



AETFA

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### No. 28



## CANBERRA CELEBRATION OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RESTORATION OF TIMOR-LESTE'S INDEPENDENCE

*Andy Alcock (AETFA Information Officer)*

On Friday 30 November, the Timor-Leste Embassy hosted a celebration for the 10th anniversary of the Restoration of Timor's Independence in Canberra's Albert Hall. I felt very privileged to be part of that celebration, representing AETFA SA.

The Timorese observe 28 November 1975 as the date that FRETILIN declared independence because Indonesia had begun to invade their country. The full-scale invasion occurred a few days later on 7 December 1975. This is, of course, is 37 years ago, but is significant this year as it is Timor-Leste's 10th anniversary of Independence.

As to be expected, it was a very special and exciting occasion. About 400 people attended the celebration, which included many members of the Timorese communities in Sydney and Melbourne, important dignitaries from other embassies, some politicians, union supporters in the ACT, people involved in the Australia Timor-Leste Friendship Network, key long term East Timor activists and friends who have supported Timor-Leste's struggle for independence and who are assisting the development process now.

They were greeted at the entrance by East Timorese children in traditional costumes. The ACT Trade Union Choir performed and gave a stirring rendition of Timor-Leste's national anthem, *Patria* before Abel Guterres, the Timor-Leste Ambassador to Australia, gave his

welcoming speech. The speech, by the way, was rather brilliant. He thanked all those who had supported the independence struggle, those assisting Timor-Leste now and his wife, Anna, and his family and friends who did so much to ensure the event was a success.

Some key people who attended were Helen Hill, Jefferson Lee, George and Barbara Preston, Rob Wesley-Smith, James Dunn and Emeritus Bishop Hilton Deakin (former Auxiliary Bishop. Ali Kazak, the former PLO representative in Australia, was also present. Naturally, he had another reason to celebrate as the UN General Assembly had agreed to recognise Palestine as a state. *(Continued on p.2)*

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## **JOINT STATEMENT BY ANTI (THE TIMOR-LESTE NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR AN INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL) AND AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL TO COMMEMORATE 12 NOVEMBER 2012**

### ***"Tackling Impunity in Timor-Leste and Indonesia: Justice Is The Only Way"***

ANTI and Amnesty International call for the following immediate actions:

1. The UN must state clearly that there will be no impunity for crimes against humanity and gross human rights violations committed in 1999 and during the Indonesian occupation (1975-1999), and further, must ensure that justice for serious crimes committed in Timor-Leste remains on the UN Security Council agenda beyond the planned withdrawal of the UN peacekeeping mission in December 2012.

2. The UN must take concrete and effective steps to establish a long-term comprehensive plan to end impunity for all the perpetrators of human rights *(Continued on p.2)*

EDITOR: Bob Hanney ([bohan@bluebottle.com](mailto:bohan@bluebottle.com)). Assisted by AETFA committee members and friends.

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violations committed in 1999 and during the Indonesian occupation.

3. The UN Security Council should discuss and implement the recommendations of the 2005 Commission of Experts, including that the UN Security Council adopt a resolution under Chapter VII of the UN Charter to create an *ad hoc* international criminal tribunal for Timor-Leste when domestic mechanisms have failed to bring those responsible for past crimes to a credible legal process. Such a tribunal should have jurisdiction over all crimes under international law committed by Indonesian security forces and their auxiliaries in Timor-Leste between 1975 and 1999.

4. The Timorese and Indonesian governments should ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and take effective steps to implement the recommendations of the bilateral Commission of Truth and Friendship (CTF) to establish the fate and whereabouts of disappeared persons.

Together, ANTI and Amnesty International demand that the UN and the governments of Timor-Leste and Indonesia take responsibility to ensure justice for crimes against humanity and human rights violations which took place in Timor-Leste between 1975 and 1999. They must ensure that victims of the Santa Cruz massacre, and all those who suffered during the Indonesian occupation and in the context of the 1999 independence referendum, have access to justice, truth and reparation. Continued inaction will further entrench a culture of impunity, and leave a dark stain on the UN's record in Timor-Leste.

