

**SECOND AMENDMENT TO DECREE-LAW No. 14/2018  
OF 17 AUGUST 2018**

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**DECREE-LAW No. 27 /2020  
of 19 June 2020  
ON THE ORGANIC STRUCTURE OF THE  
VIII CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT**

With Decree-Law no. 14/2018 of 17 August, as amended by Decree-Law no. 20/2020 of 28 May, the VIII Constitutional Government approved its organic structure.

However, bearing in mind the evolution in public administration, marked by the emergence of new autonomous organs, the challenges faced by our State in terms of economic recovery and the ongoing process of government reshuffling, the approval of a second amendment to Decree-Law no. 14/2018 of 17 August is considered necessary.

By way of the legislative changes approved by means of the present legal diploma, the Government integrates the National Service of Ambulance and Medical Emergency in the scope of the Ministry of Health, clarifies the attributions of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers regarding administrative reform and modernization and delimits more precisely the powers of the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs as a Cabinet member charged with seconding the Prime Minister in coordinating economic matters in the Government.

With regard to the composition of the Executive, the present diploma extinguishes the position of Vice-Minister for Primary Health Care and creates that of Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, signaling the Government's commitment to the dynamization and expansion of the primary sector of the national economy.

Thus, the Government decrees, under the terms of paragraph 3 of Article 115 of the Constitution of the Republic, to be enforced as law, the following:

**Article 1  
Object**

This Decree-Law approves the second amendment to Decree-Law no. 14/2018 of 17 August, as amended by Decree-Law no. 20/2020 of 28 May, on the Organic Law of the VIII Constitutional Government.

**Article 2  
Amendment to Decree-Law no. 14/2018, of 17 August**

Articles 2, 4, 5, 9, 12, 13, 14, 21, 37 and 40 of Decree-Law no. 14/2018, of 17 August, as amended by Decree-Law no. 20/2020, of 28 May, shall be replaced by the following:

**"Article 2  
Structure**

The Government consists of the Prime Minister, the Vice-Prime Ministers, the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs, other Ministers, Vice Ministers and Secretaries of State.

**Article 4  
Deputy Ministers and Secretaries of State**

1. (...).
  - a) (...);
  - b) (...);
  - c) (...);
  - d) (...);
  - e) (...);
  - f) (...);
  - g) The Minister of Health, by the Deputy Minister of Health;
  - h) (...);
  - i) (...);
  - j) (...);
  - k) (...);
  - l) (...);
  - m) (...);
  - n) The Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries, the Vice-Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries and the Secretary of State for Fisheries;
  - o) (...).
2. (...).

**Article 5  
(...)**

1. The Council of Ministers shall be chaired by the Prime Minister and shall include, in addition to the Prime Minister, the Vice-Prime Ministers, the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs and the other Ministers.
2. (...).
3. (...).
4. (...).

**Article 9  
(...)**

1. (...).
2. The Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers and the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs shall be replaced, in their absence or inability to act, by the Minister appointed for this purpose by the Prime Minister, on a proposal from the Minister to be replaced.
3. (...).
4. (...).

**Article 12  
(...)**

1. (...).
2. The services, entities, organs and structures integrated in the Presidency of the Council of Ministers shall be under the authority of the Prime Minister, who may delegate their respective powers to the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.

3. (...).
4. It is incumbent upon the Prime Minister, with the possibility of delegation to another member of the Government:
  - a) (...);
  - b) (...);
  - c) (...);
  - d) (...);
  - e) (...);
  - f) (...);
  - g) (...);
  - h) (...);
  - i) (...);
  - j) (...);
  - k) (...);
  - l) (...).

**Article 13**  
**(...)**

- 1 (...).
2. (...):
  - a) (...);
  - b) (...).
3. (...):
  - a) (...);
  - b) (...);
  - c) (...);
  - d) (...);
  - e) (...);
  - f) (...);
  - g) (...);
  - h) (...);
  - i) (...);
  - j) Propose policy measures to promote administrative reform, in particular through the modernization and innovation of public administration and the use of e-Government instruments, and ensure the coordination and monitoring of implementation of these measures.
4. The Timor-Leste National Printing Institute, I.P., shall be subject to the oversight authority of the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.

