THE CAVR REPORT CHEGA! AND THE TIMOR-LESTE EDUCATION SYSTEM (13 June 2007)

1. The CAVR report Chega! makes the following recommendations:

1.1 That the Report be widely disseminated to the community as required by Regulation 2001/10, the law on which CAVR was based. The Post-CAVR Technical Secretariat has been established under the auspices of the President of Timor-Leste to do this. The Secretariat has also been tasked with the management of the CAVR archives which are the basis of the Report. Use of the Report at all levels of the education system is an obvious and effective way of disseminating its contents, lessons and values.

1.2 “The Department of Education, teachers and academics make use of the multi-media resources created and collected by CAVR – during its work on reconciliation and its inquiry into the period 1974-1999 – as a way of enriching East Timorese content in the education curriculum and to assist in the teaching of history, political science, conflict-resolution, international relations and law.” (Chega! Recommendation 3.7.5)

1.3 “The Ministry of Education in the Government of Timor-Leste works with the post-CAVR institution to utilise the Final Report and other Commission materials in the development of curricula and other educational resources related to human rights, reconciliation, history, law, gender studies and other relevant disciplines.” (Chega! Recommendation 7.4.2)

2. The following resources and facilities are available:

- The full CAVR Report, entitled Chega!, in 3 languages: available as CD Rom or on website: www.cavr-timorleste.org
- Summary reports on some public hearings in CAVR Updates. (See website).
- ‘Dalan ba Dame’: 144 minute video on Timorese history based on testimony and interviews given by Timorese to CAVR. Sub-titled in Portuguese, Indonesian, English. Comes with guide.
- ‘Dalan ba Dame’: audio version of the above video in 5 half-hour segments. Tetum only.
- 40 minute video re CAVR methodology. (New. Commissioned by ICTJ)
- Videos and transcriptions of 7 CAVR public hearings, including testimony about 1975 from the last Portuguese governor of Timor, Joao Carrascalao, Jose Ramos-Horta, Mari Alkatir and Xanana Gusmao. Plus video testimony on many of the human rights themes in Chega! such as the catastrophic famine of 1978-9.
- Photos, video and audio of many CAVR activities, including community reconciliations.
• Exhibition of 20 history posters with commentary in 4 languages, plus other exhibition material.
• Bookshop.
• Large meeting place and seminar room with projector.
• Library and reading room (not for borrowing).

3. The following resources are in the pipeline
• Publication of ‘The History of Timor-Leste in Posters’. (Ready. Waiting on funding).
• Publication of 4 new public hearing books in 4 languages on the following themes: Internal Conflict 1974-76, Political Imprisonment, Children and the Conflict, Self-Determination and the International Community. (Being edited and translated. Waiting on funding).
• Publication of ‘The Balide Comarca: A ‘Sacred Building’. Indonesian and English. (Ready. Waiting on funding).
• Additional guides to Chega: (1) The Parliament of Timor-Leste and Chega; (2) The International Community and Chega.

4. The following resources and projects are being considered, subject to funding.
• Video of Chega!
• Short international edition of ‘Dalan ba Dame’ video
• Tetum edition of Indonesian produced short popular version of Chega!
• ‘Walk through Chega!’: multi-media exhibition of key periods and themes in the CAVR report.
• Tours of Comarca (former Portuguese and Indonesian prison) and ‘Walk through Chega!’.
• Small restaurant for coffee, drinks and snacks
• Training of tour guides
• Acquisition plan: archives and books on Timor.

5. Current status of the CAVR report and access to CAVR materials.
The CAVR report is a public document which is being distributed in Timor-Leste and internationally. Reproduction and use of its contents is permissible and encouraged, with acknowledgement.. Organisations in Australia and Indonesia have produced guides to Chega! for their publics. A number of other bodies have published sections of the Report. A number of organisations have produced publications directing published chapters.

Access to the CAVR documentation centre is governed by the CAVR access policy. Available CAVR website.

6. Post-CAVR Technical Secretariat (STP-CAVR)
The Post-CAVR Secretariat is responsible for completing CAVR technical tasks (e.g. publications), caring for the CAVR archives and Comarca heritage site and disseminating the CAVR report and related materials. Its mandate will continue until the Parliament and Government formally respond to the CAVR report. This is expected later in 2007 after the new Parliament begins its work. It suggests that a Curriculum Working Group be established to discuss the use of CAVR materials for educational purposes. Executive Director: Rev Agustinho de Vasconselos.

7. Further information
Jaimito C da Costa, Socialisation Program. Tel 723 4916  Email: jaimitodacosta@yahoo.com
Pat Walsh, Adviser. Tel 726 8423  Email: padiwalsh@yahoo.com.au

UNICEF briefing 13 June 07