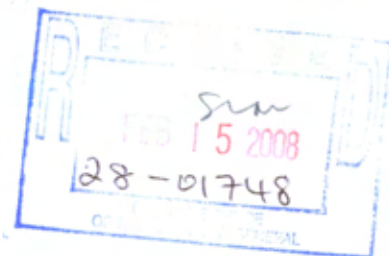


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OCHA
Timor-Leste

✓ JH
✓ VV



✓ Note to the Secretary-General

HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN TIMOR-LESTE

1. The recent attacks on President Ramos-Horta and Prime Minister Gusmao of 11 February 2008 have shown the vulnerability and impact of political/security dynamics on humanitarian needs, and the inter-linkages between peace, security, and development in an operational framework. Due to the incident, the distribution of food assistance and planned field missions were temporarily delayed. Although humanitarian assistance has resumed on 12 February with no major security incidents in IDP camps, it is imperative that humanitarian needs and humanitarian access continue to be met and secured.
2. Currently, there are 100,000 IDPs; 70% are staying with host families in the districts and around 30% live in IDP camps in Dili and Bacau. A number of transitional housing units have also been built for a small number of IDPs (86% occupancy). Based on the Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP) 2007 for Timor-Leste and mid-year review figures, an estimated 376,000 beneficiaries (vulnerable groups, including IDPs) receive WFP food assistance and 50,000 beneficiaries, including 25,000 children receive water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services from UNICEF and other NGO partners. As a transitional appeal is being prepared for 2008, the remaining humanitarian needs of IDPs, overall figures, and required funding is expected to be revised.
3. As the surrounding volatile security and political context may impact the progress of humanitarian assistance as well as the transition to recovery and longer-term development programmes, it is important that humanitarian space be maintained. OCHA will be chairing the next ECHA meeting on 23 February to discuss Timor-Leste and will propose concrete steps.

John Holmes
for John Holmes
14 February 2008

cc: Mr. K. Dervis
Mr. J. Guéhenno
Mr. V. Nambiar
Mr. B. Pascoe
Mr. D. Veness

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