

Sra. Isabel Amaral Guterres
Metin Dua, Bebonuk
Dili, Timor-Leste
25 April 2006

H.E.Kofi Annan
Secretary-General
UN Secretariat
New York, NY 10017
USA

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

We are writing as former members of the Timor-Leste Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation (CAVR) to inquire about the fate of the CAVR Report 'Chega!' within the United Nations following its presentation by President Kay Rala Xanana Gusmao on 20 January 2006.

We are some of the over 500 people, both Timorese and internationals, who contributed to the production of the Report. Under the direction of the CAVR National Commissioners, we undertook this innovative but demanding work for over four years and carried it out in cooperation with many thousands of East Timorese who entrusted their painful experiences to us in the expectation that their story would be heard and responded to in many parts of the world, not least the UN which has been bound up so closely with East Timor's recent history.

The requirement that the Report be presented to you as Secretary-General was the initiative of the Parliament of Timor-Leste which amended legislation governing CAVR to include this provision. We believe that the legislators intend that the Report should be passed on to the UN and its relevant organs through your good offices and that this was also in keeping with the requirement that the Report be publicly disseminated. With great respect we wish to ask, therefore, whether you will refer the report to the bodies recommended in Chega!, namely the Security Council, the General Assembly, the Committee on Decolonisation and the Commission on Human Rights (now the UN Human Rights Council)?

In his letter of 20 January 2006, President Kay Rala Xanana Gusmao pointed out that laws and rights at the heart of the international system were violated during the East Timor conflict and that steps must be taken to learn from that experience in order to avoid a recurrence of "this sad chapter of history...elsewhere". We agree wholeheartedly with that objective and it inspired us to complete our mandate to the very best of our ability. We strongly believe that formal discussion of the Report in UN forums will contribute to that important objective, in Timor-Leste and Indonesia, and also in other parts of the world. On the other hand, it would be profoundly disappointing if our efforts on behalf of universal human rights were shelved.

In closing, we take this opportunity to acknowledge the historic contribution you made as Secretary-General to the resolution of the conflict in Timor-Leste - a

contribution recorded for posterity in the Report - and to thank you for the support the UN has given Timor-Leste since then, including to us during the production of the CAVR Report.

Yours sincerely,

Sra Isabel Amaral Guterres

Cc. SRSR Mr. Sukehiro Hasegawa
Ms Louise Arbour, HCHR

The following ex-CAVR staff members have added their names:

1. Antonio Alves
2. Patrick Walsh
3. José Caetano Guterres
4. Kieran Dwyer
5. Ligia Hermenegildo da costa
6. Anthony Goldstone
7. Horacio de Almeida
8. Galuh Wandita
9. Angelo Madeira
10. Patrick Burgess
11. Francisca da silva
12. Susana Barnes
13. Horacio Abilio
14. Benjamin Larke
15. Norberta Gomes
16. Akihisa Matsuno
17. David Alves Lopes
18. Gerry van Klinken
19. Dulce Trindade da costa
20. Helene van Klinken
21. Florival A.dos Santos
22. Titi Irawati
23. Celina Martins
24. Simon Poppelwell
25. Celina da Costa Jeronimo
26. Miki Salman
27. José Custodio Marcal
28. Matheos Messakh
29. Cathy Molnar
30. Armando G.dos Anjos Marques
31. Stephen Malloch
32. Ana Paula Maia
33. Nugroho Katjasungkana
34. Remigio Soares
35. Valentina Yulitah Dyah Utari

36. Noemia Gomes Pereira
37. Robin Taudevin
38. Cancio Ximenes Soares
39. Karen Campbell-Nelson
40. Daniel Gomes
41. Christine Vertucci
42. Fulgencio Aquino Vieira
43. Douglas Kammen
44. Helio Freitas
45. Riamirta Dwiandini
46. Abel dos Santos
47. Inge Lempp
48. Alvaro da Silva
49. Delene Cuddihy
50. Elsa doRosario Viegas da costa
51. Ross Clark
52. Mariano N.Carvalho
53. Phyllis Ferguson
54. Bernadete Jong dos Santos
55. Ian White
56. Adriano dos santos
57. Emma Coupland
58. Cristovão Perreira
59. Teodoro Soares
60. Gil Barros
61. Elisio Pinto Guterres Soares
62. Manuel da Cruz
63. Apolinario da Silva Gusmão
64. José Virginia R.M.Cabral
65. Jaimito Candido da Costa