



*Office of the Chair of the  
Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG)*

15 March 2011

**PRESS RELEASE**

The Leaders of the Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG) have agreed ‘out of session’ to admit and grant observership to the Republic of Timor Leste and the Republic of Indonesia to the MSG and also to invite Luxembourg as a Special Guest at the forthcoming MSG Leaders Summit in Suva, Fiji at the end of this month.

The Chairman of the MSG and Prime Minister of Fiji, Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama confirmed that the ‘out of session’ decision by the Leaders follows the Special Meetings of the MSG Foreign Ministers Meeting (FMM) and Senior Officials recently in Nadi, Fiji where the observer applications by the Republic of Indonesia and Republic of Timor Leste were considered as well as Luxembourg’s participation as a Special Guest.

“I then consulted with my colleague Leaders on the recommendations put forward by our Ministers for Foreign Affairs,” said Prime Minister Bainimarama.

“The granting of Observership to Timor Leste and Indonesia is a historic moment in the young life of the MSG and we welcome our neighbours to the MSG family, in their capacity as Observers,” added the Prime Minister.

“Likewise, we are pleased to invite the Government of Luxembourg as a Special Guest to our Leaders Summit. Their participation signals a new beginning in the MSG’s relationship with potential developments partners and we look forward to increased interaction with the international community, in this regard,” said the Prime Minister.

He concluded that the Leaders’ decision will now be formally conveyed to the Republic of Timor Leste, Republic of Indonesia and Luxembourg to participate at the Leaders Summit.

**Authorized by the Chairman**