

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO TIMOR LESTE – Add.2

CANADA

- Does Timor-Leste plan to continue to pursue legislation to establish a national reparations programme for victims?

IRELAND

Religious Minorities

Ireland welcomes the strong protections contained within Constitution of Timor-Leste for the freedom of expression and of association. Ireland also notes that the development of a Law on Religious Freedom has been included in the National Report of Timor Leste as a national priority. Ireland would like to recommend that this law is developed in such a manner that the freedom of religious expression, as expressed in the Constitution, is guaranteed, especially with regard to minority religions.

Gender Based Violence

Ireland welcomes the very positive step taken by the Government of Timor-Leste in passing the Law Against Domestic Violence. Ireland recommends that further steps are taken to ensure that adequate resources are now provided to fully implement this law and would welcome an update from the Government on their intentions in this matter.

Chega! Report of the CAVR Commission

Ireland welcomes the energy and commitment Timor Leste and Indonesia have demonstrated in advancing reconciliation and maintaining good relations between the two states. Ireland requests an update from the Government of Timor Leste on when it anticipates a parliamentary debate, as defined in the legislation, taking place on the Chega! Report of the CAVR Commission (Truth, Reception and Reconciliation Commission) which was presented to parliament in October 2005. Ireland recommends that this matter be addressed urgently following forthcoming parliamentary elections

NETHERLANDS

- The Netherlands is concerned with the situation in Timor Leste with regard to justice for the victims and perpetrators of human rights violations. Impunity is a serious problem in Timor Leste. The Netherlands would therefore be grateful to know what concrete steps the government of Timor Leste is to take to bring justice to all persons responsible for crimes against humanity and other human rights violations committed in the past and how to build sufficient mechanism to check on the behavior of police and army in the future.

UNITED KINGDOM

- What plans do you have to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment?
- What is your time-line for ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities?
- What concrete targets exist to improve investigative processes and so reduce the back-log of thousands of cases at the Public Prosecutor's Office?
- What efforts are being made to raise awareness amongst the general public, law enforcement authorities and local community leaders regarding the 2010 Law against Domestic Violence?
- What steps are planned to address traditional attitudes, early pregnancies and early marriages as well as the problems of sexual abuse and harassment which restrict many girls in their right to education?
- What is your time-frame for adopting the laws on awarding reparations to victims of past abuses and establishing a 'Memory Institute'?
- What specific plans do you have to strengthen accountability within the security forces in relation to on-going reports of abuse of power and the ill treatment of civilians?
- Can you give us an indication of when the Land Law Bill will be passed into law?