

“Chairperson’s statement

“Technical cooperation and advisory services in Timor-Leste

“1. The Commission recalls the Chairperson’s statements on the situation of human rights in Timor-Leste made at previous sessions, in particular the statement made at its fifty-ninth session (E/2003/23-E/CN.4/2003/135, para. 229), and takes note of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Timor-Leste submitted to the Commission at its sixtieth session (E/CN.4/2004/107), the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly (A/58/280), the reports of the Secretary-General to the Security Council and the statement by the President of the Security Council.

“2. The Commission acknowledges relevant Security Council and other United Nations resolutions on the situation in Timor-Leste.

“3. The Commission congratulates the Government of Timor-Leste for the accession to the main international human rights instruments. It welcomes the steps taken to establish the national institution of human rights - the Provedor de Direitos Humanos e Justiça. It also acknowledges the work undertaken so far by the Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation (CAVR) and looks forward to the Commission’s final report covering human rights violations committed in Timor-Leste during the period between 1974 and 1999, which will be presented before the end of 2004.

“4. The Commission notes with satisfaction the development of a programme of technical cooperation between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Human Rights Unit of the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor (UNMISSET) in consultation with the Government of Timor-Leste, and also notes the technical cooperation plans for 2004 included in the report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, notably technical assistance to the process of human rights treaty ratification, implementation of, and reporting on, providing technical

assistance to CAVR, strengthening the human rights capacity of the justice system, strengthening the human rights capacity of law enforcement officials, providing support for the Provedor de Direitos Humanos e Justiça, and strengthening civil society human rights expertise.

“5. The Commission underlines the importance of a continuing United Nations human rights presence in Timor-Leste after the end of the mandate of UNMISSET in order to ensure an effective transition to the post-UNMISSET phase and of the Government of Timor-Leste being able to strengthen its capacity to promote and protect human rights.

“6. The Commission emphasizes the need for continuing international assistance for strengthening the justice system in Timor-Leste and encourages the international community to maintain its engagement with the Government of Timor-Leste in its efforts to promote and protect human rights. The Commission asks the international community to continue to lend its support to the fight against impunity.

“7. The Commission requests the High Commissioner for Human Rights to report to the Commission on its sixty-first session on technical cooperation in the field of human rights in Timor-Leste, under the same agenda item.”