

**RDTL National Parliament**  
**Draft Resolution n. 26 / III (4)**

**Support for the negotiation process for the maritime boundaries of Timor-Leste**

Whereas,

Through Resolution no. 12/2014 of 24 October on the support of the Government for the creation of a council for the definitive delimitation of maritime boundaries, the National Parliament declared its support for the immediate commencement of negotiations with the Commonwealth of Australia for the purpose of establishing the definitive maritime boundaries between the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste and the Commonwealth of Australia and supported the decision of the Government to constitute a Council for definite delimitation of maritime boundaries;

By Decree-Law No. 8/2015 of 22 April, the Government established the Council for the Definitive Delimitation of Maritime Boundaries;

On February 3, 2016, the Government appointed as chief negotiator of the Negotiating Team for a Treaty for the Definitive Delimitation of Maritime Borders with the Commonwealth of Australia and the Republic of Indonesia, and responsible for defining the Council's negotiating strategy for the definitive delimitation of maritime boundaries, Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão, Minister of Planning and Strategic Investment;

In February 2016, the Government of Timor-Leste has initiated contacts with the Australian authorities with a view to beginning negotiations for the delimitation of maritime boundaries;

The Australian Government has not manifested itself available to negotiate with Timor-Leste on maritime boundaries;

Given that,

The definition of maritime boundaries is absolutely essential for the prevention and resolution of problems in the areas of security and migration, as well as to ensure the fulfillment of the use and exploitation of natural resources of the Timorese State and create an environment conducive to investment and economic development;

The permanent definition of maritime boundaries is essential to the full restoration of Timor-Leste Independence and is a priority for the Timorese State;

The veterans of the struggle for national liberation, the Timorese civil society and all citizens came together around the common cause of defending the inalienable right of Timor-Leste to the definition of maritime boundaries and the full exercise of maritime sovereignty of the Timorese State under international law;

The National Parliament resolves, in accordance with Articles 92 and 95 of the Constitution, the following:

1. To reaffirm the inalienable right of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to define its maritime boundaries, in the light of international law.
2. To express full support to the Government of Timor-Leste, the Council for the Delimitation of Definitive Maritime Boundaries and negotiating team led by Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão leader of Timorese Resistance and current Minister of Planning and Strategic Development, in driving the process negotiating the final delimitation of the maritime boundary with the Commonwealth of Australia.
3. Saluting veterans of the national liberation struggle, the Timorese civil society and all those who took part in the demonstrations, showing democratic maturity by their actions to support the state in the negotiation process of maritime boundaries.

4. To urge all members of sovereign bodies and all state institutions to, with one voice, firmly defend the inalienable right of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to define its maritime boundaries, in the light of international law.
5. To appeal to the Australian authorities to resume and conclude in good faith negotiations with the Timorese authorities to demarcate permanent maritime boundaries between the two countries;
6. To establish an Ad-hoc Committee of the National Parliament, to monitor the final delimitation of the negotiation process of maritime boundaries with the Commonwealth of Australia, composed of representatives of all parliamentary groups, whose composition, functioning and powers will be defined by resolution of the National Parliament.

Dili, April 4, 2016

Proponent Deputies,

/s/

Aniceto Guterres, the Parliamentary FRETILIN Bench

/s/

Natalino dos Santos, the Parliamentary CNRT Bench

/s/

Lurdes Bessa, the Parliamentary PD Bench

/s/

José Luis Guterres, the Parliamentary FM Bench