



VIII CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT

Draft Government Resolution [...]

First amendment to the Statutes of the National Commission for Trade Facilitation (*CONFAC*), approved by Government Resolution No. 6/2016, of 17 February

Government Resolution No. 6/2016 of 17 February created the National Commission for Trade Facilitation (*CONFAC*) and approved its respective Statutes, which has an essential role in import and export facilitation.

Government Resolution No. 11/2022 of 16th March, which approves for accession the Framework Agreement for Paperless Cross-Border Trade Facilitation in Asia and the Pacific, reinforces the importance of trade as an engine for national growth and development.

The present amendment to the *CONFAC* Statutes aims to bring relevant public and private entities in the trade sector into the *CONFAC* structure and review its operating procedures in order to promote the dynamism of this Commission and thus enhance the results to be achieved when it was created and that remain, to date, of crucial interest to the development of national trade.

The change in the members of the Government that take on the chairmanship of *CONFAC* stems from the provisions of subparagraph d) of paragraph 2 of Article 19 of Decree-Law No. 12/2019, of 14 June, on the Organic Law of the Ministry of Tourism, as amended by Decree-Law No. 66/2020 of 22 December, recognises the Directorate General of Trade of the Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry, to promote, in coordination with the Ministry of Finance and relevant entities, the operation of *CONFAC*;

The Government resolves, under the terms of Article 115 (1)(o) of the Constitution of the Republic, as follows:

1. *CONFAC* shall be jointly chaired by the Minister of Tourism, Commerce and Industry and the Minister of Finance, and the respective function may be delegated to another Executive Member in their absences or impediments.
2. In addition to the members provided for under number 3 of article 3 of the Statutes of the National Commission for Trade Facilitation (*CONFAC*), the following shall be part of the Technical Working Group of *CONFAC*:
 - a) Director of Export Promotion of the Investment and Export Promotion Agency of Timor-Leste, I.P.;

- b) Executive Director of the Business Registration and Verification Service, I.P;
 - c) President of the Quality Institute of Timor-Leste, I.P;
 - d) Inspector-General of the Economic Activity, Health and Food Inspection and Monitoring Authority, I.P.
3. The Non-Executive Members of the National Commission for Trade Facilitation (*CONFAC*) shall include the Chairperson of the Women's Enterprise Association of Timor-Leste (AEMTL).
4. The Director General of Commerce of the Ministry of Tourism, Commerce and Industry and the Commissioner of Customs shall jointly coordinate the Technical Working Group.
5. Articles 2, 3, 4 of the Statutes of the National Commission for Trade Facilitation (*CONFAC*), approved in annex to Government Resolution No. 6/2016, of 17 February, are hereby amended to read as follows:

"Article 2

[...]

[...]

- a) [...]
- b) [...]
- c) [...]
- d) [...]
- e) [...]
- f) To support the Government in the implementation of the National Single Window for imports and exports;
- g) To support the Government in the implementation of Paperless Cross-Border Trade in Timor-Leste.
- h) To support the Government in the creation and management of a Trade Information Portal.
- i) To support the Government in the creation and operation of the Trade Integration Working Group.

Article 3

(Commercial Integration)

[...]

- 1. [...].
- 2. [...]:

- a) Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs (MCAE);
 - b) [...];
 - c) [...];
 - d) [...];
 - e) Minister of Tourism, Commerce, Industry
 - f) [...];
 - g) Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.
3. [...]:
- a) Commissioner of Customs;
 - b) [...];
 - c) Representative of MCAE;
 - d) [...];
 - e) Inspector General of the Inspection and Supervision Authority of Economic, Health and Food Activity, I.P.
 - f) [...];
 - g) [...];
 - h) [...];
 - i) [...];
 - j) Director of Export Promotion of the Investment and Export Promotion Agency of Timor-Leste, I.P;
 - k) Executive Director of the Business Registration and Verification Service, I.P;
 - l) President of the Quality Institute of Timor-Leste, I.P;
4. The following private sector representatives are Non-Executive Members
- a) [...];
 - b) [...];
 - c) President of the East Timor Women's Business Association (AEMTL).
5. [...].
6. The Director General of Commerce of the Ministry of Tourism, Commerce and Industry and the Commissioner of Customs shall jointly coordinate the Technical Working Group.

Article 4

[...]

- 1. CONFAC shall be jointly chaired by the Minister of Tourism, Trade and Industry and the Minister of Finance, and the respective function may be delegated to another Executive Member in their absences or impediments.
- 2. [...].