Dili, 12<sup>th</sup> November 2012

ANTI is made up of the 18 Timorese organizations (including La'o Hamutuk)

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## Canberra 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

(Continued from p.1)

I thought it was very appropriate that Bruce Butler's photographic exhibition, *Debt of Honour*, was also on display. This exhibition has historic photographs of the Australian commandos in East Timor and the Timorese who gave them magnificent support during World War

2. It also highlights the death and suffering that the Timorese endured at the hands of the Japanese military because they assisted Australia. It was reminiscent of the *We Will Never Forget You* photographic exhibition that toured Australia in 1995 during the period that we remembered the 50th anniversary of World War 2 or *Australia Remembers* - as it was called.

There was even mention of Colonel Rex Lipmann's camera, which he was able to protect from water damage by placing it in an Australian army issued condom! Some might remember him telling the story when he opened the Adelaide exhibition on behalf of CIET SA (Campaign for an Independent East Timor), the forerunner of AETFA.

I think it is very important that Australians are reminded of this support in the light of the betrayal of Australian governments when Timor was illegally occupied by Indonesia between 1975 and 1999.

The evening included East Timorese performances, and a Timorese band played Timorese music throughout the night until after midnight.

We did not return home until 1.30am! It was truly a night to remember.

Abel asked me to convey his best wishes and gratitude to AETFA SA committee, members and supporters. He said that he hoped to pay us a visit during 2013 to catch up with long-time friends and supporters.

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## East Timor health fund help needed

Oct 11 2012

Lauren Turner

© AAP 2012

**Intestinal worms affect up to half of East Timor's children and former president Jose Ramos-Horta is calling on Australians to help eradicate the "scourge" within five years.**

The "very debilitating" worms result in malnutrition, anaemia and stunted growth, and can lead to children dropping out of school as they become too unwell to attend classes.

"It really affects seriously a child developing in every sense," Dr Ramos-Horta told a gathering in Sydney.

A program to provide anti-parasitic drugs to Timor-Leste has been set up in a bid to combat the disease - the first project of the University of Sydney's Isin-Di'ak Fund which aims to improve the health of the people of East Timor.

Addressing a corporate breakfast in the CBD hosted by the Rotary Club of Sydney, Dr Ramos-Horta said rapid improvements in health were within reach.

"With the technical support of Sydney University medical school, our minister of health and a generous contribution from the Australian Federal Government and the Australian citizens, we can in five years see these problems eliminated in Timor-Leste," the Nobel Peace Prize Laureate said.

"You are contributing to eliminating this scourge."

Dr Ramos-Horta said the program was "incredibly important" and encouraging as it's "doable within a relatively short period of time".

The program also aims to help the 23,000 East Timorese infected with elephantiasis, a parasitic disease that causes limbs to swell.

"This is a very cost-effective program that could eliminate two very significant diseases that cause a great deal of suffering," said Professor Peter McMinn, Bosch chair of infectious diseases at Sydney University.

About 5000 health volunteers will be trained to administer drugs to the East Timorese which have been donated by pharmaceutical companies.

They aim to reach 80 per cent of the population of 1.2 million people - everyone over the age of one, with the exception of pregnant women.

It is hoped the first vaccinations will be given in June 2013 as part of the five year program.

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## **Making the Oil Companies Pay What They Owe (abridged) *La'o Hamutuk laohamutuk.org* Updated 28 November 2012**

Timor-Leste is the most petroleum-export-dependent country in the world. In 2009, revenues from selling our nonrenewable oil and gas wealth were more than three times larger than the entire non-oil economy. By 2011, 97% of the state's expenditures were paid for with money from the Petroleum Fund. Oil money enables for nearly everything Timor-Leste does.

