



Concept Note

## ***Solidarity March: #TempuTooOna & #HauBele***

*March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018*

### **Introduction**

During Timor-Leste's struggle for independence, women and men fought and suffered side by side. Women comprised 60 per cent of the clandestine movement, working in secrecy to support the guerrilla fighters by supplying them with food and information. However, there is inadequate recognition of the role that women have played in Timor-Leste's past, and limited value given to women's equal potential in contributing to the nation's future development.

As a result of this context, women's representation in decision-making and leadership positions are limited, despite the Constitution's guarantee of equal rights for men and women. A quota of one-third minimum representation has safeguarded women's representation in the National Parliament reaching 37 per cent (as of 2017), but representation in Government appointments and local leadership are behind. Women represent only 16% of Ministerial posts, serve as village chiefs in only 5% of the 451 villages nationwide and are missing from municipal or sub-municipal leadership altogether.

The Commemoration of International Women's Day, with the global messages of #TimesUp (#TempuTooOna) and #MeToo to highlight the need for a solidarity movement to promote the change that we want to see, offers an opportunity for women, men, and all gender equality advocates to show that now is the time to promote gender parity in government leadership, as the country prepares for elections in May.

Gender parity in leadership is recognized as a good practice to promote governance and accountability. It is one of the CEDAW Committee's recommendation to Timor-Leste and is one of the commitments made by the Government of Timor-Leste in its National Action Plan for Women Peace and Security (2016-2020). In support of these commitments, UN Women, along with Secretary of State for Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (SEIGIS), REDE FETO, and ACBIT—with support from Ministry of Agriculture, Plan International, The Asia Foundation, ALOLA Foundation, FOKUPERS, International Women's Development Agency (IWDA), Government of Australia, and Government of Japan—propose a solidarity march with the message: *#TempuToo Ona & #Hau Bele*, as part of commemoration of International Women's Day on March 8<sup>th</sup> and Celebration of REDE FETO's anniversary on March 11<sup>th</sup> a solidarity march will help to spread the message that when men and women lead together, peace and security last longer, **#TimelsNow**.

**Objective:** To pay homage to female veterans who fought for the nation's freedom and raise visibility of their contributions, in the past, as well as encourage and show support that exists for gender parity in the government's structure (noting special temporary measures that might help to address gender disparities that currently prevent women from taking on leadership roles).

**Format:** The solidarity march is divided into **two** main parts:

- **First Part** called “*a walk to remember*”. Participants will convene at the park across from Tiger Fuel and break into two groups. Each group will be led through a designated route of historical places in the surrounding areas to *learn about the place and meet survivors who were imprisoned at those sites*. The Groups will reconvene at the Jardim 5 de Maio, for a rest before the second March.
- **Second Part** is the solidarity march and call for actions in line with the **#TimesUp** theme. The participants will be welcomed by Dili’s percussion group and march to UNTL-Liceu, with music and songs shared by the women’s veteran association. Those who do not participate in the ‘walk to remember’ can meet directly at Jardin 5 de Maio.

### **Agenda for Solidarity March (tentative)**

- **7.30 - 8:00**  
Everyone will gather at Park across from Tiger Fuel for registration and completion of a survey on beliefs about women’s leadership and gender parity.
- **8:00:** Welcoming remarks from Rede Feto and UN Women
  - Organising committee will explain the process and route to the participants
- **8:15-9:15:** Distributing participants and commencing with the walk, according to designated locations (please refer the attached map for location):
  - **Group 1:** Location A: At former Kartika Sari, near Tais Market, Location B: Also near Kartika Sari, near Tais Market, and Location C: Former Sang Tai Hoo building.
  - **Group 2:** Location F: In front of Embassy of Republic of Indonesia, Location D: In front of Embassy of New Zealand, and Location E: In front of home of Dr. Aniceto Guterres.
- **9.15-9:30:** Participants convene at Jardin 5 de Maio, including the participants of “walk to remember” and the general public who wants to join. entertainment by local percussion band/ local refreshment vendors will be at site. Welcome Message by UN Women and participants receive the lyrics of the songs that had been prepared/instructions on route.
- **9:30-10.00** March toward UNTL-Liceu.
- **10:00-12:00** Messages to inspire young people to see themselves as gender equality agents of change (Details to follow)
  - Possible remarks: Rede Feto (Host) 10:00-10:10, Music/Dance 10:10-10:15, UN Resident Coordinator 10:15-10:20, Message from Survivors to future generation 10:20-10:30, Music/Dance 10:30-10:40, Prime Minister 10:40-10:50, Music/Dance 10:50-10:55, CNE 10:55-11:05, Music/Dance/Th inspired by Time’s Up 11:05-12:00

### ➤ **Information Tables**

A variety of information tables/booth from institutions will be available at UNTL-Liceu to share information of organizations promoting activities for young people to promote gender equality and highlight the many contributions of women and girl’s in the nation’s development:

- PNTL information booth
- F-FDTL information booth
- Firefighters
- Marie Stopes International & PLAN International.
- Feto Engenharia (Women Engineers)
- Cruz Vermelha Timor-Leste (Red Cross)
- Timor-Leste’s Scout organization. (could involve activities like teaching how to do knots, etc)
- Grupu husi AGAPE or RHTO (teaching basic sign languages for everyone interested)

➤ **Message Board**

To prepare a space for everyone to stop by and share their thoughts/ take photos sharing ideas on how each person can contribute to promote gender equality and transform our society to be more inclusive. Using the hashtag *#HauBele*

➤ **Local Vendors will be available selling refreshments to participants:**

Dilicious, Kafe Luron, Black Box, and local coconut vendors, Pico-Leste, In addition to tents for university students to prepare local cuisines to serve to the public

➤ Route

