

Nation-Building across Urban and Rural Timor-Leste

Gender, Justice, Peace and Security, Development and Governance

A Conference to Reflect on 10 years of Nation Building in Timor-Leste

Wednesday 8 July to Friday 10 July 2009
St John Paul II, Comoro
Dili, Timor-Leste

Recommendations from the Nation Building across Urban and Rural Timor Leste Conference

These recommendations were developed at the Nation Building across Urban and Rural Timor Leste Conference that was held in Dili from the 8 to 10 of July 2009. They were developed by representatives from all East Timorese districts, countries such as Australia, England, Russia, America and Brazil, civil society, students and international and local academics.

Recommendations focus on 6 areas; Nation Building, Gender, Justice, Peace and Security, Development and Governance.

These recommendations will be given to government, civil society, media, UNMIT, PNTL, F-FDTL and will be published in the post-conference publication that will be distributed in Timor-Leste and Internationally.

Recommendations about Nation Building

1. Increase decentralization in the context of the law so that community participation is included, particularly focusing on sectors such as decision-making, planning and implementation.
2. The law (decree law) will strengthen point number one.
3. Form a team to listen and facilitate the understanding of the necessities of the people to the government and from the government to the people.
4. Form a legal board that is based on the thoughts and necessities of the people at the grassroots.
5. Form a monitoring group to monitor the decentralization process
 - o Prepare local leaders, training for management planning

Recommendations about Gender

1. There is a need to build a safe house and a specialised women's prison in every district.
2. SEPI needs to build the capacity of focal points in the districts to develop their capacity about gender.
3. Ask the national parliament to quickly approve the domestic violence law.
4. Involve men in Gender training.
5. Involve women in decision making in the traditional law process.

Recommendations about Justice

1. We ask the National Parliament to quickly debate the CAVR report and create reparation laws for victims of human rights violations from 1975-1999.
2. We ask the government to give training to Timor-Leste judges and lawyers to increase their capacity to be able to manage the courts and give judgement on all criminal cases, and ask the public ministry to give attention to cases that are registered in the courts.
3. We ask the organs of state and political leaders to not intervene in court decisions and that international judges and attorneys act as advisors.
4. We ask the government and state of Timor-Leste to consider and recognise the serious crimes that occurred in 1999, and to take the authors of these crimes to the international and national courts so that a judgement is made.
5. We ask the government and national parliament to socialise laws (formal and traditional) to the people of Timor-Leste.

Recommendations about Peace and Security

1. We ask the political leaders and the organs of state to take into account the interests of the community as opposed to the interests of the party.
2. Open security posts from the national level to the rural level. Rotate the work of PNTL and F-FDTL in all territories of Timor Leste.
3. Create a prevention system that is sustainable against food shortages, natural disasters and social disasters.
4. We ask the organ of state to create good conditions for the PNTL and F-FDTL, to fix the salary system, increase facilities and reassess the PNTL law so that the PNTL serve the community maintaining law and order in Timor Leste.
5. We ask UNMIT, UNPOL, the community and international agencies to increase the capacity of PNTL and F-FDTL, and for locals and internationals to co-ordinate and work well in co-operation in the security area, while respecting the culture of Timor-Leste.

Recommendations about Development

1. Increase quality and strengthen the rural areas over urban areas.
2. Development plans must come from the grassroots (rural) and then go to the national level.
3. We recommend for the government to form mechanisms that are made up of: local government, civil society and technicians, to monitor, evaluate and plan programs for rural areas.

Recommendations about Government

1. Develop decentralization, human rights, and there must be a monitoring system that is sustainable for all development programs.
2. Run civil education that is sustainable about law and democracy.
3. Choose government members roles to follow their profession and education so that governance can run well (Democracy, transparency and accountability are keys for transformation).
4. Develop a decree law that guarantees the role of civil society as being responsible for representing society and revise the decree law No.5/2005 (Non Profit Organizations).
5. There must be a reduction in bureaucracy in government work and an increase in the amount of public servants.

