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MEDIA RELEASE

4th International Geoscience Conference on Timor Leste

Iron Fortune is an Australian resource exploration company registered in Timor-Leste with partial Timorese ownership. Iron Fortune was the first resource exploration company to establish a presence in Timor-Leste and has had a Timorese representative based in Dili for almost four years. Iron Fortune is a strong advocate of sustainable foreign private investment into Timor-Leste.

In October, on the initiative and recommendation of Iron Fortune, the leading international conference organising company, Informa, announced that the first ever Australian-Timor Leste Business Forum will be held on the 26-27 March 2019 at the Hotel Rendezvous, in Melbourne, Australia. The forum is well timed for the international business and investment community to gain the latest information on new project and development opportunities in Timor-Leste, and to develop new contacts and an understanding of the enormous potential that Timor-Leste has to offer. Iron Fortune had been lobbying Informa to hold the forum for some months. Iron Fortune management were pleased to announce this exciting news at the 4th Instituto do Petroleo e Geologia (IPG) International Geosciences Conference on Timor-Leste Geological Resources Data and Information for Economic Diversification and Development held in Dili in late October 2018. Miss Joe Magno, Country Manager, Geophysicist and Shareholder (pictured) made the announcement in Tetum to the IPG conference attendees. Iron Fortune director Ian Sinclair made the announcement in English. Mr Sinclair also presented a technical paper with the topic "Helping Timor-Leste Grow: Unlocking the economic and social potential of Timor-Leste's minerals sector using data". More recently another Iron Fortune director had an opportunity to promote Timor-Leste at a conference, this time in Melbourne. The International Mining and Resources Conference ("IMARC") conference held in late October and early November was attended by over 6,000 Australian and international delegates. Iron Fortune Director Mary Thompson participated in a "pitching" competition, competing for a delegate pass and a display stand at the 2019 conference on the topic of "Mineral Exploration in Timor-Leste". Miss Thompson shared some information about Timor-Leste and spoke about the company's positive experiences in Timor-Leste. Mary Thompson explained to the judging panel and audience that the company is looking forward to taking the next step in Timor-Leste by applying for a minerals exploration licence before the end of 2018. Although an African focussed resource exploration company won the competition, Miss Thompson was happy to be nominated for an "honourable mention" and was very pleased with the positive response received, both from the international judging panel and the audience of mining industry and mining investment professionals. Iron Fortune Director Mr Ian Sinclair commented "The directors of Iron Fortune think Timor-Leste is one of the most exciting places in the world for greenfields resource exploration. We were also very pleased to hear the recent announcement by Minister Agio Pereira, Minister of State of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers that the Mining Code will be passed by 2019."



From the "TRIVIA BOOK"

In 1945, a computer at Harvard malfunctioned and Grace Hopper, who was working on the computer, investigated, found a moth in one of the circuits and removed it. Ever since, when something goes wrong with a computer, it is said to have a bug in it.

HEALTH

Yemen crisis: 85,000 children 'dead from malnutrition'

An estimated 85,000 children under the age of five may have died from acute malnutrition in three years of war in Yemen, a leading charity says. The number is equivalent to the entire under-five population in the UK's second largest city of Birmingham, Save the Children adds. The UN warned last month that up to 14m Yemenis are on the brink of famine. It is trying to revive talks to end a three-year war which has caused the world's worst humanitarian crisis. Yemen has been devastated by the conflict. Fighting escalated in 2015 when a Saudi-led coalition launched an air campaign against the Houthi rebel movement which had forced President Abdrabbuh Mansour Hadi to flee abroad. At least 6,800 civilians have been killed and 10,700 injured in the war, according to the UN. The fighting and a partial blockade by the coalition have also left 22 million people in need of humanitarian aid, created the world's largest food security emergency, and led to a cholera outbreak that has affected 1.2 million people. **How did the charity work out the death toll?** It is difficult to get an exact number of deaths. Aid workers in Yemen say many go unreported because only half of the country's health facilities are functioning and many people are too poor to access the ones that remain open. Save the Children says it based its figures on mortality rates for untreated cases of Severe Acute Malnutrition in children under five from data compiled by the UN. According to conservative estimates, it calculated that around 84,700 children may have died between April 2015 and October 2018. Rising food prices and the falling value of the country's currency as a result of a civil war are putting more families at risk of food insecurity. The UK-based charity blames the blockade for putting more people at risk of famine, with continued heavy fighting around the principal lifeline port of Hudaydah further exacerbating the situation. The rebel-held port, through which the country has traditionally imported 90% of its food, has seen commercial imports fall by more than 55,000 metric tonnes a month, the charity says. This is enough to meet the needs of 4.4m people, including 2.2m children, it adds. **What happens to the malnourished children?** The charity says that based on historical studies, if acute malnutrition is left untreated, around 20-30% of children will die each year. "For every child killed by bombs and bullets, dozens are starving to death and it's entirely preventable," its Yemen director, Tamer Kirolos, says. "Children who die in this way suffer immensely as their vital organ functions slow down and eventually stop. Their immune systems are so weak they are more prone to infections with some too frail to even cry. "Parents are having to witness their children wasting away, unable to do anything about it." He further warned that an estimated 150,000 children's lives were endangered in Hudaydah with "a dramatic increase" in air strikes over the city in recent weeks. **One mother's ordeal** Nusair, a 13-month-old boy, is among the children suffering from severe acute malnutrition who is being closely monitored by Save the Children. He was treated in August but by October his health had deteriorated again. By that time he and his mother had been forced to relocate to a remote area due to increased fighting near their home and were unable to make the long trip to hospital. "I can't go to sleep, it is torturing, and I am worried about my children. I couldn't live if any harm came to them," his mother, Suad, told the charity. The UN said - based on assessments from a year ago - the first two thresholds had either been exceeded or was dangerously close in 107 of Yemen's 333 districts. But the third threshold about numbers of deaths was more difficult to confirm. The organisation is currently repeating the assessments. *BBC*



From the "TRIVIA BOOK" The sandwich is named for the Fourth Earl of Sandwich (1718-92), for whom sandwiches were made so that he could stay at the gambling table without interruptions for meals.