



SPOKESPERSON SIXTH CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT



**MEDIA
RELEASE**

Dili, 23 August, 2016

Members of Government to attend Conciliation Commission hearing next week

The Minister of Planning and Strategic Investment and Chief Negotiator for Maritime Boundaries, H.E. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão, and the Minister of State and of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, H.E. Agio Pereira will be attending a public opening session followed by a hearing in The Hague, the Netherlands, next week.

The opening session and hearing, commencing on Monday the 29th of August, are being conducted as a part of the conciliation proceedings between The Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste and the Commonwealth of Australia. These proceedings regarding the maritime boundary between Timor-Leste and Australia were initiated by Timor-Leste under Annex V of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the 11th of April this year.

The Permanent Court of Arbitration, who acts as a Registry in the proceedings, has issued a Press Release which outlines structure and schedule of the upcoming hearings, sets out the background to the proceedings and advises about the live webcast of the opening session that will be available on their website.

The press release is available here: <https://pca-cpa.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/175/2016/08/20160822-Press-Release-No-2-English.pdf>

The webcast, covering the opening session only, will be streamed on Monday the 29th of August through this link: <https://pca-cpa.org/en/news/timor-leste-australia/>. Timor-Leste's Opening Statement is scheduled to begin at 4:45pm Dili time and conclude at 6:15pm.

The press release notes that video of the opening session and transcripts will be posted to the Permanent Court of Arbitration website following the session.

Following the opening session a hearing will be conducted through until the 31st of August on certain objections to the competence of the Commission raised by Australia. This hearing will not be webcast or open to the public. **ENDS**



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