**Article 14**  
**(...)**

1. The Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs shall assist the Prime Minister in the coordination and supervision of the members of the Government responsible for the implementation of policies for the areas of economic governance, namely, the:
  - a) Minister of Tourism, Commerce and Industry;
  - b) Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries;
  - c) Secretary of State for Employment and Professional Training;
  - d) Secretary of State for Cooperatives;
  - e) Secretary of State for the Environment.

2. (...):
  - a) (...);
  - b) (...);
  - c) (...);
  - d) (...);
  - e) (...);
  - f) (...);
  - g) (...);
  - h) (...);
  - i) (...);
  - j) (...);
  - k) (...);
  - l) (...);
  - m) (...);
  - n) (...);
  - o) (...).
3. (...):
  - a) (...);
  - b) (...);
  - c) (...);
  - d) (...);
  - e) (...);
  - f) (...);
  - g) (...);
  - h) (...);
  - i) (...).
4. (...):
  - a) (...);
  - b) (...);
  - c) (...);
  - d) (...);
  - e) (...);
  - f) (...);
  - g) (...);
  - h) (...);
  - i) National Logistics Centre.
5. The organs and services of the Secretary of State for Professional Training and Employment, Cooperatives and the Environment are those defined in the respective organic laws.
6. (...).

## **Article 21**

**(...)**

1. (...):
  - a) (...);
  - b) (...);
  - c) (...);
  - d) (...);
  - e) (...);
  - f) (...);

- g) (...);
- h) (...);
- i) (...);
- j) (...);
- k) (...).
- 2. (...):
  - a) (...);
  - b) (...);
  - c) (...);
  - d) (...);
  - e) National Ambulance and Medical Emergency Service.
- 3. (...).

**Article 37**

(...)

- 1. (...).
  - a) (...);
  - b) Ministers, upon the members of the Government who assist them.
- 2. (...).

**Article 40**

(...)

- 1. The Ministries that are created through this legal diploma or that see their respective powers now changed shall, within sixty days of the date on which this legal diploma comes into force, prepare or change the respective organic law.
- 2. (...).
- 3. (...).»

**Article 3**

**Addition to Decree-Law no. 14/2018, of 17 August**

Article 7-A is added to Decree-Law no. 14/2018 of 17 August, as amended by Decree-Law no. 20/2020 of 28 May, with the following wording:

**"Article 7-A**

**Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers**

- 1. In terms of institutional precedence and protocol, the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers is ranked immediately after the Prime Minister and the Vice-Prime Ministers, and above the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs, the other Ministers and the other members of the Government.
- 2. The Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers shall functionally depend on the Prime Minister and shall be subject to his political authority.
- 3. The provisions of Article 9 shall also apply to the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.

**Article 4**

**Repeal**

Articles 8(2), 29(2)(a) and 38(3) to (14) of Decree-Law no. 14/2018 of 17 August, as amended by Decree-Law no. 20/2020 of 28 May, are hereby repealed.

**Article 5**  
**Republication**

Decree-Law no. 14/2018 of 17 August, as amended by Decree-Law no. 20/2020 of 28 May, is republished, with the current wording and the necessary grammatical corrections, in an annex to this diploma, of which it is an integral part for all legal purposes.

**Article 6**  
**Entry into force**

This law shall enter into force on the day following its publication.

Approved by the Council of Ministers on June 10, 2020.

The Prime Minister,

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**Taur Matan Ruak**

Enacted on 18.06.2020

Be it published.

The President of the Republic,

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**Dr. Francisco Guterres Lú Olo**

**ANNEX (referred to in Article 5)**

**Republication of Decree-Law no. 14/2018, of 17 August**

**ORGANIC STRUCTURE  
OF THE VIII CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT**

This Decree-Law approves the organic structure of the VIII Constitutional Government, defines the responsibilities fulfilled by each of the Ministries and assigns powers to members of the Government, according to the priorities of the political program, approved by electoral suffrage.

