

H. E. José Ramos-Horta
President of Timor Leste
Dili, Timor Leste

29 April 2010

EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE

Your Excellency,

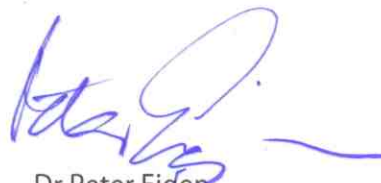
At its meeting on 15-16 April the EITI Board considered Timor Leste's application for an extension to the 9 March 2010 EITI Validation deadline.

I am pleased to inform you that the Board agreed to grant Timor Leste an extension until 9 September 2010, by which date a final Validation report endorsed by the multi-stakeholder working group (MSWG) must be submitted to the Board. As the Timor Leste MSWG has already endorsed the final Validation report (on 6 April), this requirement has been met. Accordingly, the Board will ensure that a decision on Timor Leste's status is taken as soon as possible.

In its deliberations, the Board applied the EITI rules, which permit an extension of the deadline for completing the Validation process only in exceptional and unforeseeable circumstances (where constraints arise that are beyond the control of the EITI Candidate country). The Board carefully reviewed the draft Validation report that was submitted to the Board on 14 February 2010. The Board subsequently requested further information and explanations from the Validator and the multi-stakeholder working group, a process which has enhanced the rigour and credibility of Validation, but which has also added significantly to the time needed to complete Validation. Therefore, the Board concluded that this situation was exceptional and unforeseeable, and outside the control of Timor Leste. No other factors were taken into consideration by the Board.

Please note that in furtherance of its objective to be transparent about its decisions, I will make this letter publically available. I respectfully request that this letter be shared with the EITI multi-stakeholder working group as soon as possible.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration



Dr Peter Eigen
Chairman

Cc. Mr. Alfredo Pires. Secretary of State for Natural Resources
Manuel de Lemos, EITI National Coordinator