

Dili International Conference

Navigating Challenges:
Law of the Sea and
Maritime Dispute
Settlement

15 – 16 May 2025
Timor-Leste



Final Program



Land and Maritime Boundary Office
Government of the Democratic Republic
of Timor-Leste

Day 1: 15 MAY
Opening Ceremony
Salão Nobre
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Dili, Timor-Leste

Registration 8:00am – 8:30am (for conference participants who have not yet registered)

Welcome Video 8:45am – 8:50am

Opening Remarks 8:50am – 9:00am

H.E. President of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, Dr. José Ramos-Horta

Keynote address 9:00am – 9:30am

H.E. President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), Judge Tomas Heidar

Family Photo - Coffee Break (9:30am – 10:00am)

10:00am – 11:30am

Panel 1: Recent Developments in Maritime Boundary Settlement

Speakers:

- Judge Jin-hyun Paik, Former President of ITLOS
- Garth Schofield, Deputy Secretary-General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration
- Sir Michael Wood KCMG KC, Legal Counsel
- Rodman Bundy, Squire Patton Boggs

Moderator: Professor Joanna Mossop, Victoria University of Wellington

Coffee Break (11:30am – 11:45am)

11:45 am – 1:15pm

Panel 2: Maritime Boundary Dispute Settlements in the Indo-Pacific

Speakers:

- H.E. Lionel Yee, Deputy Attorney-General, Singapore
- H.E. Ambassador Prof. Dr. Eddy Pratomo, University of Pancasila and University of Diponegoro
- Lawrence Martin, Foley Hoag
- Jens Kruger, Pacific Community

Moderator: Gitanjali Bajaj, DLA Piper

Lunch Break (1:15pm – 2:45pm)

2:45pm – 4:45pm

Panel 3: Lessons Learned from the Timor Sea Conciliation

Speakers:

- H.E. Agio Pereira, Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Agent for Timor-Leste in the Timor Sea Conciliation
- Katrina Cooper, Deputy-Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Co-agent for Australia in the Timor Sea Conciliation
- H.E. Ambassador Peter Taksøe-Jensen, Ambassador of Denmark to Italy, Chair of the Conciliation Commission
- Martin Doe, Deputy Secretary-General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration

Reflections from the Conciliators

- Judge Rudiger Wolfrum, Conciliator in the Timor Sea Conciliation
- Judge Abdul Koroma, Conciliator in the Timor Sea Conciliation
- Professor Donald McRae, Conciliator in the Timor Sea Conciliation
- Dr Rosalie Balkin, Conciliator in the Timor Sea Conciliation

Moderator: Dr Vasco Becker-Weinberg, University of Lisbon

Coffee Break (4:45pm – 5:00pm) (Buses depart for hotels)

7:00pm

Welcome Dinner at Palácio Nobre de Lahane
hosted by H.E. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão, Prime Minister of Timor-Leste

Day 2: 16 MAY
JL World Hotel
Areia Branca, Dili

Opening Remarks

9:00am – 9:15am

H.E. Prime Minister of Timor-Leste, Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão

9:15am – 10:45am

Panel 1: Management of Disputed Maritime Areas and Fostering Ocean Governance

Speakers:

- Professor Nguyen Lan Anh, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam
- Professor Makoto Seta, Waseda University
- Dr Vasco Becker-Weinberg, University of Lisbon
- Dr Ifesinachi Okafor-Yarwood, University of St Andrews

Moderator: H.E. Dr Dionisio Babo Soares, Permanent Representative of Timor-Leste to the United Nations

Coffee Break (10:45am – 11:00am)

11:00am – 12:30pm

Panel 2: Climate Change and Sea Level Rise in Maritime Delimitation

Speakers:

- Judge Rudiger Wolfrum, Former President of ITLOS
- H.E. Laingane Italeli Talia, Attorney General of Tuvalu
- Dr Kilaparti Ramakrishna, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
- Dr Tara Davenport, National University of Singapore, Centre of International Law

Moderator: Professor Margaret Young, University of Melbourne

Lunch Break (12:30pm – 2:00pm)

2:00pm – 3:30pm

Panel 3: ITLOS and ICJ Advisory Opinions on Climate Change

Speakers:

- H.E. Dr Eselealofa 'Ese' Apinelu, former Attorney General of Tuvalu
- Justice Paula da Conceição Machatine Honwana, Judge of the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone
- Emiretus Professor Donald Mcrae, University of Ottawa
- Dr Naporn Prompt Poppattanachai, University of Galway

Moderator: Stephen Webb, DLA Piper

Coffee Break (3:30pm – 3:50pm)

3:50pm – 5:20pm

Panel 4: The High Sea Treaty and Its Implications for Global Governance

Speakers:

- Professor Margaret Young, University of Melbourne
- Professor Joanna Mossop, Victoria University of Wellington
- Dr Xiangxin Xu, Shanghai Jiao Tong University
- Rose Kautoke, Senior Crown Counsel, Head of the Legal Advice and International Law Division, Attorney General's Office, Kingdom of Tonga

Moderator: Eran Sthoeger, Columbia University

Closing (5:20pm – 5:30pm)

5:20pm – 5:30pm

Wrap up

Elizabeth Exposto, Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister of Timor-Leste, CEO of the Land and Maritime Boundary Office, Deputy Agent for Timor-Leste in the Timor Sea Conciliation