Press Release

The Movement against the Occupation of the Timor Sea (MKOTT) is a social movement consisting of activists, students, individuals, veterans and civil society organizations. Since its establishment in 2004, the movement has consistently advocated for a permanent maritime boundary between Timor-Leste and Australia.

Today these two nations have signed a new agreement which concludes the long process of delimiting the permanent maritime boundary. We would like to celebrate this historic signing as a victory of the long struggle of the Maubere people and the leaders of Timor-Leste for the nation’s sovereignty. Therefore, we (MKOTT) would like to appreciate students, activists, former resistance, political parties and solidarity groups from around the world who have always continued to support the struggle for Timor-Leste’s sovereignty.

We would like also to thank the two nations, Timor-Leste and Australia, which have terminated the dispute by recognizing Timór-Leste’s sovereignty and the right of Maubere people to enjoy and access their territory for future economic development.

However, this agreement will only take effect after it is ratified by the Parliaments of both countries. Therefore, MKOTT calls on the Australian Parliament to ratify this agreement without any conditions.

We recall that, in the past, Australia ratified the 2002 Timor Sea Treaty in 2003, only after Timor-Leste signed the Unitization Agreement for Greater Sunrise.

Viva Povu Maubere!

Viva Timor-Leste soberanu!