

NEW ZEALAND - TIMOR-LESTE	AOTEAROA - TĪMOA- RĀWHITI	NOVA ZELANDIA – TIMOR-LESTE	NOVA ZELÂNDIA - TIMOR L'ESTE
STATEMENT OF PARTNERSHIP	TAUĀKĪ MAHITAHĪ	ESTATEMENTU PARSERIA	DECLARAÇÃO DE PARCERIA

2022 — 2026



<i>He waka eke noa</i>	<i>We are all in the canoe together</i>	<i>Ita hotu hamutuk iha bero laran</i>	<i>Estamos todos juntos na canoa</i>
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This Statement of Partnership sets out the shared principles, priorities and understandings that will guide cooperation and engagement between the Government of Aotearoa New Zealand and the Government of Timor-Leste.

In coming together under this partnership, we recognise our shared respect for democratic governance, rule of law, human rights, free trade, and transparency.

We note our long-established bilateral relationship founded on mutual trust, respect and sovereign equality, and governed by the spirit of friendship.

We also acknowledge the enduring principles that guide Aotearoa New Zealand's engagement in Timor-Leste:

Te Puna Manaaki [Fountain of support]: Our engagement will be underpinned by the values of partnership [whakahoahoa], including honesty, trust and respect. We will listen and consult, and act in partnership with principles of participation, predictability and consistency. We will confidently share our views and perspectives with one another, being clear about the things we will do and the things we will not do. The strength of our partnerships empower us to communicate openly even where our views may differ.

Raranga te Muka [Weaving the strands]: Aotearoa New Zealand's global development investments contribute towards global and regional security and prosperity, and to our respective national interests. Aotearoa New Zealand's support helps to address global development challenges and issues that are too big for any country to address on its own. Through this approach we achieve pānga ngātahi [collective impact].

Tātou Tātou [All of us together]: We will collaborate to upscale our ambition and magnify our impact, especially in the Indo-Pacific region where our engagements will contribute to ensuring Timor-Leste and Aotearoa New Zealand's prosperity. Through this approach, we achieve painga takirua [mutual benefit]

Te Pae Tawhiti [A shared horizon]: Our engagement will bring a long-term resilience [pakari] perspective, consistent with our respective enduring interests. We will seek lasting impact through a focus on equitable human development; economic and climate resilience, and kaitiakitanga [stewardship]

This Statement of Partnership builds on the 2016-20 New Zealand – Timor-Leste Joint Commitment for Development and aims to cover all aspects of our partnership, including development, trade, security, foreign policy and people-to-people links.

We acknowledge our collective action on regional and global issues through our commitments to treaties and international instruments, including:

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)

- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1981)
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)
- Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (2000)
- Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (2011)
- Paris Agreement (2015)
- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 – 30
- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs)
- Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (2017)

We acknowledge our joint interest in supporting a safe, stable and resilient Indo-Pacific region. Within this, Aotearoa New Zealand is committed to facilitating inclusive and sustainable development for the people of Timor-Leste in line with the aspirations set out in Timor-Leste's Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030, and in accordance with its Foreign Aid Policy (2021) and "New Zealand's International Cooperation for Effective Sustainable Development" Policy Statement 2019.

PARTNERSHIP PRINCIPLES	NGĀ MĀTĀPONO MAHITAHĪ	PRINSIPIUS PARSERIA	PRINCÍPIOS DE PARCERIA
<p>UNDER THIS STATEMENT OF PARTNERSHIP, AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND AND TIMOR-LESTE WILL WORK COLLABORATIVELY TO:</p>			

- Communicate openly at all levels to ensure effective cooperation, coordination, across our partnership;
- Develop a deeper understanding of our respective foreign policy, security, economic, and development interests and priorities, seeking closer alignment as appropriate;
- Pursue development outcomes that are inclusive, effective, resilient and sustained;
- Pursue development activities that are coordinated with those of other development partners, and support country-led aid coordination mechanisms;
- Encourage inclusive societies, democratic institutions, the rule of law, and respect for human rights, and transparent and accountable governance;
and
- Respond flexibly to emerging priorities taking account of existing agreed commitments.

PRIORITY AREAS FOR COOPERATION	NGĀ WĀHANGA MATUA MŌ TE MAHI NGĀTAHI	AREA PRIORIDADE SIRA BA KOPERASAUN	ÁREAS PRIORITÁRIAS DO COOPERAÇÃO
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Guided by our shared values and principles, Aotearoa New Zealand and Timor-Leste will advance our partnership under the following priority areas:

1	MULTILATERAL AND REGIONAL COOPERATION	MATAWHĀNUI ME TE MAHITAHĪ Ā ROHE	KOPERASAUN MULTILATERAL NO REJIONAL	COOPERAÇÃO MULTILATERAL E REGIONAL
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Working together, and with other like-minded partners, through regional and multilateral institutions and fora

- Strengthen and protect the international rules-based system and institutions;
- Raise awareness of and support collective action to combat climate change;
- Promote coordination and collaboration in peace, security and nuclear disarmament;
- Uphold and advocate for the protection of human rights and the rights of women, children and other vulnerable groups, particularly where Aotearoa New Zealand and Timor-Leste have mutual commitments on international agreements; and
- Support each other's participation within the regional and global architecture, including Timor-Leste's aspiration to become a member of ASEAN.

