PRESS RELEASE

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THE DILI CONSENSUS CALLS FOR A NEW DEAL ON GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

Nearly 50 countries, including 18 involved in the g7+ group of nations have backed The Dili Consensus on future development, which emerged from a major global conference held in Timor Leste this week.

It was also endorsed by Dr Noeleen Heyzer, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCAP (the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific).

The conference brought together 30 Pacific island delegates as well as representatives from Africa and Asia involved in the g7+ group of nations, to seek a path forward once the Millenium Development Goals (MDG) expire in 2015. The conference involved hundreds of delegates and was organised and supported by the Timor Leste government, the Pacific Institute of Public Policy, UNESCAP and Ausaid.

The Dili Consensus is a clear call for a “new deal” on development that incorporates many elements missing from the original MDG approach. The new approach concentrates on inclusiveness, ownership of the development agenda by those affected and a greater focus on climate change.

According to the Dili Consensus document:

“Business as usual is not a viable option. We are no longer on the same development journey that we began on the start of the new millennium. We must build a framework for the next era of global development that is legitimate and relevant, truly reflecting the development aspirations and challenges of people everywhere.”

“We intend to use every opportunity to make our voices heard and build on the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States to ensure development for all.”

Derek Brien, Executive Director of the Pacific Institute of Public Policy (PiPP) said:
“We applaud the *Dili Consensus* as it gives weight to what we all know – that is, that our countries must be at the forefront of shaping the global development agenda.”

“We are delighted to have been invited to work with the government of Timor Leste and the g7+ Secretariat to help deliver what was a truly consultative process, which is reflected in the strength of outcomes from both the Pacific roundtable discussions and the *Dili Consensus*.”

Prime Minister of Timor Leste Xanana Gusmao closed the conference with a rallying speech, asking for “development by all, for all”.

Full text of the Dili Consensus will be published on PiPP’s website:

http://www.pacificpolicy.org/

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