STRENGTHENING LEADERSHIP IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Dili/ 18 October 2005

The National Institute of Public Administration (INAP) has launched today a “Leadership Management Programme” targeting at senior level civil servants (level 5, 6 and 7) in the Timorese public administration.

Timor-Leste is a very young nation and senior leadership enhancement across the Government is a key factor for a successful nation building at this junction. Skilled, motivated and disciplined leaders in the public administration are essential to lead and sustain the improvement in the public service in the country. An estimated 300 senior administrators across ministries need to be equipped with the necessary skills and confidence to perform their strategic management and administrative roles to lead the country to plan and implement development activities to achieve the national development goals.

This Leadership Management Programme will focus on three important aspects in the capacity development of civil servants: 1) skills and knowledge, 2) ethics, behaviors and attitudes, and 3) systems and processes. The course consists of 7 modules and runs over a period of three months. Communications Skills, Change Management, Coaching and Mentoring are some of the modules included in the course. The course curriculum has been developed jointly by a consultancy firm Management Development Institute of Singapore (MDIS) and INAP to bring national context in the training content, as well as to strengthen INAP’s capacity to design and deliver training courses.

The first batch of the course will run for 25 trainees and be delivered by a MDIS trainer together with INAP trainers. INAP trainers will also receive hands-on training for the course delivery, so that INAP will be able to reproduce the course after this batch.

The design and deliver of the first batch of the Leadership Management Programme is supported by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through a project entitled ‘Capacity Development for Human Resource Management in the Civil Service’ being implemented in partnership with the Government through the Ministry of State Administration (the National Directorate of Public Service and National Institution of Public Administration) and The Office of Prime Minister (Capacity Development Coordination Unit).