2	INCLUSIVE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	WHAKAKOT AHITIA NGA TAUWHIRO- WHANAKETA NGA	DESENVOLVIME NTU SUSTENTAVEL INKLUSIVU	DESENVOLVIMEN TO SUSTENTÁVEL INCLUSIVO
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Collaborating to achieve the goals of Timor-Leste's Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030

- Align with Timor-Leste's planning frameworks, and the principles and procedures of its Foreign Aid Policy (2019);
- Work together to deliver targeted scholarship and training programmes that enable leadership and professional capability development aligned with Timor-Leste's development priorities;

- Build economic diversity, inclusiveness and resilience through support and joint investment in agriculture, tourism and aquaculture;
- Promote safe, secure and equitable communities through community justice initiatives and strengthening community policing;
- Enhance access to quality early childhood education and learning resources;
- Support civil society's community reach across Timor-Leste, with focus areas including improved social well-being, economic resilience and protecting the environment;
- Respond to humanitarian disasters, including pandemics and food security emergencies, as needed and when requested by Timor-Leste;
- Include climate-related adaptation, mitigation or capability building initiatives aligning with Timor-Leste's National Adaptation Plan and Climate Change Policy;
- Engage constructively in donor partner-government coordination mechanisms which seek to improve harmonisation, alignment and increased use of government systems; and
- Consider initiatives raised by Timor-Leste that are inclusive sustainable development priorities in terms of its national development plans.

3	TRADE AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION	TAUHOKOHOK O ME TE OHANGA MAHI TAHI	KOPERASAUN KOMERSIAL NO EKONOMIKA	COOPERAÇÃO COMERCIAL E ECONÔMICA
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Supporting free, open and inclusive trade for all

- Provide trade and negotiations-focused capacity support to assist Timor-Leste with its bids for accession to the WTO;
- Jointly advocate for free and open trade and the multilateral system;
- Investigate and develop options to sustain and diversify Timor-Leste's economy in order to reduce dependence on the Petroleum Fund; and

- Facilitate opportunities to strengthen bilateral trade and investment in priority sectors including agricultural product and tourism-focused development activities.

4	PEOPLE- TO-PEOPLE	TANGATA KI TE TANGATA	EMA HO EMA	DE PESSOAS PARA PESSOAS
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Enhancing relations through people-to-people links

- Continue to work together to deliver targeted scholarships and tertiary education programmes that enable professional capability development aligned with Timor-Leste's workforce development priorities;
- Foster and deepen the connections created between our peoples and institutions including through Timorese alumni of the Manaaki New Zealand Scholarships Programme;
- Support mutual capacity and capability building relationships through exchanges between Aotearoa New Zealand development volunteers and Timor-Leste communities and institutions (including universities);
- Strengthen and foster people-to-people links and diplomacy through the Asia-New Zealand Foundation;
- Promote parliamentary exchanges, including virtually if required, in particular between women leaders, Members of Parliament and Ministers from Aotearoa New Zealand and Timor-Leste; and
- Promote a deeper understanding and appreciation of cultures and histories through cultural exchanges between indigenous communities, tourism and people-to-people linkages.

5	GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT	KAWANATANGA KI TE KAWANATANGA	GOVERNO HO GOVERNO	GOVERNO PARA GOVERNO
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Enhancing mutually beneficial inter-governmental relations

- Engage in open dialogue and information exchange on regional security challenges;
- Consider options for supporting capacity and capability to increase revenue collection and address trans-national organised crime and related issues including people smuggling and trafficking in persons;
- Maintain Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) between Timor-Leste and Aotearoa New Zealand; and
- Promote connectivity and regional integration by way of an Air Services Agreement.

SHARED UNDERSTANDINGS	HE MĀRAMA- TANGA TAHI	FAHE'E ENTENDEMENT U	ENTENDIMENTO S COMPARTILHAD OS
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In order to give practical effect to our ambitions under this Statement of Partnership, Aotearoa New Zealand and Timor-Leste will hold each other mutually accountable, and will work together in the following ways:

- Carry out a Partnership stocktake every 18 months to coordinate, and monitor progress across the priority areas in this Statement of Partnership;
- Hold regular High-Level Consultations to review and discuss progress across the priorities in this Statement; and
- Support Ministerial visits and consultations on issues of mutual interest

This Statement of Partnership will take effect on the date of its signature. Any jointly approved amendment to the principles, objectives, or priorities will be recorded by the partners in writing.

Signed

at Singapore
(location)

at Singapore
(location)

on 2 March 2023
(date)

on 2 March 2023
(date)

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
TIMOR-LESTE

Nanaia Mahuta

Hon Nanaia Mahuta
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Adaljiza Magno

Hon Adaljiza Albertina Xavier Reis
Magno
Minister of Foreign Affairs and
Cooperation