

United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste

Mr. Finn Reske-Nielsen

Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General for Governance Support, Development, and Humanitarian Coordination UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator

August 2006 – Present

Born: January 1950

Finn Reske-Nielsen took up the position of Deputy Special- Representative for the Secretary General (DSRSG) for Governance Support, Development and Humanitarian Coordination for United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) in late August 2006. He serves concurrently as UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative.

As a member of the senior management team of UNMIT, Mr. Reske-Nielsen was responsible for providing support and guidance to the 2007 presidential and parliamentary elections, and continues to be responsible for governance support, donor coordination and resource mobilization, humanitarian assistance and HIV/AIDS. In addition, he has primary responsibility for supporting the integration of UN activities between the Mission and the UN country team.

Mr. Reske-Nielsen participated in the assessment mission in Timor-Leste led by Special Envoy Ian Martin in which he assisted in the planning for the governance sector of the new mission. Before coming to Dili, 2002 Mr. Reske-Nielsen served as UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in the Lao People's Democratic Republic from 2002-04. He held the same function in Dili from 1999 until 2002 under the aegis of the United Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) where, working in close cooperation with then Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) Sergio de Mello, he helped develop the overall design and coordination of UN agency programmes. At that time, Mr. Reske-Nielsen also designed and implemented in East Timor a range of recovery and longer-term development programs.

Previous appointments with UNDP include Deputy Representative in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, and Assistant Resident Representative in Windhoek, Namibia. Mr. Reske-Nielsen has also held posts with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Switzerland and Zambia and in the Department of Political Affairs of the UN Secretariat in New York.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Reske-Nielsen was an Assistant Professor of Political Science and Public Administration at the University of Aarhus in Denmark where he specialized in theory of democracy and taught a range of topics including comparative politics and political theory. He holds a post-graduate degree in Political Science and Public Administration from the same university.