

Remarks by Ms. Patrizia DiGiovanni, UNICEF Country Representative
Media Training Workshop Opening

Date: Tuesday, 3 December 2024 | Venue: JL. Vila, Dili

Salutations

1. H.E. Expedito Dias Ximenes, Secretary of State for Social Communication (SECOMS)
2. Mr. Florindo da Costa, Director General of SECOMS
2. Mr. Otelio Ote, President of the National Press Council
3. Representatives from media organisations
4. Colleagues from SECOMS and UNICEF

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Let me begin by extending my heartfelt congratulations to the secretary of state of communication, (SECOMS), under the leadership of His Excellency Expedito Dias Ximenes and Mr. Adriano Monteiro, National Director for the Promotion and Development of Local Media, for collaborating with UNICEF to organize this two-day workshop, on **Climate Change, Ethical Reporting on Children and Women**, and the role of **Child Participation in Media**.

Ha'u hahú hodi hatu'o ha'u-nia parabéns ba Sekretariadu Estadu Komunikasaun Sosial (SEKOMS), ne'ebé lidera husi Sua Exelensia Expedito Dias Ximenes no Sr. Adriano Monteiro, Diretor Nasional Promosaun no Dezenvolvimentu Komunikasaun Sosial Lokal, hodi kolabora ho UNICEF hodi organiza workshop loron rua ne'e, kona-ba **Mudansa Klimatika, Étika Reportajem kona-ba Labarik no Feto**, no papél **Partisipasaun Labarik iha Media**.

I am honoured to have opportunity to engage with such as large gathering of esteemed members from diverse media organisations.

Ha'u sente onra tebes tanba ha'u hetan oportunidade atu envolve hamutuk iha sorumutu boot ida ne'e ho membru sira ne'ebé mai husi organizasaun media oi-oin.

At UNICEF, we fully recognise that the media has an important role to play in reporting on injustices against children, raising awareness of the issues that affect them, and encouraging serious efforts to achieve real positive change in children's lives. The media is also credited for promoting opportunities for children's voices to be heard and taken seriously.

Iha UNICEF, ami rekoñese teb-tebes katak média sira iha papél importante atu halo reportajem kona-ba injustisa hasoru labarik-sira, hasa'e konsiénsia públiku kona-ba kestaun sira ne'ebé afeta labarik-sira, no enkoraja esforsu sériu atu alkansa mudansa pozitivu réal iha labarik sira-nia moris. Media mós hetan kréditu hodi promove oportunidade ba labarik sira-nia lian atu ema seluk rona no tau-matan ho sériu ba labarik sira-nia lian.

These efforts by media help to push stakeholders to fulfill their obligations to children.

Esforsu sira hosi média ne'e ajuda dudu parte interesada-sira atu kumpre sira-nia obrigasaun ba labarik sira.

It is for that reason that UNICEF continues to work with the media to amplify some of our support to the Government of Timor-Leste, including our contributions to emergencies such as COVID-19 and the flood. This is a relationship we have had even before Timor-Leste gained its independence in 2002.

Ba razaun hirak ne'e mak UNICEF kontinua servisu hamutuk ho media hodi hatutan ami-nia apoiu balun ba Governu Timor-Leste, inklui ami-nia kontribuisaun ba emerjénsia sira hanesan COVID-19 no inundasaun. Ne'e mak relasaun ne'ebé mak ami iha ho média, desde kedas antes Timor-Leste hetan independénsia iha 2002.

UNICEF also appreciates the work of community radio stations, who are making efforts to sustain "Voices of Children" (Labarik Nia Lian) radio program, designed by and for children, to amplify their voices and advocate for child rights.

UNICEF mós apresia tebs servisu estasaun rádiu komunitária sira-nian, ne'ebé serbisu maka'as atu sustenta programa rádiu "Labarik Nia Lian", ne'ebé produz husi labarik-sira no ba labarik sira, atu hatutan sira-nia lian no advokasia ba direitu labarik.

However, alongside these successes, we have also identified areas for growth, and one such area is climate change.

Maibé, hamutuk ho susesu hirak-ne'e, ami mós identifika ona área sira ba kresimentu, no área ida mak mudansa klimátika.

I am sure you have all heard about how this global trend of climate change is affecting the world's climate patterns and the environment which we inherited from our forefathers.

Ha'u fiar katak ita-boot sira hotu rona ona kona-ba oinsá tendénsia globál mudansa klimátika ne'e afeta modelu klimátiku sira iha mundu no ambiente, ne'ebé ita simu husi ita-nia bei'ala sira.

Across the world, almost every child is today exposed to climate and environmental hazard, such as heatwaves, cyclones, air pollution, flooding, and water scarcity. There has also been a significant increase in climate-related extreme weather events in the East Asia and Pacific region, including an alarming 11 times increase in floods, such as the recent devastating episodes floods in Viet Nam, Myanmar, Lao PDR, and Thailand.

