

154/107 Pacific Hwy,  
HORNSBY. NSW. 2077.  
11th September, 2002.

Timor Sea Treaty Submission No: ..... 67 .....
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16 SEP 2002

The Hon. Julie Bishop MP,  
Chair Joint Standing Committee on Treaties,  
Parliament House,  
CANBERRA. ACT. 2600

Dear Ms Bishop,

I believe that many Australians are genuinely happy that they have been able to assist the East Timorese to their day of independence.

It is disappointing to hear from different sources, that Australia is being less than generous or even fair, in its dealings with the new East Timor about the resources in the Timor Sea.

These resources provide East Timor with its best chance to gain the revenue desperately needed for its social and humanitarian development. For Australia to be mean-spirited on this issue, when we have so many resources ourselves, is shameful.

East Timor must be shown the respect it deserves and be allowed to delimit its sovereign boundaries according to international practice.

To hear that Australia has withdrawn from the International Court of Justice and the International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea with respect to maritime boundary disputes, reveals an attitude that I believe many Australians would not share.

The good name of our country is at risk here.

Surely, it is also in our self interest to have an economically viable East Timor.

Please ensure that the ratification of the Timor Sea Treaty is accompanied by public commitments that benefit the development, independence and well-being of the East Timorese people.

Yours sincerely,



(Ms) Helen McCauley.