

**The Secretary of State for the Council of Ministers and
Official Spokesperson for the Government of Timor-Leste
Ágio Pereira**

**January 29, 2010
Díli, Timor-Leste**



**Commander Grant Edwards, Head of the Timor-Leste Police Development
Program (TLPDP), finishes his posting.**

The Prime Minister, His Excellency Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão and the Government of Timor-Leste wish to convey great appreciation to Commander Grant Edwards, whose service to the Timor-Leste Police Development Program (TLPDP) has ended.

Commander Edwards has demonstrated great professionalism and dedication in his leadership of the TLPDP during a critical period in Timor-Leste's history and can be credited with contributing to the significant achievements to date in professionalizing the Timorese Police Force (PNTL) in working towards greater peace and stability in Timor-Leste.

The TLPDP has played a central role in strengthening the capacity of the PNTL in the areas of training, finance, strategic planning, organizational processes and procedures and legal development, and in the establishment of a career and promotions regime for the PNTL; all contributors in assisting with the gradual transfer of command responsibility from UNPOL to the PNTL.

Secretary of State Pereira said "Commander Edwards can leave with great honor acknowledging his contributions to the nation, and his role in strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation between Australia and Timor-Leste. The Australian Federal Police remains an important partner to Timor-Leste; contributing to a more professional and accountable police service." **ENDS**

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