



Press Release

For immediate release Dili, 29 June 2012

Chief Observer Fiona Hall will visit Manatuto, Baucau and Ermera to observe the preparations for the Legislative Elections in the districts

Manatuto, Sunday 1 July - Baucau, Monday 2 July

<u>Ermera, Wednesday 4 July</u>

The Chief Observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) to Timor-Leste 2012, Ms Fiona Hall, will return to Timor-Leste tomorrow, Saturday, 30 June 2012, and will visit Manatuto, Baucau and Ermera from Sunday, 1 July, to observe the preparations for the Legislative Elections in the districts.

Ms Fiona Hall will hold meetings with district representatives of the National Election Commission (CNE), District Coordinators of the Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration (STAE), members of civil society organizations accredited to observe the 7 July Legislative Elections and representatives of political parties and coalitions in the districts.

The European Union established a mission to observe the Legislative Elections scheduled for 7 July 2012 following an invitation from the Government of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste. The Chief Observer of the EU Election Observation Mission, Ms. Fiona Hall, is a United Kingdom member of the European Parliament. Twenty-eight EU Long-Term Observers were deployed to the 13 districts on 13 June. Another group of 12 EU Short-Term Observers will arrive to Timor-Leste tomorrow, 30 June, and will be deployed to the districts on 4 July. A delegation from the European Parliament and locally-recruited short-term observers from EU member states' embassies in Dili are also joining the EU EOM to observe Election Day. Altogether, about 70 EU observers from 25 different EU countries, as well as Switzerland and Norway, will be observing the voting and counting in all 13 districts of Timor-Leste on 7 July 2012.

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