Iha mundu tomak, kuaze labarik hotu-hotu ohin loron hetan impaktu husi perigu klimátiku no ambientál hanesan loron-manas, siklone, poluisaun aereu, inundasaun, no falta bee. Iha mós aumentu signifíkativu iha akontesimentu klimátiku extremu sira ne'ebé relasiona ho klima iha rejiaun Azia Leste no Pasifiku, inklui aumentu alarma dala 11 kona-ba inundasaun, hanesan inundasaun ne'ebé akontesementu foin lalais ne'e iha Vietnam, Myanmar, Laos PDR no Tailandia.

According to the ND-GAIN vulnerability index, a global measure of a country's vulnerability to climate disruptions, Timor-Leste ranks 111 out of 181 countries, meaning our vulnerability to climate episodes is high, but our readiness to respond is still very low.

Tuir índise vulnerabilidade ND-GAIN nian, medida globál ida kona-ba vulnerabilidade nasaun ida-ne'e nian ba perturbasaun klimátiku, Timor-Leste okupa númeru 111 husi nasaun 181, ne'ebé signifika katak ita-nia vulnerabilidade ba epidemiku klimátiku aas, maibé ita-nia prontidaun atu responde sei ki'ik tebes.

In Timor-Leste, the intense floods of April 2021 placed an additional burden on families that were already marginalised, and derailed decades of hard-won progress to improve lives.

Iha Timor-Leste, inundasaun maka'as iha fulan Abril tinan 2021 liuba, hamosu todan adisionál ba família sira ne'ebé marjinalizadu no dezenvolve ona progresu maka'as hodi hadi'a moris.

Many lives are being lost in these climate related events and children's rights are not being spared. With each new flood, drought or heatwave, children's access to clean water, education, healthcare, food, and shelter is disrupted, and their communities which are already marginalised, are pushed deeper into crisis. Ema barak lakon sira-nia moris iha akontesimentu sira ne'ebé relasiona ho klima no labarik sira-nia direitu mós la-dun hetan salvaun. Ho kada inundasaun foun, rai-maran ka rai-manas, labarik sira-nia asesu ba bee moos, edukasaun, kuida saúde, ai-han, no uma mahon hetan estragus, no sira-nia comunidade sira ne'ebé marjinalizadu, sai krize boot liután.

Despite their unique vulnerability, children have been either ignored or largely disregarded in the response to climate change, including through the way that media reports on climate related events. Maske sira-nia vulnerabilidade úniku, labarik sira hetan ignorasaun ka barak mak la hetan atensaun husi resposta ba mudansa klimátika, inklui liu husi maneira que media sira halo reportajem kona-ba iventu sira relasiona ho klima.

This two-day workshop is therefore a critical opportunity for us to gain a deeper understanding of climate change science, impacts, and policy, learn how to identify and debunk climate misinformation, develop skills to craft compelling, data-driven stories and explore ways to incorporate diverse voices and perspectives, including from children and young people.

Tanba ne'e, sorumutu loron rua ne'e nu'udar oportunidade importante ida ba ita atu hetan kompriensaun kle'an liután kona-ba siénsia, impaktu no polítika kona-ba mudansa klimátika, aprende oinsá atu identifika no halakon informasaun ne'ebé la loos kona-ba klima, dezenvolve abilidade atu halo dezenvolve estória bazeia ba dadus no esplora dalan atu inkorpora lian no perspetiva oioin, inklui husi labarik no foin-sa'e sira.

UNICEF is committed to continuing our collaboration with media partners to disseminate information, promote child rights, and empower communities through your platforms. UNICEF also appreciates support from different development partners, such as the Govt. of China and KOICA, who are supporting critical interventions to reduce the impact of climate change on the lives of children.

UNICEF iha kompromisu atu kontinua kolaborasaun ho parseiru média sira hodi fahe informasaun, promove direitu labarik, no fó kbiit ba comunidade sira liuhosi ita-boot sira-nia plataforma sira. UNICEF mós apresia apoiu husi parseiru dezenvolvimentu oin-oin, hanesan Governu Xina no KOICA, ne'ebé apoia intervensaun krítiku sira hodi hamenus impaktu husi mudansa klimátika ba labarik sira-nia moris.

I wish you all a productive and insightful two days of training. May this workshop lead to strong commitments and actions from your respective media organizations on how to better serve children and women through your work.

Ha'u hakarak ita-boot sira hotu hetan treinamentu loron rua ne'ebé di'ak no produktivu. Ha'u hein katak formasaun ne'e sei lidera ita-boot sira ba kompromisu no asaun ne'ebé forte husi ita-boot sira-nia organizasaun média sira kona-ba oinsá atu serve di'ak liutan ba labarik no feto sira liuhosi ita-boot sira nia servisu.



UNICEF looks forward to a continued strong and close collaboration with the media.
Hamutuk ba labarik sira —Together for every child!

Thank you.

UNICEF hein katak sei iha kolaborasaun ne'ebé forte no besik liutan ho média sira.

Hamutuk ba labarik sira hotu!
Obrigado.