**MBO briefings**

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On Wednesday 28 March, MBO gave a briefing to about 30 students and lecturers at the João Saldanha University in Becora, Dili. MBO supported the Chief Negotiator Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão as he gave two public briefings on maritime boundaries – one on 3 April to about 600 people at the Villa Verde Cathedral Hall and another on 8 April to about 2000 students at the Don Bosco Training Centre in Dili. Everyone who attended the briefings was engaged to learn about maritime boundaries and what the maritime boundary treaty with Australia means for the Timorese people.

**Fact Sheets**

- **What is compulsory conciliation?**
  - Conciliation Commission. The Commission convened further meetings in January and March 2017. The Commission presented their positions publicly at The Hague. This meeting was held at The Hague on 28 July 2016. Australia challenged the conciliation process and the resulting treaty.

- **What about Indonesia?**
  - Indonesia is not a party to the current Treaty between Indonesia and Australia. In giving recognition to Timor-Leste’s rights over its seas, the Treaty signing marks a momentous step for the Timorese people in their struggle towards full sovereignty and independence.

- **What is in the Maritime Boundary Treaty?**
  - The Maritime Boundary Treaty secures a median line in the Timor Sea, with a slight adjustment to achieve an equitable result as required by international law. Under the agreement, the Greater Sunrise gas field, the establishment of a Special Regime for the Area of Maritime Resource Development, and the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) are defined.

- **Negotiations on maritime boundaries:**
  - The Maritime Boundary Office developed a suite of fact sheets relating to the Maritime Boundary Treaty to inform people about the agreement and how it was reached. These fact sheets can be found at www.gfm.tl.

For more information contact:

Maritime Boundary Office
Council for the Final Delimitation of Maritime Boundaries
Government of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste
info@gfm.tl
+670 7742 5544

Now that maritime boundaries between Timor-Leste and Australia have been resolved, the Maritime Boundary Office will continue its work to support a resolution of maritime boundaries consistent with UNCLOS and international law, with Indonesia.
Atlantic Council Global Energy Forum in Abu Dhabi – January 2018

The Atlantic Council Global Energy Forum in Abu Dhabi is the premier international forum for government, industry, and thought leaders to set the global energy agenda for the year and anticipate and respond to changes in the world of energy.

Held under the Patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Armed Forces, the Forum is convened in partnership with the Ministry of Energy of the United Arab Emirates, ADNOC, and Mubadala.

Timor-Leste’s Chief Negotiator Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão was invited to give a keynote address at the Forum, speaking on “Economic Diversification in the Region, Sustainable Best Practices and Business Models: Lessons learned by Timor-Leste.”

From 11 to 14 January 2018, the Chief Negotiator and a small delegation from Timor-Leste visited Abu Dhabi to participate in the Global Energy Forum and conduct a series of side meetings with prominent UAE leaders, Sovereign Wealth Fund managers, and oil companies.

The visit was successful in raising awareness of Timor-Leste and its recent maritime boundary agreement with Australia through the United Nations Compulsory Conciliation process and learning new approaches and best practices in resource wealth management from some of the largest sovereign wealth funds in the world.

Specialised Photography Course in Sydney, Australia

From 4 to 8 December, two communications officers at the Maritime Boundary Office attended a photography course, specialising in press techniques, presented by the Sydney Photographic Workshop.

The workshop covered the important aspects of photography, including camera orientation and operation, focus techniques, manual exposure, light metering, photo documentary and an introduction to photojournalism.

One of the staff described the training experience as "a magical week". The well-balanced course between theory and practice gave the staff strong foundations for taking professional quality pictures.

Course in Human Resources and Management for Professionals and Executives, in Jakarta, Indonesia

From 2 to 8 December, three officers from the Maritime Boundary Office participated in a "Human Resources and Management for Professionals and Executives" and "Leadership and Management Skills" course in Jakarta. This course was provided by Indonesia’s Reference Training Center, the Spectra Center, and promoted the competencies of key elements of management and finance.
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Timor-Leste’s Chief Negotiator Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão was invited to give a key note address at the Forum, speaking on “Economic Diversification in the Region, Sustainable Best Practices and Business Models: Lessons learned by Timor-Leste.”

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