The improvement of access to qualified public goods and services to citizens is one of the central concerns of the policies that the VIII Constitutional Government intends to implement throughout its mandate and that this organic structure aims to promote. Thus, the Government was concerned to ensure a greater rationality and balance in the distribution of responsibilities and powers of each one of its members, aiming at a greater, more qualified, more effective and more efficient provision of public goods and services to our citizens.

In organizational matters, the establishment of a Ministry for National Liberation Combatants Issues is highlighted, emphasizing the importance that the VIII Constitutional Government gives to the protection and valorization of all those who participated in the Struggle for National Liberation.

Also of note is the creation of the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Culture, which signals the strengthening of the Executive in the valorization of the human capital of our State, in innovation as an unavoidable strategy for the development and valorization of our historical heritage, as a fundamental reference for the preservation and strengthening of our national identity.

Despite a greater segregation of political and administrative responsibilities among the various members of the Government, to the benefit of an increasing specialization of the work that will be carried out by the organs and services that provide them with support, this legal document does not fail to reflect the importance of adopting inter-organic coordination and cooperation strategies in various areas of governance, particularly in the sectors of justice, territorial planning, legislative reform or administrative reform.

Also of note is the provision for a coordinating minister for economic affairs, with political-administrative responsibilities in terms of stimulating the development of the private and cooperative sectors, but also the necessary articulation of these with other government departments with responsibilities and powers in the economic areas, employment and professional training and the environment.

The structure of the VIII Constitutional Government also reflects the intention and willingness of the Executive to continue the efforts made by previous Governments to bring public services closer to the citizens, resuming the administrative de-concentration program, and to deepen the program of territorial administrative decentralization, through the promotion of actions and approval of the legal framework necessary for the installation of representative organs of Local Government.

With the entry into force of this legal diploma, the VIII Constitutional Government shall have a legal framework to support its activity, but also for the execution of its Government Program.

Thus,

The Government decrees, under the terms of Article 115(3) of the Constitution of the Republic, to have the following enforced as law:

## **CHAPTER I GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE**

### **Article 1**

#### **Object**

This law approves the organizational structure of the VIII Constitutional Government.

### **Article 2**

#### **Structure**

The Government consists of the Prime Minister, the Vice-Prime Ministers, the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs, other Ministers, Vice-Ministers and Secretaries of State.

### **Article 3**

#### **Vice-Prime Ministers and Ministers**

1. The Government includes two Deputy Prime Ministers.
2. The Government integrates the following Ministers:
  - a) Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers;
  - b) Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs;
  - c) Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Media;
  - d) Minister of Finance;
  - e) Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation;
  - f) Minister of Justice;
  - g) Minister of State Administration;
  - h) Minister of Health;
  - i) Minister of Education, Youth and Sports;
  - j) Minister of Higher Education, Science and Culture;
  - k) Minister of Social Solidarity and Inclusion;
  - l) Minister for National Liberation Combatants Affairs;
  - m) Minister of the Plan and Territorial Planning;
  - n) Minister of Public Works;
  - o) Minister of Transport and Communications;
  - p) Minister of Tourism, Commerce and Industry;
  - q) Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries;
  - r) Minister of Defense;
  - s) Minister of the Interior;
  - t) Minister of Petroleum and Minerals.

