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President Announces Tour de Timor Sponsorship

Official Press Release for 2011 Tour de Timor

9 May 2011

The President of the Republic, Dr José Ramos-Horta today welcomed representatives of Timor Telecom, including the CEO of Timor Telecom, Mr. Amaro, to the Presidential Palace in Ai-Tarak Laran Dili. Timor Telecom has pledged USD\$150,000 in cash as well as further in-kind sponsorship for the third 'Tour de Timor'.

H.E. the President spoke at the Presidential Palace in Ai-Tarak Laran, Dili: "This year's Tour de Timor will be the best yet. We are certainly grateful to all of our supporters. As the Tour matures and gains further recognition it is important that the private sector contribute to its ascendancy in the region as the toughest bike race in Asia. Timor Telecom have continued to show their ongoing support of our events this year and for that I thank them."

The Tour de Timor will have around 400 international and local riders who will test themselves over a gruelling 600 km, 6 day course that features the Eastern areas of Timor-Leste. With a cash prize pool of USD\$ 100,000 the Tour de Timor is the richest in the region, attracting top level riders as well as many others who participate to see the country and its people.

Mr Amaro, CEO of Timor Telecom said to the President: "Timor Telecom congratulates the President of the Republic in his efforts to promote peace by creating a peaceful environment for all of the Timor-Leste's society. Timor Telecom has supported the 'Dili, City of Peace' Marathon both years and looks forward to sponsoring the 'Tour de Timor' for the first time."

The Tour de Timor has an enormous social and economic impact on Timor-Leste. There are few other instances of such intensive tourism into the districts of Timor-Leste. Timorese riders, support crew and spectators have greatly benefitted from this large scale inclusion into the globalised world.

For more information contact info@tourdetimor.com or visit www.tourdetimor.com

Authority: Mr Richard Bell, Media Liaison Officer, Tour de Timor, +670 7643313



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