



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF TIMOR-LESTE

Honorary Consul – Victoria, Australia

Mrs Rae Kingsbury

The Government of people of Timor-Leste would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Rotary Donations In Kind (DIK) project on their 300th shipping container of goods to be sent to Timor-Leste since 1999. The DIK project has sent \$30 million worth of goods to Timor-Leste.

Timor-Leste's Honorary Consul in Victoria, Ms Rae Kingsbury, said that Rotary's DIK program had made a real difference to the lives of thousands of the country's citizens.

'Rotary DIK has sent everything from school and medical equipment to household items, clothing, tools and utensils to Timor-Leste,' Ms Kingsbury said. 'I, the government and the people of Timor-Leste wish to express our heart-felt thanks to the tireless work of Rotary Clubs on behalf of Timor-Leste and in particular the work of Rotary's DIK program.'

As well as the \$30 million worth of goods that have been shipped to Timor-Leste, Ms Kingsbury said that a further \$1.8 million had been raised for freight and 70,000 volunteer hours involved in packing the containers.

Ms Kingsbury said that the goods sent to Timor-Leste were donated by caring Australians and, through Rotary connections overseas, given for free to people in genuine need. 'This is a particularly effective form of aid,' Ms Kingsbury said. 'That is especially the case with Rotary's donations of still much needed quality educational and medical equipment.'

'One of the major challenges Rotary faces is finding the funds to ship the goods as the DIK project does not receive Government support,' Ms Kingsbury said. 'But if people wish to assist Rotary's DIK project, donations for this cause are tax deductible. Rotarians are your neighbours and would welcome your help.'

'This year alone, Rotary's West Footscray DIK store sent more than 5000 school chairs and 2000 desks to Timor-Leste,' Ms Kingsbury said. 'It costs only five dollars to ship a chair, the most basic form of support for a student, but more than \$75,000 now needs to be raised to cover costs of shipping these materials.'

'I know our dear friends at Rotary would warmly welcome your assistance', Ms Kingsbury said.

'Any donation to help cover the cost of shipping these important items would be a great help to Rotary and will continue to be very gratefully received by our close friends in Timor-Leste.'

Donations for Rotary's Donations In Kind program are tax deductible.
For more information view www.rotarydik.org or contact Bob Glindemann
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