

Gould, Gillian (REPS)

From: Bishop, Julie (MP)
Sent: Monday, 26 August 2002 9:10 AM
To: Gould, Gillian (REPS)
Subject: FW: Australia and the Timor Gap

-----Original Message-----

From: Jordi Robert-Ribes [mailto:jordi_robert@internetaddress.com]
Sent: Monday, 26 August 2002 5:54 AM
To: Julie.Bishop.MP@aph.gov.au
Subject: Australia and the Timor Gap

Dear Julie Bishop,

I am writing to raise my concerns about Australia not having the best long term solution over the Timor Gap dispute.

The Treaty (May 2002) is not a long term sustainable treaty and may cause trouble with our neighbour in a recent future. Australia needs a viable East Timor as a neighbour. For this, the ratification of this treaty must be accompanied of:

- + Recognising its international legal obligation to engage with East Timor in "good faith" towards the achievement of permanent maritime boundaries.
- + Establishing a time frame, not exceeding 5 years, in which boundaries will be settled.
- + Declaring the centrality of the Treaty's 'without prejudice' clause and acknowledging that the Treaty's arrangements are provisional only.
- + Declaring that the Treaty does not inhibit the extent of East Timor's maritime claims.
- + Confirming that, consistent with Article 11 of the Treaty, Australia will prioritise "training and employment opportunities for East Timorese nationals and residents."
- + Ensuring that Production Sharing contracts include provisions that prioritise East Timorese interests, in particular capacity building measures.
- + Immediately reinstate its adherence to the dispute settlement mechanisms of the ICJ and UNCLOS.

I am convinced that you will take the appropriate action that your position allows.

Wishing the best long term outcome in this matter,
Best regards,
Jordi