But the oil companies cheat – they pay as little as they can get away with. In 2009, six years after Timor-Leste began to export petroleum, the country began to scrutinize their tax returns and enforce its laws, and has discovered what should have been expected – that foreign oil companies have not paid all that they owe. Current collection processes could obtain three billion dollars in back taxes and penalties from ConocoPhillips and other companies. Ongoing investigations are likely to find many more irregularities, as described in an Australian television news report, on 5 July 2012 and confirmed by the Government a few days later. On 12 July, ConocoPhillips argued back in the media, claiming that "we've paid the taxes that have been assessed."

In early September, the (Timorese) newspaper *Tempo Semanal* quoted Petroleum Minister Alfredo Pires that Timor-Leste has already collected \$300 million from oil companies in back taxes, with many issues still in process, while Finance Minister Emilia Pires put the figure at \$362 million a few weeks later.

On 2 October 2012, the Australian Broadcasting Company's Four Corners television broadcast a 44-minute documentary "Taxing Times in Timor" which explores many of these issues in depth. La'o Hamutuk also wrote a blog entry filling in some gaps in the program, whose comments include a dialogue with the program's producer.

After the Four Corners program, commentators and journalists in Timor-Leste became prolific, although many did not understand the issues very well.

Woodside responded to the program with talking points for Timorese media, writing "Woodside does not accept allegations ... that it may owe unpaid tax to the Timor-Leste Government. Woodside has received a tax assessment ... and while we do not agree with the assessment, we have paid the assessed amount in full. We are, however, as Timor-Leste law allows us, appealing the assessment through the established procedures." After receiving no response to their appeal within the Ministry of Finance, Woodside filed a case in Dili District Court a few months ago, and is waiting for the court to continue the process.

On 11 October, the Government issued a press release explaining their focus on strengthening state institutions in the petroleum sector, partly in response to an article in the *Australian* newspaper.

In November 2012, La'o Hamutuk obtained Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) reports for Timor-Leste for 2010 and 2011. The reports show payments of "Penalty/Interest" which EITI defines as "Penalty or interest on late payment of the State's share of Royalties and Profits on oil/gas." The Government and Companies reported different figures, but the EITI reconciliation process, which compares company and Government reports and makes corrections for incorrect reporting, agreed on \$20.8 million in penalties/interest paid in 2010 and \$51.7m in 2011 (mainly from Conoco-Phillips and Santos in the Bayu-Undan Joint Venture). In some cases, the companies have paid but continue to contest the assessment in court.

Timor-Leste depends on international petroleum companies to extract and sell our non-renewable oil resources, and to pay us a fair price for the oil, as well as taxes on their profits. But the oil companies have different loyalties – their managements feel obligated to make the most money possible for their shareholders, the owners of private-sector companies such as ConocoPhillips, Woodside, Inpex, Shell, Santos, Eni and the other global companies operating here. They didn't become rich and powerful by giving money away to the countries where they operate.

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## **UNMIT MISSION IN TIMOR-LESTE ENDS**

The United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) has ended. The peacekeeping operation, set up in August 2006 - after a security crisis caused by a split in the Timor-Leste armed forces caused widespread civil unrest, departed at the end of November. The mission included 400 Australian troops (the International Stabilisation Force [ISF]), who have now returned to Australia.

Controversially, the Australian Government demanded that the troops be under Australian command, which was backed by the US and the UK but opposed by the UN Secretary-

General, the Timor-Leste (RDTL) Government, Portugal, Malaysia, NGOs in Timor-Leste and many others, who preferred a unified military force integrated into the UN Mission (see *La'o Hamutuk: the UNMIT mission in Timor-Leste*). After much negotiating the Timor-Leste Government was eventually forced to accept an Australian-led military force.

On 7 November on an official visit to Timor-Leste, members of the UN Security Council praised the "historic milestones" achieved since it restored independence in 2002, and reiterated continuing UN support. "Low levels of violence and high levels of participation from society have been monumental achievements," Ambassador Baso Sangqu, the Permanent Representative of South Africa and head of the Security Council delegation to Timor-Leste, told reporters in Dili. "But challenges still remain."

