



REPÚBLICA DEMOCRÁTICA DE TIMOR-LESTE

12 January 2006

The Hon. Alexander Downer MP  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Minister

I refer to your letter concerning the application of paragraph 2 of Article 4 of the *Treaty between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste on Certain Maritime Arrangements in the Timor Sea* to the area of seabed outside the Joint Petroleum Development Area established under the *Timor Sea Treaty* and south of the line established by the *Agreement between the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia Establishing Certain Seabed Boundaries in the Area of the Timor and Arafura Seas, Supplementary to the Agreement of 18 May 1971*.

I note your advice concerning the application of Australian legislation to the area referred to in the preceding paragraph that authorised the granting of permission for conducting activities in relation to petroleum or other resources of the seabed and subsoil.

I confirm that, as at 19 May 2002, the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste had no legislation applying to that area giving rise to the application of paragraph 2 of Article 4.

Yours sincerely

José Ramos-Horta  
Senior Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation