**Resume**

**Maria Agnes Bere**

**National Judicial Affairs Officer**

**Administration of Justice Support Unit (AJSU)**

**United Nations Mission in Timor Leste (UNMIT)**

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**Nationality: Timorese**

**Education Details:**

•1986 – 1992 : Elementary School SDN 4 Bairo Pite, Dili

•1992 – 1995 : Junior High School, SMPN I Comoro, Dili

•1995 – 1998 : Senior High School, Saint Joseph College, Dili

•1998 – 2003 : Nusa Cendana University (Faculty of Law)

**Professional Summary**

8 years of experiences on gender and justice related issues. Conducted court monitoring focused on gender based violence cases and provided training on gender based violence and legal system to the women, police and community leaders. Conducted legal analysis and conducted research on women access to the formal justice system. Assist in implementing the activities of the unit particularly in the specialized areas of Gender Justice, Juvenile Justice, Corrections and Justice Institutions. Develop and maintain a range of contacts with judges, prosecutors, private lawyers, public defenders, government authorities, other legal actors, church authorities, and civil society. Identify information gaps and effectively liaise with the national authorities based on linguistic, cultural, and social realities. Advise the unit chief on legal and judicial developments. Liaise as directed with UN agencies or other organizations involved in strengthening institutional capacity in the justice sector. Write reports on work undertaken and contribute to daily, weekly, monthly quarterly and the Secretary General’s reports. Conduct legal research and contribute to the unit assessment and legal analysis and contribute to report prepared by the unit for submission to the chief of mission or mission senior management.

**Work Experience**

**February 2010 – Present: National Judicial Affairs Officer for Administration of Justice Support Unit, UNMIT.**

•Assist in implementing the activities of the AJSU (administration of Justice Support Unit) particularly in the specialized areas of Gender Justice, Juvenile Justice, Corrections and Justice Institutions;

•Develop and maintain a range of contacts with judges, prosecutors, private lawyers, public defenders, government authorities, other legal actors, church authorities, and civil society;

•Assist in gathering information;

•Identify information gaps and effectively liaise with the national authorities based on linguistic, cultural, and social realities;

•Advise the chief of AJSU on legal and judicial developments;

•Liaise as directed with UN agencies or other organizations involved in strengthening institutional capacity in the justice sector;

•Write reports on work undertaken and contribute to daily, weekly, monthly quarterly and the Secretary General’s reports;

•Attend meetings with national and international counterparts in the justice sector;

•Conduct legal research and contribute to AJSU assessment and legal analysis and contribute to report prepared by the AJSU for submission to the SRSG or mission senior management;

•Attend AJSU meetings and undertake administrative task as directed in furtherance of and in support of the legal work of the office;

•Travel to districts to collect information to develop strategies in the justice sector as required.

**June 2009 –January 2010 : Gender Specialist, USAID project on Strengthening Property Rights in Timor Leste.**

•Work closely with the project’s Partners to implement public information awareness activities for targeted groups of women and men.

•Monitor and evaluate gender-disaggregated data to determine progress toward increased awareness of gender issues of both GOTL (Government of Timor Leste) staff and key beneficiaries, men and women;

•Work with the legal team to ensure that the gender-differentiated concerns of men and women with respect to fair and equitable property rights, access, and control of land are adequately identified and addressed within relevant legal frameworks;

•Provide advice and support to the GOTL (Government of Timor Leste) in the context of developing institutional capacity to address gender equity in legislative reform;

•Work with key personnel in the development of processes that ensure men’s and women’s land and property rights in the land claims/land administration process are recognized and appropriately acknowledged and protected;

•Work with key personnel to ensure that processes developed in the context of conflict prevention, mediation and reconciliation appropriately target and support disadvantaged groups (in particular, the rights of women);

•Do all other reasonable things required to integrate and mainstream gender within the above tasks.

•Work with Minister of Justice for public consultation on Land Law

**March 2004 – - June 2009: Legal Researcher, JSMP (Judicial System Monitoring Program)**

* Conducting court monitoring
* Conducting Training to the Community about human rights, access to formal justice
* Writing press releases, justice updates and thematic report
* Legislative analysis
* Attending and organizing meetings, conferences and trainings with other NGOs, government, UN agencies and donors

**December 2004 – July 2009: Coordinator, Women’s Justice Unit, JSMP (Judicial System Monitoring Program)**

* Overall management of WJU: (Organizing logistics and planning activities)
* Contribution to overall management of JSMP
* Networking with donors
* Providing briefings to government, other NGOs, legal researchers (national and International)
* Attending meetings with government, parliament, court actors, other NGOs
* Organizing reports: identifying topics, researching, writing, formatting, proof reading, organizing translation, organizing distribution, discussing reports with relevant actors.
* Organizing, researching and writing press releases and justice updates
* Organizing and conducting public education activities
* Organizing and conducting court monitoring
* Organizing and conducting training

**Training Experience**

•September 2000: Leadership training in Kupang, Indonesia

•May 2001: Advocacy training in Kupang, Indonesia

•February – March 2004 : Human Right training organized by JSMP, Dili

•September 2004: Excel Training at UNTL, Dili

•October 2004: Proposal writing and thematic report training at JSMP, Dili

•April – August 2004: English language Course at Elementary II level,

Conducted in Dili by ETELI.

•April – September 2005: English Language Course at Pre- Intermediate I level, conducted in Dili by LELI.

•October 2005: training on Child Protection organized by Avocats Sans

Frontiers- Belgium and UNICEF, Dili- Timor Leste.

• November 23 – 26 2005: Study Session on Indigenous Women and the

Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against

Women (CEDAW), Baguio City, Philippines.

• November – December 2006: English Language Course at Intermediate Level.

•August 2007: Gender and Environment/Indigenous Women and CBD implementation, Baguio City, Philippines.

•August 2007: training on CEDAW TOT and Shadow report, Dili- Timor Leste.

•May 2008: Research training by RMIT University, Dili- Timor Leste

•July 2008: Gender and ToT training by SCN- Jakarta, Dili- Timor Leste

•August 2008: Radio and Television journalism training, School for Broadcast Media, Jakarta- Indonesia

•January – July 2009: attended training on Leadership Development Program, organized by IRI (The International Republican Institute), Dili- Timor Leste

•November, 16-27 2009, Intern at Human Rights Law Resource Centre in

Melbourne

•July, 26-30 2010, attended training program for Judicial Affairs Officers in United Nations Peace Operations: strengthening the Rule of law in Accra, Ghana.

**Conference and Workshop Experiences**

•June 2005: speaker at the conference “ Cooperating with Timor Leste: Ideas for good development practice” organized by the Australia – East Timor Association and the Development Studies Network, Melbourne

•September 2005: participated in “Challenges and possibilities Public Forum, Melbourne.

•January 2007: presented a paper and report to the donor and attended FOKUS Network conference in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

•February 2008: attended the 52nd UN Commission on the status of Women in New York

•September 2008: workshop “ Seeking Justice- Getting law?”, organized by Medica Mondiale, Bad Honnef- Germany.

•November 2008: “ Women in the land of Conflict conference” in Norway

• July – August 2009: Delivered Presentation on Draft land Law at the Public consultation in the 13 districts and 4 Sub Districts in Timor Leste

•Provided briefing and delivered a presentation on Law against Domestic Violence and Penal Code to various audiences (Police, Doctors, Nurses, Lawyers, Journalist and Communities)

•July, August and October 2010: Delivered a presentations to the Gender Based Violence Investigations Training Courses about Law against Domestic Violence and Penal Code to the Police Officer (Vulnerable Person Unit)