## **SJT-TL: Collective Bargaining and the Right to Strike (Excerpts from)**

**(SJT-TL = Sindikatu Jeral Trabalhadores Timor Leste [General Workers Union of Timor Leste])**

*By Chris White \**

**The four-part article can be found on his blog-site at: <http://chriswhiteonline.org/category/timor-leste/>**

'The police intervened as a strategy to stop the strike action. This prohibits workers to organise a strike and is against our right to strike. The Government and the police have become accomplices and protectors for employers, especially foreign companies. This is far from the only case in which the government and the police have acted to protect employers. The government has neither addressed the issue of police violence nor taken action against exploitative employers.'

*Zito Jose Conceicao da Costa, KSTL President April 2011*

'I am very concerned about your police when they illegally try to bust up your lawful strikes. Your police are not allowed to be on the side of the employers. Your police are not allowed to intimidate the workers. Your police are not allowed to arrest workers on a lawful strike. Workers are allowed to peacefully meet and assemble and be on a picket line and citizens are free to join in support. We ask the PM Xanana Gusmao to ensure the police do not intervene in your strikes and threaten the workers.'

*Chris White at the SJT-TL 2nd Congress 2012*

### **Introduction**

My account is about one Timor Leste union - the Sindikatu Jeral Trabalhadores Timor Leste (SJT-TL) in English the General Workers Union (GWU) and their General Secretary Almerio Vila-Nova (Almerio).

The SJT-TL is composed of workers in hospitality, hotels, tourism, apartments; service providers including cleaning services, domestic services, security services, L-NGOs and I-NGOs; a large commerce division; restaurants cafes bars

and discos; catering; plaza and supermarkets; hair and beauty care; shops in general and construction and electricity shops; printing shops; pharmacy or private health care; automotive and motorbike dealers and repair workshops; small industry manufacturing; Industry or fabric; coffee workers in Timor Coffee; banking and finance; and telecommunications and internet companies.

Timor Leste's 1.2 million people are struggling with immense challenges. 70 percent live in rural areas, many engaged in subsistence agriculture. People still have trauma, illiteracy, poverty, half the children under five suffer chronic malnutrition, unemployment and underdevelopment and starting anew with Parliament and government and despite slow improvements in their lives face many challenges, one of which, recounted here, is the beginnings of unions.

Social and economic indices are among the worst in the world. Unemployment is around 50 percent. Basic infrastructure is appalling, with roads and transportation now worse than under Indonesian rule. Dili still experiences regular electricity blackouts.

At the same time, a small capitalist elite has recently developed off the back of oil/gas spending and enriched itself since Independence. A report in the Christian Science Monitor recently noted: 'GDP has expanded by more than 7 percent a year since 2007, but has come at the price of dramatic inflation, growing corruption, and a widening gap between rich and poor. Humvees and BMWs are the vehicles of choice for the nouveau riche in Dili. Timorese and Indonesians huddle everywhere making deals. Rich wives sport Louis Vuitton handbags, their husbands', flashy gold watches. This new class seeks medical care in Surabaya and Singapore, and they pay cash.'

On the positive side my reports and others give evidence of some progress in literacy and health and civil society gains. Timor Leste developed their first Constitution in 2001. They negotiated and agreed upon current labour standards in their Labour Code based on the United Nations and International Labour Organization (ILO) rights for workers, including here one focus on collective bargaining and the right to strike.

The weekly working reality for these developing unions is of the difficulties in educating workers of their right to join a union and to represent their rights and interests. Unions incrementally build-up workplace and community strength to sufficient to bargain for minimum rights.

I focus not on these daily basic struggles, but rather on key SJT-TL disputes, of the SJT-TL members and leaders in action organising for workers just demands, in collective bargaining and against unlawful dismissals requiring taking lawful strike action to gain agreements with their employers. I am a strong supporter of the right to strike so I have focussed on these difficulties.

