

The participants also expressed their deep concern at the escalating violence in the territory and reaffirmed the need for the implementation of adequate measures for the promotion and protection of human rights. Finally, they approved the name, objectives and funding for the newly created Centre for Culture and Development Timor Lorosae (CCDTL).

CANADIAN POSITION

Canada supports the only international process in existence for dealing with East Timor's status, that is the UN-sponsored talks between Portugal and Indonesia. Canada contributed financially to the third of the All-Inclusive Intra-East Timorese Dialogue meetings which was held on October 20-23 in Austria.

Canada regularly registers its concerns regarding East Timor to Indonesian government officials. In response to the 1991 Dili massacre, Canada suspended three planned CIDA projects for Indonesia worth \$30 million. The Prime Minister raised human rights and East Timor in his meeting with President Soeharto during the January 1996 Team Canada visit to Indonesia. After raising East Timor with his Indonesian counterpart Ali Alatas in July 1996 during ASEAN ministerial meetings in Jakarta, MFA Axworthy followed up with letters to the Foreign Ministers of Indonesia and Portugal, encouraging their further support for the UN-sponsored Trilateral Talks. In April 1997, Canada co-sponsored an EU-led resolution on the Situation of Human Rights in East Timor at the UN Commission on Human Rights (which was tabled only after Indonesia rejected the approach of previous years -- a consensus statement by the Chairman). Indonesian officials have been sharply critical of Canada for co-sponsoring the resolution, which was adopted by a vote of 20 to 14, with 18 abstentions.

MFA Axworthy again raised East Timor in meetings with President Soeharto and FM Alatas during his visit to Indonesia in July 29-31, 1997. At that time, he signed a Joint Declaration with FM Alatas to establish a Bilateral Consultative Forum with a mandate to promote cooperation in addressing international and bilateral issues, including human rights. Under this initiative, Canada and Indonesia co-hosted a bilateral Human Rights Colloquium in Jakarta on October 29-30. East Timor was one of the subjects raised during the Colloquium. A Memorandum of Understanding on technical cooperation in the field of human rights is under negotiation.

The Canadian development cooperation program supports many local projects in East Timor. Canada has one of the largest aid programs in East Timor, dedicating \$500,000 from the Canada Fund for local initiatives. Care Canada also receives CIDA funding to help carry out its projects in East Timor. \$300,000 of multilateral support is also provided to the International Committee of the Red Cross for its East Timor programs.