Annex 6:
Letter from the Parties to the Commissioners of 11 May 2016
Dear Madam and Sirs

CONCILIATION PROCEEDINGS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF TIMOR-LESTE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 298 AND ANNEX V OF UNCLOS


In accordance with Annex V, Articles 3(b) and 3(c) of UNCLOS, the parties have appointed each of you to act as conciliators in these Conciliation Proceedings.

The parties have invited the Permanent Court of Arbitration ("PCA") to act as the Registry for the Conciliation Proceedings. Assuming the PCA accepts, it will undoubtedly be in touch with you concerning the conduct of the Conciliation Proceedings.

By way of reminder, the next steps in the Conciliation Proceedings are as follows:

a) in accordance with Annex V, Article 3(d) of UNCLOS, the party-appointed conciliators shall within 30 days after they have all been appointed, appoint a fifth conciliator from the list of
conciliators maintained by the Secretary-General of the United Nations ("List of Conciliators"), who shall be chair; and

b) in accordance with Annex V, Article 3(d) - (e) of UNCLOS, if the appointment is not made within the 30-day period referred to above, either party may, within one week of the expiration of that period, request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to make the appointment of the fifth conciliator from the List of Conciliators, in consultation with the parties to the dispute. Such appointment shall be made within 30 days of receipt of a request by a party.

For ease of reference, we enclose a copy of Article 298 and Annex V of UNCLOS.

In accordance with the usual practice, and recognising the intention for this process to be conducted amicably, the parties record their wish to be invited to provide their views to you on the selection and appointment of the Chairperson in these Conciliation Proceedings.

Yours faithfully

Agent for Timor-Leste:

[Signature]
Mr Hermenegildo Pereira
Minister of State and of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers

Agent for Australia:

[Signature]
Mr John Reid
First Assistant Secretary, Office of International Law, Attorney-General's Department

Copy to:

Ms Elizabeth Exposto
Deputy Agent for Timor-Leste
Chief Executive Officer
Maritime Boundary Office

Ms Katrina Cooper
Co-Agent for Australia
Senior Legal Advisor
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Encl.

Article 298 and Annex V, UNCLOS