

SUBMISSION NO. 30

From: Toni Pollard [te.pollard@uws.edu.au]
Sent: Tuesday 30 July 2002
Subject: Timor Sea Treaty

To the secretary on Joint Standing Committee on the Timor Sea treaty,

Dear Sir,

I understand that this week Australia is planning to ratify the may 20th agreement on the Timor Sea treaty with East Timor. While the agreement of a 90%-10% share of revenue in Timor's favour appears very generous, this disguises the fact that other oil and gas areas have an unfair share for East Timor - the Greater Sunrise oil field for example will only net 18% to Timor. Australia is in a position to act generously in finalising these agreements with Timor so that Timor gets the revenue it needs to become a selfsufficient nation, which surely is of benefit to us in the future. I have recently been in East timor and well aware of the poverty that still exists there despite the massive efforts on the part of the UN and NGOs. Timor does not want to be a basket nation and a reasonable profit from the rich oil and gas resourses in their sea bed will help the new country stand on its feet.

I urge your committee to consider a more generous approach to the treaty when it is ratified.

Yours,

Toni Pollard