

World Day against Child Labour
Remarks by Bilal Aurang Zeb Durrani,
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Suai, 15 June 2022

[English – Tetun]



Your Excellency President of Republic, Sr. Jose Ramos Horta

[Sua exelensia Prezidente Republika, Señor Ramos Horta;](#)

Director General of Statistics Senor Elias dos Santos Ferreira

[Diretor Jeral Estatistika, Señor Elias dos Santos Ferreira;](#)

President of INDDICA Senora Dinorah Granadeiro

Prezidente INDDICA, Sra. Dinorah Granadeiro;

President of Committee B of National Parliament, Señor José Agostinho Sequeira “Sumotxo”

Prezidente Komisaun B Parlamentu Nasional, José Agostinho Sequeira “Somotxo”

Representatives from Ministries, development partners and civil society

Reprezentante husi Ministeriu sira, parseiru dezenvolvimentu no sociedade sivil;

Representative of the media

Reprezentante husi midia

Children,

Labarik sira,

Bom dia,

1. First of all, thank you to all the children for the warm welcome and amazing performances.

I have had the honour of listening to the national anthem of Timor-Leste in many different tunes, but the national anthem sung by the students today was one of the most beautiful melodies I have heard so far.

Ba dahuluk, obrigado ba labarik-sira hotu ba boas vindas ne'ebé furak no performansia hirak ne'ebé mak kapas loos. Hau iha onra atu rona hino nasional Timor-Leste iha melodias diferentes barak, maibé hino nasional ne'ebé mak kanta husi estudante sira ohin lora mak melodia ida ne'ebé ke furak liu melodia sira seluk durante ne'e.

2. I am happy to be here today with you to discuss an issue that affects 10% of children throughout the world, and 12.5% in Timor-Leste: the issue of child labour.

Ha'u kontente mai iha ne'e ohin ho ita boot sira atu diskute asuntu ida ne'ebé afeta labarik 10% iha mundu tomak, no 12.5% iha Timor-Leste: Kestaun traballu Infantil.

3. Some may think that child labour is not an issue – they see it as a tradition, as a way for children to learn, as a positive contribution to the needs of the family. But let me make it clear: child labour is not harmless. Child labour deprives children of their childhood and their future. Unlike activities that help a child to develop, such as contributing to

housework for a few hours a week or taking on a job during school holidays, child labour interferes with schooling and is harmful to a child's physical, mental, and social development.

Emá balu bele hanoin katak traballu infantil la'os problema – sira haree ida ne'e hanesan tradisaun ida, hanesan dalan ida ba labarik sira atu aprende, nu'udar kontribuisaun pozitivu ba nesesidade família nian. Maibé husik ha'u halo klaru ida-ne 'e: Traballu infantil sei la halo aat ka fó perigu ba labarik. Traballu infantil halo labarik sira lakun sira nia tempu infansia no sira nia futuru. La hanesan ho atividade sira ne'ebé tulun labarik ida atu dezenvolve, hanesan kontribui ba servisu uma-laran nian durante oras balu iha semana ida nia laran ka hetan servisu durante lora feriadu eskola nian, traballu infantil impede labarik sira nia eskola no ne'e perigu ba labarik nia dezenvolvimentu fíziku, mentál no sosiál.



4. Child labour can result in extreme bodily and mental harm, and even death. It can lead to slavery and sexual or economic exploitation. And in nearly every case, it cuts children off

from schooling and health care, restricting their fundamental rights and threatening their futures.

Traballu infantil bele estraga tebetebes fiziku no mentál, no mós bele mate. Nia bele halo sai atan no esplorasau seksual ka ekonomiku. Iha kuaze kazu hotu-hotu, ida ne'e impede labarik sira-nia eskola no kuidadu saúde, limita sira nia direitu fundamentál sira no ameasa ba sira nia futuru.

5. I am sure you recall the times of COVID-related restrictions – the lockdowns, the difficulties to move around, the hardships for many families in making a living... While most of us adults remember these times as challenging ones, others have keener memories: children usually engaged in child labour were happy, because the economic downturn and the restrictions meant that they did not have engage in work, but they could at last rest and play. This is one of the findings of the research that we will be launching today, together with the International Labour Organization (ILO), on the drivers of child labour in Timor-Leste. It is a powerful reminder that children should be playing, learning, dreaming... That is how they can develop to their full potential, and in turn help their family and their country, once they grow up.

Ha'u fiar katak ita sei hanoin momentu sira relasiona ho COVID- restriksaun ba movimentu- susar ba família barak atu buka moris... Maske maioria ita boot sira hanoin katak iha tempu hirak ne'e hanesan dezafiu, seluk ne'ebe hanoin kroat liu: labarik sira ne'ebé dala barak involve iha traballu infantil kontente tanba situasaun krize ekonómika no restriksaun halo sira labele servisu, maibé sira bele deskansa no halimar. Ida ne'e hanesan konkluzau ida husi peskiza ne'ebé mak ita sei lansa ohin, hamutuk ho Organizasaun Internasionál Traballu nian (ILO), kona-ba saida mak dudu ka halo sira involve iha traballu infantíl iha Timor-Leste. Ida ne'e fó hanoin katak labarik sira tenke halimar, aprende, mehi... Ida ne'e maka dalan ne'ebé sira bele dezenvolve sira nia potencialidade tomak, no atu tulun sira nia família no sira nia nasaun, bainhira sira sai boot.



6. The result of the research that we will launch today goes beyond numbers, to better understand people's perceptions of child labour in Timor-Leste. This will help the Government better target its efforts and resources when addressing the worst forms of child labour.