### **Article 4**

#### **Vice-Ministers and Secretaries of State**

1. The Ministers referred to in the preceding Article shall be assisted in the performance of their duties by the following Vice-Ministers and Secretaries of State:



- a) The Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs, by the Secretary of State for Professional Training and Employment, by the Secretary of State for Cooperatives and by the Secretary of State for Environment;
  - b) The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Social Communication, by the Secretary of State for Social Communication;
  - c) The Minister of Finance, by the Vice-Minister of Finance;
  - d) The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation by the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation;
  - e) The Minister of Justice by the Vice-Minister of Justice and by the Secretary of State for Land and Property;
  - f) The Minister of State Administration, by the Vice-Minister of State Administration;
  - g) The Minister of Health by the Vice-Minister of Health;
  - h) The Minister of Education, Youth and Sports by the Vice-Minister of Education, Youth and Sports and by the Secretary of State for Youth and Sports;
  - i) The Minister of Higher Education, Science and Culture by the Secretary of State for Art and Culture;
  - j) The Minister of Social Solidarity and Inclusion, by the Vice-Minister of Social Solidarity;
  - k) The Minister for National Liberation Combatant Affairs, by the Secretary of State for National Liberation Combatant Affairs;
  - l) The Minister of Public Works, by the Vice-Minister of Public Works;
  - m) The Minister of Tourism, Commerce and Industry, by the Vice-Minister for Community and Cultural Tourism and by the Vice-Minister for Commerce and Industry;
  - n) The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, by the Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries and by the Secretary of State for Fisheries;
  - o) The Minister of the Interior, by the Vice-Minister of the Interior and by the Secretary of State for Civil Protection.
2. The Secretary of State for Equality and Inclusion is directly dependent on the Prime Minister.

## **Article 5**

### **Council of Ministers**

- 1. The Council of Ministers shall be chaired by the Prime Minister and shall include, in addition to the Prime Minister, the Vice-Prime Ministers, the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs and the other Ministers.
- 2. The Vice-Ministers and the other Secretaries of State that may be, eventually, invited by the Prime Minister to attend the Council of Ministers, may also participate, without the right to vote, except when they are replacing the Minister they assist.
- 3. It is incumbent upon the Council of Ministers to approve, by resolution, the rules concerning its organization and operations, as well as those concerning coordination meetings.
- 4. The Council of Ministers shall also be responsible for deciding on the creation of standing or ad hoc committees for the examination of draft legislative or political acts or for making recommendations to the Council.

**CHAPTER II**  
**AUTHORITY OF MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT**

**Article 6**

**Prime Minister**

1. The Prime Minister shall have his own powers and the powers delegated to him by the Council of Ministers, in accordance with the Constitution and the law.
2. The Prime Minister shall in particular:
  - a) Head the Government and chair the Council of Ministers;
  - b) Direct and guide the general policy of the Government and all governmental action;
  - c) Represent the Government and the Council of Ministers in their relations with the President of the Republic and the National Parliament;
  - d) Coordinate the integrated system of national security;
  - e) Guide the general policy of the Government in the areas of defense, security and national intelligence;
  - f) Guide the general policy of the Government in its external relations and represent the Government before the international community;
  - g) Guide the general policy of the Government in the area of financial management, including the banking sector, the fiscal system and the investment of the Petroleum Fund;
  - h) Exercise oversight authority over the Special Administrative Region of Oe-Cusse Ambeno and the Special Social Market Economy Zones of Oe-Cusse Ambeno and Ataúro;
  - i) Manage the Government's information technology system and ensure the provision of its services, as well as to implement the computer systems in the national territory, in articulation with the competent Government Departments;
  - j) Promote the institutional strengthening of the State;
  - k) Promote policies of inclusion and support for female entrepreneurship;
  - l) Exercise the other powers provided for in the Constitution and the law that are not incumbent upon other members of the Government.
3. As Head of Government, the Prime Minister has the power to issue directives to any member of the Government and to take decisions on matters included in the areas assigned to any Ministry or Secretariat of State, as well as to create eventual or permanent commissions or working groups for matters that fall within the competence of the Government.
4. In his or her absences or impediments, the Prime Minister shall be replaced by the Vice-Prime Minister who, for that purpose, he/she shall designate or, if not possible, by the next member of the Government, in accordance with the order of precedence established in Article 3, successively.

**Article 7**

**Vice-Prime Ministers**

1. The Vice-Prime Ministers shall place themselves, in terms of institutional precedence and protocol, immediately after the Prime Minister and above the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs and the other Ministers and members of the Government.

