

**Remarks by Mr. Su Man, Ambassador of China,
at the Timor-Leste and Development Partners' Meeting
April 2009**

Distinguished Guests,

As one of the major development partners of Timor-Leste, last year China continued providing development assistance in all areas including infrastructure, agriculture, education, professional training, public health, social relief, security, sports etc, which made contributions to the stability and development of Timor-Leste. The assistance was mainly implemented through the bilateral channel.

In the year of 2008, the Chinese government provided another two assistance gratis to the government of Timor-Leste. The Office Building for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs opened in May 2008. The Presidential Palace will be handed over soon. While the project of 100 sets of married Quarters for F-FDTL and the project of the primary school will begin construction in short term. As the Office Building of the Ministry of Defense and the Headquarter of F-FDTL being designed presently, both Chinese and Timor-Leste sides are creating conditions for construction within this year. Considering the successful demonstrating project of hybrid rice since early 2008, the Chinese government has offered additional expenditures and will discuss with the Timor-Leste government for further cooperation. Last year, China sent the third medical team to Timor-Leste while donating a set of anti-malarial drugs. Recently, the Chinese side will present furniture and office supplies to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. There being 205 officials and technicians accepting training in China last year, the Chinese side will continue this project this year. Every year, a certain amount of scholarships are offered to the young people of Timor-Leste, which will be doubled this year. Presently, more and more young people from Timor-Leste are studying in the universities of China, majoring in economy, information technology, medical science, tourism, arts etc.

Besides, Macau and Hong Kong communicate and cooperate with Timor-Leste more frequently in fields of economy, justice; education, training, sports, culture etc. The Timor-Leste government has determined to participate in the 2010 World Expo held in Shanghai and assigned the permanent representative to the Secretariat of the Forum on Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking countries in Macau.

Distinguished guests,

We are glad to see that the government and people of Timor-Leste are working together to overcome difficulties and make progress in national reconciliation, social stability and economic reconstruction, which fully endorsed by the international community, including China. As the youngest country in the world, Timor-Leste is still facing many challenges, still in need of support and assistance from the international community. We support the government of Timor-Leste gives priority to infrastructure, rural development and human capacity building, which will raise the employment rate of common people especially youngsters and remove the factors causing social instability ultimately. We appeal the international community to provide assistance to Timor-Leste continuously. The Chinese government will, as always, support the stability and development of Timor-Leste and encourage entrepreneurs from mainland, Hong Kong and Macau to make contributions to the process of Timor-Leste's economic development.

Thank you.

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