3. [...]."
6. The Statute of the National Commission for Trade Facilitation is republished in annex to the present Resolution and is an integral part of it.
7. This Resolution shall enter into force on the day following its publication.

Approved by the Council of Ministers on the [...] day of [...] 2022.

To be published.

The Prime Minister,

Taur Matan Ruak

ANNEX
(Referred to in paragraph 3)

Statutes of the NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR TRADE FACILITATION (*CONFAC*),

Approved by Government Resolution No. 6/2015, of 17 February 2015

Article 1

National Commission for Trade Facilitation

The National Commission for Trade Facilitation, abbreviated as *CONFAC*, is hereby established as a consultative forum to promote dialogue between the Government, the private sector and other stakeholders on trade facilitation, with the objective of advising and making recommendations to the Government aimed at promoting import and export facilitation and coordinating all government work involving the facilitation of this process.

Article 2

Functions

CONFAC has the following functions:

- a) to promote dialogue between Government, the private sector and other stakeholders on import and export facilitation;
- b) b) Promote the analysis of policies and procedures applicable to import and export, and determine the implementation of measures for their simplification and harmonisation
- c) To coordinate consultations and the preparation of recommendations to the Government aimed at facilitating and simplifying importation and exportation
- d) To assist the Government in implementing legislative, procedural and procedural reforms for the facilitation of importation and exportation
- e) To coordinate all Government work involving import and export facilitation;
- f) To support the Government in the implementation of the National Single Window System for imports and exports;
- g) To support the Government in the implementation of Paperless Cross-Border Trade
- h) To support the Government in the creation and management of a Trade Information Portal
- i) To support the Government in the creation and operation of the Economic Integration Working Group.

Article 3

Composition

1. CONFAC is composed of Executive Members, a Technical Working Group, a Secretariat and Observer Members.
2. The Executive Members are:
 - a) Coordinating Minister of Economic Affairs (MCAE);
 - b) b) Minister of Finance

- c) Minister of Public Works, Transport and Communications;
- d) Minister of Interior
- e) Minister of Tourism, Commerce, Industry;
- f) Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
- g) Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.
- h) The Members of the Technical Working Group are
 - a. Commissioner of Customs;
 - i) b) Coordinator of the Tax Reform Programme;
 - j) Representative of the MCAE;
 - k) Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation for ASEAN Affairs;
 - l) Inspector General of the Economic Activity, Health and Food Inspection and Supervision Authority, I.P.
 - m) Director of the Port Authority of Timor-Leste (APORTIL);
 - n) Director of the Civil Aviation Authority of Timor-Leste (AACTL)
 - o) Director-General of Immigration
 - p) National Director of Quarantine and Bio-Security;
 - q) Director of Export Promotion of the Investment and Export Promotion Agency of Timor-Leste, I.P.;
 - r) Executive Director of the Business Registration and Verification Service, I.P.;
 - s) President of the Quality Institute of Timor-Leste, I.P.;
- 4. The following private sector representatives are Non-Executive Members:
 - a) President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, or his representative;
 - b) b) President of the Customs Clearing Agents Association, or his or her representative
 - c) President of the East Timor Women's Business Association (AEMTL).
- 5. The World Bank Group and the Asian Development Bank are Observing Members.
- 6. The Director General of Commerce of the Ministry of Tourism, Commerce and Industry and the Commissioner of Customs shall jointly coordinate the Technical Working Group.

Article 4

Presidency

- 1. CONFAC shall be jointly chaired by the Minister of Tourism, Commerce and Industry and the Minister of Finance; the respective function may be delegated to another Executive Member during the latter's absences or impediments.
- 2. At the invitation of the Presidency of *CONFAC*, other members of the Government or representatives of the Public Administration and the private sector may participate in the executive meetings and in the meetings of the Technical Working Group.
- 3. The Presidency of *CONFAC* shall present to the Council of Ministers, every six months, or whenever requested, the results of the implemented reforms, as well as the recommendations for the effective implementation of the proposed activities.

Article 5
Secretariat

CONFAC shall be assisted by a Secretariat which shall be responsible for coordinating the Executive and Technical Working Group meetings, as well as keeping the minutes of the dialogue and the decisions taken.

Article 6
Technical Advisory

As regards legislative, procedural and procedural reforms, *CONFAC* shall be advised by trade facilitation experts, namely from the International Finance Corporation of the World Bank Group and by experts from the Asian Development Bank, without prejudice to technical support from other organisations related to the matter.

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