28 February 2005

Two Former Aitarak Militia Found Guilty By The Special Panels

On 28th February 2005, the Special Panel for Serious Crimes of the District Court of Dili rendered its final decision in the case of Deputy General Prosecutor against Domingos Amati and Francisco Matos. The Panel found both defendants guilty of murder. The written decision will be issued on the 4th March 2005.

The Special Panel found both accused guilty of murder in violation of section 8 of UNTAET regulation 2000/15 and of article 338 of the Indonesian Penal Code.

The Serious Crimes Unit indicted Domingos Amati and Francisco Matos on 28 February 2003 for the murder of António Pinto Soares, a clandestine supporter of the independence movement. The crime was committed in 5 of September 1999 in Hera, Metinaro sub-district, Dili district.

On the 4th of March 2005, Counsel for Prosecution and Defense will present arguments on the sentence and the Special Panels is expected to issue the written decision.