The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) comments in their 2011 report on Union violations. 'Although fundamental trade union rights are guaranteed, areas of concern exist in the labour law. Freedom of association is secured in the Constitution and the Labour Code, and in 2009 Timor Leste ratified the two ILO core conventions on trade union rights. While termination of employment for union activity is explicitly prohibited in law, the protection is partly undermined by another provision which allows for financial compensation in lieu of reinstatement if the employer refuses to reinstate the worker. Furthermore, trade union activities are hampered by provisions in the Freedom, Assembly and Demonstration Act. Protests are not allowed within 100 metres of certain buildings, including government offices and diplomatic missions, as well as of infrastructure such as ports and key parts of transportation. The Minister has an absolute right to prohibit or restrict a strike in "essential services". Mainly unstructured economy is a barrier to organising: More than 80% of the active population of East Timor work in the informal economy. Given the difficulties that workers face to find paid employment, few dare to speak out against employers. The problem is compounded by their limited knowledge of trade union rights.'

*\*Chris White is a Patron of AETFA SA. He was Secretary of the United Trades and Labour Council of SA for many years. He is currently Secretary of APHEDA NT (APHEDA is the ACTU's overseas aid organisation), and has raised money for Timor-Leste unions and the TL Working Women's Centre.*

## East Timor's Lessons for our Abuse Royal Commission

*Pat Walsh November 28, 2012*

The support group for victims of sexual abuse, Broken Rites, has proposed that victims be given the opportunity to tell their stories as part of the proceedings to be undertaken by the upcoming Royal Commission.

According to the Fairfax press on Monday, the group's spokesman, Dr Wayne Chamely, is advocating that a 'truth commissioner' be appointed specifically for the purpose of listening to victims. The commissioner 'would move around and meet people in their own communities' and carry out this function concurrently with the Commission's other terms of reference.

At the heart of this proposal is a conviction that the Royal Commission must be as victim-friendly as possible if it is to get at the whole truth, contribute to the healing of victims, educate the public about this entrenched issue and its origins, and generate effective recommendations.

Broken Rites is clearly concerned that the Royal Commission may not be able to adequately accommodate

victims because some may not feel comfortable testifying in such a setting or will not be heard because the Commission, due to its anticipated huge work load, will have to be selective.

Faced with similar challenges, East Timor's groundbreaking truth commission opted to take a system-wide victim-friendly approach to its work.

The Comissao de Acolhimento, Verdade e Reconciliacao (CAVR) (or Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation) functioned 2001–2005 and was set up to address the huge number of human rights violations committed 1974–1999, particularly during the Indonesian occupation, including widespread sexual violence. Its core mandate focused on establishing the truth about these violations, facilitating community reconciliation, and reporting on its work, inquiry, findings and recommendations.

Sensitivity to victims informed every aspect of the CAVR's design, structure, operation and reporting. Its enabling legislation required the commission 'to assist in restoring the dignity of victims' and it employed a number of strategies to achieve this.

Some were procedural, such as consulting victims about the commission's terms of reference and the selection of commissioners, bringing victims together to share their experiences with other victims, recording and preserving victim testimony, and administering an urgent reparations scheme for the most vulnerable victims.

Others were organisational, such as allocating a victim portfolio to one of CAVR's seven commissioners and establishing a victims unit charged with ensuring that the needs and rights of victims were addressed across the commission's activities.

The centrepiece of this victim-friendly approach was listening to victims. For this to work, significant planning, resources and time were invested in preparing communities and victims, particularly women who'd suffered sexual violence, to participate and share terrifying experiences that would have led to recrimination under the previous regime. CAVR teams spent three months in each sub-district for this purpose.

Victims were invited to give statements about their experiences and to testify at local hearings. and some were invited on a representative basis to speak at national hearings. In response and in addition to their input at community reconciliations, victims provided some 8000 statements and testified freely and openly at 350 local hearings and eight national public hearings.

These hearings, particularly the national hearings held in the capital, broadcast live and attended by high-level Timorese, were expressions of solemn respect and solidarity for victims. In addition to providing evidence, the hearings assisted the healing of victims by honouring their contribution both to East Timor's liberation and, through their stories, to the building of a culture of human rights, non-violence and rule of law in the new nation.

