

PRESENTATION SISTERS, WAGGA WAGGA



Timor Sea Treaty
Submission No: 72

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11 SEP 2002
BY:

Dear Ms Bishop,

I am writing to you about the situation with East Timor and the Timor Sea Treaty. We, as a country, have been of great support to East Timor and its gaining of Independence. It is important that we continue that support .

I am concerned that unless this Treaty is accompanied by public commitments to certain measures in the Treaty that ratification will not provide the best possible outcome for East Timor and is likely to lead to a negative perception of Australia from the East Timorese people.

The resources of the Timor Sea need to be there for this new nation to meet the people's basic needs, including economic development, health and education.

This Treaty must not inhibit the extent of East Timor's maritime claims and it needs to recognize its international legal obligation to engage with East Timor in "good faith" towards the achievement of permanent maritime boundaries.

Australia is already well endowed with natural, mineral and petroleum resources and wealth. It is in Australia's interests and that of the region to help East Timor become economically viable. Australia has the opportunity to assist East Timor towards the goal of economic self reliance.

Yours sincerely

Sr. Sheila Quonoey
Sr. Sheila Quonoey
Social Justice Co-Ordinator
Presentation Sisters Wagga

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON TREATIES**

RECEIVED
18 SEP 2002

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