

Opening Remarks by Ambassador Hanada
On the Occasion of the Press Conference
On the Japanese Justice Sector Assistance
December 13, 2012
Embassy of Japan, Dili

Mr. Francisco Carceres, Director General of the Ministry of Justice,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning.

Thank you very much for gathering at the Embassy of Japan for this press conference on the Japanese justice sector assistance.

It might sound unfamiliar to many of you that Japan is assisting in the justice sector in Timor-Leste. It is true that Japan has contributed in many different areas such as infrastructure, rural development, human resource development, election process, peace-building and security, but the justice sector might be the least known area of assistance.

The fact is that Japan has been assisting in this area since 2009 and now it is a solid and coherent part of our commitment to helping Timor-Leste.

Japan's full-fledged support to Timor-Leste began in 1999 when it convened the first international conference on the support to Timor-Leste. Since then, Japan has been actively helping Timor-Leste consolidate peace and stability, and establish functioning democratic governance as well as contributing to economic development. Having a functioning legal system is no doubt a prerequisite for democracy and economy to thrive in the long run, and therefore assisting in this area falls on Japan's assistance principles for Timor-Leste.

We have Ms. Mikine Eto here today. She has been a practicing government attorney and currently a professor at the Ministry of Justice's

Research and Training Institute. She and her colleagues have been in Timor-Leste for the past 10 days to conduct rigorous legal training workshops with their counterparts in Timor-Leste's Ministry of Justice.

She has more to say about their activities in Timor-Leste. I would now like to ask her to introduce you to Japan's justice sector assistance.

Thank you.

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