The material gathered has been archived and disseminated in multiple languages in video, print and other formats to help East Timor's booming youth population appreciate the sacrifices made on their behalf and to benefit from the lessons learned from this deeply traumatic period.

Indonesia, home of the principal perpetrators, did not interfere with the process.

The CAVR methodology was not perfect and, in retrospect, could have been even more victim-friendly. Some of its core recommendations, including a call for a reparations program, have not yet been implemented seven years after being tabled in the East Timor parliament, a source of considerable disappointment to aging victims.

Two principal conclusions can be drawn from the East Timor experience for Australia's Royal Commission. First, a victim-friendly process is desirable, achievable and productive. If East Timor after decades of war and devastation could do it, Australia certainly can.

However victims should not take for granted that the high level of public and political support the Royal Commission proposal currently enjoys will translate into implementing its recommendations down the track. CAVR enjoyed similar levels of support at its inception. Sadly, East Timor's experience is that victims need to organise and mobilise if they are to see their recommendations implemented.



*Pat Walsh worked in East Timor for ten years, mostly as part of the Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation. The UN recruited him to help establish the Commission and he served variously as its executive director and special adviser.*

## Australia and Indonesia sign military co-operation deal

George Roberts and Helen Brown, Jakarta  
Posted Sep 5, 2012

Australia and Indonesia have signed a military co-operation agreement, which includes plans to promote military hardware sales to Indonesia.

The ABC's Indonesia correspondent George Roberts reported that Indonesia recently placed orders for Russian fighter jets and US missiles.

Australia saw this as an opportunity to promote its military manufacturers, he said.

The agreement at the end of a three-day ministerial visit led by Australia's Defence Minister Stephen Smith.

Much of the deal formalised programs the countries already collaborate on, such as counterterrorism and sea patrols.

Australia's Defence Materiel Minister Jason Clare said they also discussed supplying equipment, with Mr Smith saying Australia had six Hercules it could sell.

Indonesia replied that the last four it was given needed costly upgrades.

Earlier, the countries' foreign ministers discussed a deal to allow Australian planes into Indonesian airspace to search for stricken asylum seeker boats.

Australia also agreed to give an extra \$AU4.4 million to help Indonesia as part of a six-point plan to improve its search and rescue effort.

The agreement was hammered out less than a week after nearly 100 people are believed to have drowned in Indonesian waters.

Under the plan, there are measures to improve the training of Indonesian search and rescue officers and enhance the use of satellite communications and tracking technology.

### TRILATERAL TALKS

Prime Minister Julia Gillard has had her first trilateral talks with Indonesian President Susilo Yudhoyono and Timor-Leste Prime Minister Xanana Gusmao. PM Gillard was at the Bali Democracy Forum in early November. She first had bilateral talks with Yudhoyono before being joined by Xanana Gusmao. Gillard said the discussions focused on co-operation between the three nations, particularly in the area of "connectivity" and ways to boost economic opportunities.

## WHEN WILL THE KILLINGS STOP IN WEST PAPUA?!

### KNPB activist, Klismon Woi Succumbs to his injuries

November 6, 2012 By: Fak-Fak, KNPBnews

(From AWPA SA November 2012 newsletter  
[November Sept 2012 AWPA news.pdf](#))

After Paulus Horik was laid to rest yesterday (5/11), another KNPB activist in Fakfak, Klismon Woi, took his last breath this afternoon (6/11) at 12 noon, at the Regional General Hospital of Fakfak in West Papua. The late Klismon went through critical periods for the last two days due to the countless bruises and serious injuries on his face and ribs. According to information submitted to KNPBnews this afternoon by Arnold Kocu, regional coordinator of KNPB Fakfak, the body of the now deceased Klismon Woi was brought back to the funeral home. He also confirmed that Paulus Horik was buried the day before (5/11). Klismon Woi was a member of KNPB-Fakfak. According to information collected from the field, there are reasons to believe that Paulus and Klismon were killed by people who were especially trained by Indonesian forces that had been monitoring the activities and events led by KNPB activists in the Fakfak region. Special operations by the Indonesian security forces against KNPB activists have been stepped up since KNPB Chairman I, Mako Tabuni was shot dead on 14 June. Search and arrest operations, raids and killings have been undertaken continuously by the Indonesian Special forces in an effort to eradicate the peaceful resistance movement led by the KNPB (wd) [Translation by LT]