2. The Vice-Prime Ministers shall functionally depend on the Prime Minister and shall be subject to his political authority.
3. The Vice-Prime Ministers shall have no powers of their own, except in relation to their respective offices, and shall exercise, in each case, the powers delegated to them by the Prime Minister or the Council of Ministers.
4. Each of the Vice-Prime Ministers shall accumulate the functions of Minister of the Plan and Territorial Planning and Minister of Social Solidarity and Inclusion respectively.
5. The Vice-Prime Ministers shall be replaced in their absences and impediments by the Minister appointed for that purpose by the Prime Minister, upon a replacement proposal of the Vice-Prime Minister.

#### **"Article 7-A**

##### **Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers**

1. The Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers shall place himself, in terms of institutional precedence and protocol, immediately after the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Ministers and above the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs, the other Ministers and the other members of the Government.
2. The Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers depends functionally on the Prime Minister and is subject to his political authority.
3. The provisions of Article 9 shall also apply to the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.

#### **Article 8**

##### **Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs**

1. The Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs coordinates the political activity of the members of the Government with powers in matters of economic nature, private and cooperative sector development, labor, professional training and the environment.
2. (Repealed).
3. The Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs shall place himself, in terms of institutional precedence and protocol, immediately after the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers and above the other Ministers and other members of Government.
4. The provisions of the following article shall also apply to the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs.

#### **Article 9**

##### **Powers of Ministers**

1. Ministers shall have their own powers and the powers delegated to them by the Council of Ministers or the Prime Minister in accordance with the law.
2. The Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers and the Coordinating Minister of Economic Affairs shall be replaced, in their absences or impediments, by the Minister appointed by the Prime Minister for this purpose, on the proposal of the Minister to be replaced.
3. Each Minister shall be replaced, in his or her absences or impediments, by his or her Deputy Minister or, in the absence or absence of the Vice-Minister, by the Secretary of State he/she indicates.
4. If there is no replacement within the Ministry, the replacement shall be made by another Minister, appointed by the Prime Minister, upon proposal of the Minister to be replaced.

## **Article 10**

### **Powers of Vice-Ministers and Secretaries of State**

1. The Vice-Ministers and the Secretaries of State shall have no powers of their own, except as regards their respective offices, and shall exercise, in each case, the powers delegated to them by the respective Minister or by the organic legal diploma.
2. The Secretaries of State assisting the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs shall have their own powers enshrined in their respective organic laws and the powers delegated to them by the Council of Ministers or the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs, in accordance with the law.
3. The Vice-Ministers and the Secretaries of State shall depend functionally on the respective Minister and shall be subject to his/her political guidance.
4. The Prime Minister and Ministers shall retain political authority and power of appeal over the powers they delegate.

## **Article 11**

### **Solidarity and Confidentiality**

1. All members of the Government shall be bound by the decisions taken at a meeting of the Council of Ministers, as well as by the duty of confidentiality regarding the agendas, the content of the debate and the positions taken therein.
2. Except for the purposes of public consultation, hearing or negotiation as provided for by law or decided by the Council of Ministers, the disclosure of matters submitted or to be submitted to the Council of Ministers or to preparatory meetings thereof shall be prohibited.

## **CHAPTER III**

### **GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE**

#### **SECTION I**

#### **SERVICES AND ORGANS UNDER THE PRIME MINISTER**

## **Article 12**

### **Services and organs under the Prime Minister**

1. The Presidency of the Council of Ministers is the government department headed by the Prime Minister, whose mission is to provide support to the Council of Ministers and the other members of the Government within it, as well as to promote coordination of the various government departments.
2. The services, entities, organs and structures integrated in the Presidency of the Council of Ministers shall be under the Prime Minister's authority, who may delegate their respective powers to the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.
3. The organs and services that comprise the Presidency of the Council of Ministers shall be those defined in the respective organic law.
4. Depend on the Prime Minister, with the possibility of delegation to another member of the Government, the:
  - a) Secretariat of State for Equality and Inclusion;
  - b) National Intelligence Service;
  - c) Inter-ministerial Security Commission;
  - d) Integrated Crisis Management Centre;
  - e) Civil Service Commission;
  - f) AMRT - Archives and Museum of Timorese Resistance;

- g) *Chega* National Center, I.P;
- h) Information and Communication Technology Agency, IP - TIC TIMOR;
- i) Civil Society Support Office;
- j) General Inspection of the State;
- k) National Institute of Public Administration;
- l) Inter-ministerial Council for Fiscal Reform.

