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Viewing cable 06CANBERRA889, EAST TIMOR: AUSTRALIA CONCERNED ABOUT UN SLIPPAGE;

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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
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E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/13/2016
TAGS: PHUM PREL AS TT
SUBJECT: EAST TIMOR: AUSTRALIA CONCERNED ABOUT UN SLIPPAGE;
SEEKS U.S. HELP IN NUDGING DPKO

REF: A. STATE 95226 (U.S. REMARKS ON TIMOR-LESTE)

Â¶B. CANBERRA 842

Classified By: CDA Bill Stanton, for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

Â¶1. (U) This is an action request. Please see para 3 below.

Â¶2. (C/NF) Michael Bliss, International Law Director in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) Legal Branch, told Poloff June 13 that the GOA was concerned about delays in moving forward with next steps to establish a new UN mission in East Timor. Specifically, the GOA was disturbed to learn that the DPKO was not planning to field its technical assistance assessment team for another "two to three weeks." The team would then require another 10 days to do an assessment and complete its report, which would make the one-month UNOTIL extension very difficult. He noted that the timing problem could be compounded by U.S. requirement for 30-day advance notification to the U.S. Congress before it adjourns for the summer. If there were no pressure to move the UN process forward more quickly, it was conceivable that a new UN mission might not be on the ground before the end of the year.

Â¶3. (C/NF) ACTION REQUESTED: Embassy requests Department consider urging the DPKO to deploy its assessment team to East Timor as soon as possible in order to achieve our shared objective of a one-month UNOTIL rollover and continued progress on the follow-on UNSC resolution, as outlined in refs.

STANTON