Resultadu peskiza ne'ebé ita sei lansa ohin loron ne'e dook husi número sira, atu nune'e ita bele kompriende di'ak liu tan ema nia persepsaun kona-ba traballu infantil iha Timor-Leste. Ida ne'e sei ajuda Governu atu tau alvu di'ak liu ba ninia esforsu no rekursu sira bainhira responde ba forma traballu infantil ne'ebé aat liu.



7. Unsurprisingly, the research confirmed the strong link between child labour and poverty. Child labour is both a cause and a consequence of poverty, reinforcing social inequality and discrimination. Globally, children are more heavily impacted by poverty. Timor-Leste is no exception. In 2014, the last year for which we have poverty data, 48% of children under 18 were living under the national poverty line, compared with 42% for the total population. Child poverty is a key driver for child labour.

La hakfodak (laos surpresa), peskiza ne'e konfirma ligasaun forte entre traballu infantil no kiak. Traballu infantil mak kauza no konsekuénsia hosi kiak, haforsa dezigualdade sosiál no diskriminasaun. Globalmente, labarik sira hetan impaktu maka'as husi kiak. Timor-Leste la'ós exepasaun. Iha tinan 2014, tinan ikus kona-ba dadus kiak nian, 48% husi labarik ho idade tinan 18 mai kraik moris iha liña kiak nasionál, kompara ho 42% ba total populasaun. Kiak ba labarik nu'udar fator prinsipal ba traballu infantil.

8. Many people feel powerless to respond to child labour, because we cannot lift poverty with a snap of our fingers. And yet, we cannot accept this situation. In line with the

Sustainable Development Goals, the Government, supported by development partners and civil society, has a duty to eliminate child poverty and child labour. One way to start is to focus on the most vulnerable – by preventing and responding to the worst forms of child labour. In Timor-Leste, over a third of children engaging in child labour are carrying out hazardous work - working long hours, working in dangerous conditions, or doing night work. This includes, for example, children working with trash at landfills, or children carrying heavy loads. We can start by ending the practice of children working in these situations.

Ema barak mak sente laiha forsa atu responde ba traballu infantil, tanba ita labele hasai kiak ho fekit liman fuan. Maske nune'e, ita labele simu situasaun ida ne'e. Tuir Objektivu Dezenvolvimentu Sustentável, Governu, ne'ebé hetan apoiu husi parseiru dezenvolvimentu sira no sosiedade sivil, iha devér atu halakon moris-kiak ba labarik no traballu infantil. Dalan ida atu hahú mak foka ba ema sira ne'ebé vulneravel liu – hodi prevene no responde ba forma traballu infantil ne'ebé aat liu. Iha Timor-Leste, liu um-tersu hosi labarik sira ne'ebé envolve iha traballu infantil ne'e hala'o serbisu perigu - oras serbisu naruk, serbisu iha kondisaun perigozu, ka halo serbisu kalan. Ne 'e inklui, por- ezemplu, labarik sira ne'ebé serbisu iha lixu laran ka labarik sira ne'ebé lori naha todan. Ita bele hahú ho hapara prátika labarik sira ne'ebé serbisu iha situasaun hirak ne'e.



9. UNICEF promotes an integrated approach to eliminating child labour. This includes providing access to quality education, by removing the various costs of education on families, and adapting education to the needs of child labourers. Supporting families living in poverty through social protection is another necessity. Moreover, it is critical to strengthen the social service workforce, which plays a key role in linking families to support mechanisms, as well as promote parenting initiatives and address harmful social norms that perpetuate child labour. And of course, economic development efforts must target the adults in families engaging in child labour.

UNICEF promove aprosimasaun integradu ida hodi elimina traballu infantil. Ida ne'e inklui fó asesu ba edukasaun ho kualidade, hodi halakon tiha kustu oin-oin edukasaun nian ba família sira, no adapta edukasaun ba nesesidade sira husi traballadór labarik nian. Suporta família sira ne'ebé moris kiak liu husi protesaun sosiál ne'e nesesidade seluk-seluk. Liu-liu, importante tebes atu haforsa servisu sosiál, ne'ebé iha knaar xave hodi liga família sira ho mekanizmu apoiu, no mós promove inisiativa inan-aman nian no responde ba norma sosiál ne'ebé fó impaktu ba traballu infantil. Klaru katak, esforsu

dezenvolvimentu ekonómiku tenke foka ba adultu sira iha família sira ne'ebé envolve iha traballu infantil.

10. This integrated approach is reflected in the draft action plan that Timor-Leste has developed to combat the worst forms of child labour. However, this action plan, which will help coordinate the work of the different ministries, has not yet been adopted. We call for the prompt adoption of this plan, and of its annex, the list of hazardous work.

Aprosimasaun integradu ne'e refleto iha planu asaun ne'ebé Timor-Leste dezenvolve ona hodi kombate forma ne'ebé aat liu husi traballu infantil. Maibé, planu asaun ida ne'e, sei tulun koordena servisu ministériu oin-oin nian, seidak adopta. Ami husu atu adopta lalais planu ida ne'e, no ninia aneksu, lista kona-ba servisu perigu sira.

11. Today, as we mark the World Day against Child Labour, let me reiterate UNICEF's commitment to support the Government to eliminate the worst forms of child labour in Timor-Leste, in close partnership with our sister agency ILO. I know that together, we can make a difference and help children reclaim their childhood.

Ohin, hanesan ita komemora tiha ona Loron Mundiál Kontra Traballu Infantil, mai ha'u repete fila fali UNICEF nia kompromisu atu apoia Governu hodi halakon forma ne'ebé aat liu hotu husi traballu infantil iha Timor-Leste, liuhusi parseria besik ho ita nia ajénsia ILO. Hau hatene katak hamutuk ita bele halo diferensia no ajuda labarik sira hetan fila fali sira-nia tempu infansia.



Thank you

Obrigado