



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF TIMOR-LESTE
IV CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT
SECRETARIAT OF STATE FOR THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

PRESS RELEASE

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS' MEETING ON 1TH OF APRIL 2009

The Council of Ministers held a meeting on Wednesday, 1th of April 2009, in its room in the Government Building, Dili where it approved:

1- The Policy Manual for Social Housing and Vulnerable Groups

The Council of Ministers approved the Policy Manual for Social Housing and Vulnerable groups which includes the following guidelines for building social houses in the thirteen districts: strategic plan, criteria, phases of the administrative process, financing and project development.

The Ministry of Social Solidarity intends to build social houses for the vulnerable groups, thus providing them with better living conditions, protection and prosperity. It is the Government's intention to offer a greater balance in the social assistance while trying to eliminate poverty.

The Council of Ministers also analysed:

2- Presentation of the Strategy for Rural Development

Continuing its support to the Rural Development in Timor-Leste, UNDP asked Dr. Naresh Saxema, a specialist in this area to make suggestions and advise the Government regarding the Strategy for Rural Development.

Thus, Dr. Saxema spoke about the more important aspects: the investments made by the donors, the importance of mobilizing people, the development of micro-finance and consequently the development of the economy, of the support and incentives that the Government should give to the farmers and their responsibility to train them.

In order to reduce poverty and increase their quality of life, he focused his explanations on the importance to have a development policy, specially in the promotion of local development. He also mentioned that the institutions and the Government should work together to help the population of Timor-Leste.