## SECTION II

### MINISTER OF PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

#### Article 13

##### Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers

1. The Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers shall assist the Prime Minister in the Presidency of the Council of Ministers and in the coordination of the Government and shall assume the functions of spokesperson of the Government and of the Council of Ministers.
2. It is incumbent upon the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers to:
  - a) Coordinate the preparation and organization of the work of the Government, as well as the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of decisions taken by the Council of Ministers;
  - b) Coordinate legal support and consultation to Council of Ministers.
3. In addition to the functions referred to in the previous number and other functions delegated by the Council of Ministers or by the Prime Minister, it is also incumbent upon the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers to:
  - a) Coordinate the Government's legislative and regulatory process;
  - b) Analyze and prepare the Government's draft laws and regulations, in coordination with the Ministries;
  - c) Ensure the litigation services of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers;
  - d) Prepare responses, in collaboration with the competent Ministry, to the processes of constitutionality and legality control;
  - e) Appoint a lawyer or represent the State, in arbitration, mediation, conciliation and non-judicial conflicts, in accordance with the law;
  - f) Represent the Council of Ministers or the Prime Minister, when they so decide, in specially created committees;
  - g) Carry out an in-depth study on the reform of laws, legislative uniformization and harmonization, as well as the evaluation of the need for governmental or National Parliament intervention;
  - h) Propose and promote the modernization of the legislative procedure;
  - i) Analyze and prepare projects and proposals for laws and regulations of the Government, in coordination with the proposing ministries;
  - j) Propose policy measures that promote administrative reform, namely through the modernization and innovation of public administration and the use of e-government instruments, as well as to ensure the coordination and monitoring of the implementation of these measures.
4. The Timor-Leste National Printing Institute, I.P., shall be subject to the oversight authority of the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.

**SECTION III**  
**COORDINATING MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS**

**Article 14**  
**Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs**

1. The Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs assists the Prime Minister in the coordination and supervision of the members of Government responsible for the execution of policies for the areas of economic governance, namely, the:
  - a) Minister of Tourism, Commerce and Industry;
  - b) Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries;
  - c) Secretary of State for Employment and Professional Training;
  - d) Secretary of State for Cooperatives;
  - e) Secretary of State for the Environment.
2. It is incumbent upon the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs to:
  - a) Coordinate the elaboration, execution and control of the policy defined by the Council of Ministers in the areas of economy, labor, professional training and environment;
  - b) Monitor and evaluate the work and services provided for in the previous number;
  - c) Propose and develop public policies of an economic nature that contribute to the improvement of service provision to citizens;
  - d) Propose policies and legislation and establish mechanisms related to the promotion of public and private investment, both national and international, in articulation with relevant entities;
  - e) Promote the development of the national private sector and to formulate policies and mechanisms to support and encourage the development of the sector;
  - f) Promote dialogue with the national private sector in relation to the development of the country and the fight against unemployment;
  - g) Promote job creation and professional training;
  - h) Promote and implement environmental policy, to ensure the protection and conservation of nature and biodiversity, to monitor activities potentially harmful to flora and fauna and to ensure national development in an environmentally sustainable manner;
  - i) Promote the development of the cooperative sector, mainly in rural areas and in the agricultural sector, in coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries;
  - j) Spread the importance of the cooperative economic sector and of micro and small enterprises and to promote training in the constitution, organization, management and accounting of cooperatives and small enterprises;
  - k) Organize, administer and keep updated the National Registry of Cooperatives;
  - l) Implement the environmental policy and evaluate the results achieved;
  - m) Promote, monitor and support strategies for integrating the environment into sectoral policies;
  - n) Carry out strategic environmental assessment of policies, plans, programs and legislation and to coordinate the environmental impact assessment processes of projects at the national level;
  - o) Ensure, in general terms and in environmental licensing, the adoption and monitoring of measures for the prevention and integrated control of pollution by the installations covered by it.

