



**EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING
ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

**CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA
10-13 JANUARY 2000**

**Joint Communique
Annex III**

Resolutions adopted at the 8th Annual Meeting

Resolution on East Timor

(APPF8/RES/16)

Submitted by the Japanese, Canadian and Indonesian Delegations

The Eighth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

Recalling the Agreement between Indonesia and Portugal on the question of East Timor of 5 May 1999 and the Agreements between the United Nations and the Governments of Indonesia and Portugal of the same date regarding the modalities for the popular consultation of the East Timorese people through a direct ballot and security arrangements;

Reiterating its welcome for the successful conduct of the popular consultation of the East Timorese people of 30 August 1999, and taking note of its outcome through which the East Timorese people expressed their clear wish to begin a process of transition under the authority of the United Nations towards independence.

Welcoming the decision of the Indonesian People's Consultative Assembly on 20 October 1999 concerning East Timor;

Welcoming the contribution of Member States, the United Nations system, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations to address the humanitarian assistance needs of the people of East Timor;

Welcoming the United Nations Security Council's Resolution 1272 (1999) of 25 October 1999 to establish the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) whose mandate includes the coordination and delivery of humanitarian, rehabilitation, and development assistance, and the recent Joint Assessment Mission of the World Bank, United Nations agencies, the donor community, the Asian Development Bank, and the East Timorese to assess the immediate and long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and development needs of East Timor;

Concerned by the grave humanitarian situation, which has occurred in East Timor, and stressing the importance of reconciliation between all East Timorese people;

Reaffirming the need for all parties to ensure that the rights of refugees and internally displaced persons are protected, and that they are able to return voluntarily in safety and security to their homes;

Appreciating the contribution made by the multinational force established by the United Nations Security Council's Resolution 1264 (1999) of 15 September 1999 towards the restoration of peace and security, and humanitarian assistance operations in East Timor, and also appreciating the humanitarian assistance by the States concerned among others;

Stressing the need for international assistance in rehabilitation, reconstruction and development in East Timor. Resolves to:

1. Emphasize the importance of close consultation and collaboration with the East Timorese people and organizations in the planning and delivery of humanitarian, rehabilitation, and development assistance to East Timor;

2. Welcome the assurances given by the Indonesian authorities regarding the activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other humanitarian organizations, including the security of the personnel of the Office of the High Commissioner, and assurances regarding free access to all East Timorese in West Timor;

3. Call upon all APPF member States to provide as much assistance as possible such as cooperation with humanitarian organizations so as to ensure the protection of civilians at risk, in particular children, the safe return of refugees and internally displaced persons and the effective delivery of humanitarian aid;

4. Encourage all East Timorese people to respect the result of the direct ballot and to actively and unitedly participate in and cooperate on the process of transition under the authority of the United Nations;

5. Call upon all APPF member States to cooperate with UNTAET and to provide rehabilitation and development assistance including assistance for the establishment of law and order and capacity-building for self-government in East Timor.