Timor-Leste and Development Partners Meeting produces positive solutions

The Timor-Leste and Development Partners’ Meeting (TLDPM) officially closed today after some 300 participants including delegates from 51 countries gathered in bilateral meetings with representatives from the AMP Government.

The conference titled ‘Working Together-To build the Foundations of Peace and Stability and Improve Livelihoods of Timorese” was hosted by the Government to facilitate dialogue between donors and the new administration while establishing a clear agenda for 2008.

The Minister of Finance, Ms. Emilia Pires said “These meetings were incredibly successful. The donors gave their full support to the 2008 National Priorities and to the AMP Government. Most importantly, we were able to make significant assessments concerning the mechanisms needed to produce more efficient results.

‘Considering our aim was harmonization between the Government and the Development Partners, we were able to work together through these meetings to produce real solutions to benefit the nation.”

Six target areas were identified by the AMP Government as national priorities for 2008 including public safety and security; social protection and solidarity; the needs of youth; employment and income generation; social service improvements; and clean and effective government.

In order to meet quarterly targets, it was decided stronger mechanisms were needed to implement, coordinate and monitor progress within the six key areas. The AMP Government will establish six working groups for each target area, led by the relevant Ministers.

The Donors also agreed to provide additional technical assistance in capacity building focused on better coordination mechanisms between the Government and development partners with a specific focus on training human resources for long term sustainability.

Pires closed by saying “Our donors are valued partners in the development of Timor-Leste. They have fully committed to align their programs around the priorities of the Government, demonstrating a high level of trust in our capacity to deliver. I would like to offer my sincerest gratitude to all the participants of the TLDPM for their ongoing support and commitment to Timor-Leste.” ENDS

To receive a copy of the 2008 National Agenda Matrix, TLDPM Briefing Notes and a Transcript of the speech by the Minister of Finance, Ms Emilia Pires:

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