



FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT

In the spirit of mutual respect and co-operation between the peoples of Australia and Timor-Leste, and in accordance with the “Statement of Principles” for Local Governments Working in Timor-Leste, of 4 May 2000, we affirm our intention to develop a Friendship Relationship between the sub-district of Hato Bulico in Timor-Leste and Blue Mountains City Council, New South Wales, Australia.

Blue Mountains City Council and its community seek to develop the Friendship Relationship to assist in the advancement of Hato Bulico. Blue Mountains City Council recognises the strong desire of individuals and organisations in our community to contribute to the rebuilding of Timor-Leste, and we are committed to community-to-community links with the sub-district of Hato Bulico. It is envisaged that this partnership, at both the local government, school and community level, will involve the transfer of knowledge, skills and resources as appropriate, and will result in improved understanding and the establishment of long-term relationships between the communities.

We recognise that there will be short-term and long-term goals for Hato Bulico and that any strategy or project should be based on needs identified through local decision-making processes and should take account of the capacity of the Blue Mountains City Council, and its community, to resource and support them.

It is intended that all initiatives undertaken under the Friendship Relationship should be directed towards strengthening the communities within the sub-district of Hato Bulico. These initiatives should aim to build capacity and advance the self-sufficiency of the people of Hato Bulico, and should be consistent with the principles of environmental, social and cultural sustainability.

It is also intended that the Friendship Relationship between the sub-district of Hato Bulico and Blue Mountains City Council will be reviewed and reaffirmed by any administrations which might follow those currently responsible.

**Administrator of the District of Ainaro:
Sr Joao Corte Real Araujo.....**

**Administrator of the Sub-District:
Sr Manuel Martins de Carvalho.....**

**Mayor of the City of Blue Mountains:
Mr Jim Angel.....**