3. It is also incumbent upon the Coordinating Minister of Economic Affairs to:
  - a) Create support and financing mechanisms for job creation and professional training projects;
  - b) Promote the tripartite relationship between the Government, employers and workers with the objective of preventing labor conflicts;
  - c) Promote mediation, conciliation and arbitration services in the scope of labor relations;
  - d) Encourage the hiring of Timorese abroad;
  - e) Regulate the labor regime of foreigners in Timor-Leste and coordinate its supervision with the Ministry of Interior;
  - f) Promote the monitoring of compliance with the legal provisions on labor;
  - g) Promote the supervision of health, safety and hygiene conditions at work;
  - h) Ensure coordination with the relevant entities that contribute to economic development;
  - i) Promote the supervision of the operation of commercial establishments, especially those in the food and beverage sector, in relation to compliance with food safety and economic rules.
4. Depend on the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs the:
  - a) National Centre of Professional Training and Employment of Tibar;
  - b) National Centre of Professional Training of Becora;
  - c) National Institute of Labor Development;
  - d) General Labor Inspection;
  - e) SERVE - Business Registration and Verification Service;
  - f) Institute for Business Development Support;
  - g) Tradeinvest - Investment and Export Promotion Agency;
  - h) AIFAESA-Investigation and Inspection Agency for Economic, Sanitary and Food Activities, I.P;
  - i) National Logistics Centre.
5. The organs and services of the State Secretariats for Professional Training and Employment, Cooperatives and the Environment are those defined in the respective organic laws.
6. The Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs shall ordinarily meet, once a month, with the members of the Government in the area of governance for which he is responsible and with the leaders of entities he/she oversees and supervises, informing the Prime Minister.

## **SECTION IV MINISTRIES**

### **Article 15 Ministries**

The Ministers referred to in Article 3(3)(c) to (t) shall be the members of the Government who shall lead the following ministries:

- a) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Media;
- b) Ministry of Finance;
- c) Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation;
- d) Ministry of Justice;
- e) Ministry of State Administration;
- f) Ministry of Health;



- g) Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports;
- h) Ministry of Higher Education and Culture;
- i) Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion;
- j) Ministry for National Liberation Combatants Affairs;
- k) Ministry of the Plan and Territorial Planning;
- l) Ministry of Public Works;
- m) Ministry of Transport and Communications;
- n) Ministry of Tourism, Commerce and Industry;
- o) Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries;
- p) Ministry of Defense;
- q) Ministry of the Interior;
- r) The Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals.

### **Article 16** **Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Media**

1. The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Media is the government department responsible for the design, implementation, coordination and assessment of policy, defined and approved by the Council of Ministers for the media and parliamentary affairs, and it is upon this Ministry incumbent to:
  - a) Ensure regular coordination with the National Parliament;
  - b) Represent the Government in the Conference of Representatives of the Parliamentary Benches and in the plenary sessions of the National Parliament, when there is the absence or impediment of the Prime Minister or Ministers responsible for the matter;
  - c) Propose policy and draw up the necessary legislation and regulations in the area of the media;
  - d) Exercise oversight authority over the State media;
  - e) Coordinate the dissemination of information on Government programs and actions.
2. Depend on the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Media the:
  - a) RTTL - Radio and Television of Timor-Leste, EP;
  - b) TATOLI, Agência Noticiosa de Timor-Leste, IP.
3. The organs and services that comprise the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Media are those defined in its organic law.