### ACTION:

**Sign the Petition on website of Rize of the morning Star. Opened on March 14, 2012:**

**To the Speaker and members of the House of Representatives.**

1. As a citizen of Australia, I support a review of the Lombok Treaty, particularly article 2, Section 3 which inhibits the Australian Government's ability to support the human rights of West Papuans. Lombok Treaty link: <http://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/indonesia/ind-aus-sec06.html>
2. As a citizen of Australia, I demand that our representative at the United Nations conducts an enquiry about the legitimacy of the 1969 Act of Free Choice. We demand that the West Papuan people are given an opportunity for a genuine United Nations monitored referendum on self-determination.
3. In light of many reports detailing extreme human rights abuses by Indonesian Military forces towards West Papuan indigenous people, we call on the Australian Government to immediately suspend its financial support and training of Indonesian military and security personnel.
4. As a citizen of Australia, I demand that our Government genuinely pressure Indonesia to allow foreign journalists and media access into West Papua

<http://www.petitionbuzz.com/petitions/rizeofthemorningstar>

<http://www.rizeofthemorningstar.com/>

## COMING EVENTS:

***Doku Rai at the Adelaide Festival***  
an Australia / Timor Leste production

The **Black Lung Theatre and Whaling Firm,**  
E. Timorese rock band **Galaxy** and **Liurai Fo'er**

**28 Feb – 4 March 8.30pm 1½ hours duration**

Tickets: \$39, \$33(Friends, Conc, Group bookings)  
BOOK WITH BASS. For group bookings PH 8205 2220  
<http://www.bass.net.au/events/dokurai.aspx>

**WOMADELAIDE 2013 8 to 11 March**  
***AETFA and AWP will again have a joint stall – we look forward to seeing you!***

## ***The Act of Killing - A film by Joshua Oppenheimer***

This documentary film is about the military coup in Indonesia in 1965 which unleashed the bloodletting which killed a million of its citizens – and its legacy! The film premiered and won acclaim at the Toronto International Film festival in October, and has since gone to Denmark. Hopefully it will reach Australia soon. Will keep you posted.

## COMMENTS:

“If we are to transform Indonesia into the democracy it claims to be, citizens must recognize the terror and repression on which our contemporary history has been built. No film, or any other work of art for that matter, has done this more effectively than *The Act of Killing*. [It] is essential viewing for us all.” - National Human Rights Commission of Indonesia

“The *Act of Killing* is the most powerful, politically important film about Indonesia that I have ever seen. The arrival of this film is itself a historical event almost without parallel. [It] witnesses the bloody destruction of a foundation of this nation at the hands of Indonesians themselves. On top of a mountain of corpses, our fellow countrymen rolled out a red carpet for the growth of gangster capitalism and political Islam. In documenting this, *The Act of Killing* exposes the hypocrisy at the heart of this country's notions of ‘patriotism’ and ‘justice.’ The film achieves all this thanks to the director's genius and audacious choice of filmmaking method.” - Ariel Heryanto, Historian and Cultural Critic, Tempo Magazine (Indonesia's premier newsmagazine)

## **FILM: *Bloodspot: The Dreams and Nightmares of East Timor* by Peter Gordon**

Premiered in Timor Leste on 29 November 2012  
- a review next newsletter

## THANKYOU FROM AETFA

AETFA wishes to thank its members and supporters and all those donors who allow us to make regular donations to projects in Timor Leste. Recently we have donated \$1,000 to the Bahkita Clinic in the Ermera district for medical equipment organised by Dr. Richie Gun, with \$1,500 earmarked for the Working Women's Centre in Timor-Leste. A very successful film fundraiser, featuring *The Sapphires* on 15 August, made over \$3,000 for the WWC TL. This was organised in conjunction with SA Unions and SA WWC.

