arrest for breaking the curfew those who did not respect the curfew hours due to humanitarian reasons, including medical emergency reasons. In the law authorizing the President to extend the State of Siege - Law 4/2008, of 22 February - the expression “without interfering on the actions of a humanitarian and medical nature” were added to the provision referring to the limitation on the right of movement.

³So far the PDHJ does not count with a toll free number, however the PDHJ expressly mentioned the possibility of people giving a “miss call” to the 24 hour number and PDHJ would then call the number back.

⁴Between 11 February to 10 April 2008, a total of 51 complaints were made, resulting a 25,5 complaints per month (32 were human rights related; 9 good governance, 6 corruption and 4 outside mandate). In 2007, the average of complaints submitted to the Provedor was 12,8 per month (total of 154 complaints).

⁵In relation to this, PDHJ recognizes the comment from ICC in analyzing PDHJ’s request for accreditation.

⁶The suspects to be arrested by the joint military and police command were known to be heavily armed with military weaponry, including grenades.

⁷According to its Law, the Provedor has three area-mandates: human rights, good governance and anti-corruption.

⁸This complaint was submitted by a group of NGOs as well as one member of Parliament.

⁹This complaint was submitted by community organization of Baucau, a district of Timor-Leste.

¹⁰This Draft Law was passed by the National Parliament, but was vetoed by the President of the Republic following an opinion as to its unconstitutionality by the Court of Appeal.

¹¹See below Section H.

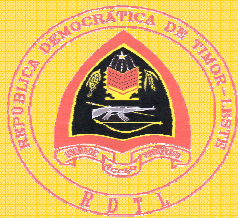
¹²In Timor-Leste every single public institution, including the constitutionally independent institutions and bodies - PDHJ and the Courts - needs to make a proposal to the Government for its annual budget. The Government then puts together a draft proposal for the National Parliament. The process for preparing the budget indeed does not guarantee the financial independence of the PDHJ. Some more years will be required for Timor-Leste have the sufficient maturity in the budgeting and financial systems so as to separate the funding and financial management of different institutions.

¹³Prime Minister has informed the Provedor that the Government is currently engaged in developing a strategy for the reform of the public service and has, as a consequence, taken the policy of suspending the creation of any further positions within the public institutions.

¹⁴For further information, copies of UNDP/OHCHR Capacity Building of the Provedoria Project Annual Report 2007 are available for APF participants.

List of Acronyms

| | |
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| APF | Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions |
| CBO | Community based Organization |
| CEDAW | Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women |
| CSO | Civil Society Organisation |
| F-FDTL | Falintil-Defence Forces of Timor-Leste |
| HRE | Human Rights Education |
| IDP | Internally Displaced Person |
| JRS | Jesuits Refugee Services |
| OHCHR | Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights |
| PNTL | National Police of Timor-Leste |
| SRSG | Special Representative of the Secretary General |
| UDHR | Universal Declaration for Human Rights |
| UNIFEM | United Nations’ Development Fund for Women |
| UNPOL | United Nations Police |



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