### **Article 17** **Ministry of Finance**

1. The Ministry of Finance is the government department responsible for policy design, implementation, coordination and evaluation, defined and approved by the Council of Ministers, for the areas of annual planning and monitoring of the budget and public finances, being incumbent upon this Ministry to:
  - a) Propose monetary and exchange rate policies in collaboration with the Central Bank of Timor-Leste;
  - b) Propose policy and draft the necessary regulations on macroeconomic matters, tax and non-tax revenues, budgetary framework, procurement, public accounting, public finance, audit and control of the State treasury, issuance and management of public debt, as well as to promote fiscal, customs, public finance and financial management reform;



- c) Administer the Petroleum Fund of Timor-Leste and other public funds, the administration of which is not the responsibility of other government departments;
  - d) Coordinate projects and programs between Timor-Leste and development partners, in articulation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and other Ministries competent in the matter;
  - e) Manage external public debt, the State's participation and the partnerships for development, being responsible for coordinating and defining the financial and fiscal aspects;
  - f) Ensure the exercise of the function of State shareholder in coordination with the Ministries responsible for the matter;
  - g) Negotiate, sign and manage the implementation of public-private partnership contracts, ensuring their financial evaluation, with a view to an adequate sharing of risks between the State and the private partner and the sustainability of each project;
  - h) Manage State's assets, without prejudice to the Ministry of Justice's powers in relation to real estate;
  - i) Promote the management policy of the State's movable assets, in collaboration with the other competent public entities;
  - j) Ensure the supply of goods to all ministries;
  - k) Draw up and publish official statistics;
  - l) Promote necessary regulations and exercise financial control over State General Budget expenditure allocated to other ministries, within the framework of the pursuit of a policy of greater financial autonomy of services;
  - m) Ensure the sound management of funding through the State General Budget, by the organs of indirect administration of the State and local governance organs, through audits and monitoring;
  - n) Coordinate national and international technical assistance promoted by international entities or organs in the field of technical advisory services to Government organs and in articulation with relevant Ministries;
  - o) Exercise customs jurisdiction, in accordance with the law;
  - p) Develop financial management information systems in all Public Administration services and organs, in the development of the 'e-Government' process;
  - q) Promote the implementation of program budgeting policy with the aim of increasing efficiency in the use of public money;
  - r) Establish collaboration and coordination mechanisms with other Government organs in related areas.
2. Depend on the Minister of Finance the:
- a) Tax Authority;
  - b) Customs Authority;
  - c) National Procurement Commission.
3. The other organs and services that integrate the Ministry of Finances are those defined in its organic law.

**Article 18****The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation**

1. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation is the government department responsible for the design, implementation, coordination and evaluation of policy, defined and approved by the Council of Ministers, in the areas of foreign policy and international cooperation, consular functions and the promotion and defense of the interests of Timorese citizens abroad, being incumbent upon this Ministry to:
  - a) Plan, propose and execute the foreign policy of Timor-Leste and guarantee its unity and coherence;
  - b) Prepare legislative and regulatory projects in the respective areas of jurisdiction;
  - c) Negotiate and propose the conclusion of international treaties and agreements in accordance with the priorities of Timor-Leste's foreign policy, without prejudice to the powers of other organs to delimit borders;
  - d) Promote the interests of Timor-Leste abroad and ensure the protection of Timorese citizens abroad;
  - e) Ensure the representation of Timor-Leste in other States and International Organizations and to manage the network of embassies, missions, permanent and temporary representations and consular posts, in accordance with foreign policy priorities;
  - f) Plan and implement the preparation for Timor-Leste's accession to the Organization of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and to ensure the representation of the country in its meetings and activities;
  - g) Coordinate Timor-Leste's participation in the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP) and ensure the country's representation in the respective meetings and activities;
  - h) Centralize and coordinate the relations of any public entities with diplomatic or consular missions, international organizations and the representations of the cooperation services accredited in Timor-Leste;
  - i) Propose and implement the international cooperation policy, in coordination with the Ministry of Finance and other competent governmental institutions;
  - j) Coordinate, together with the Ministry of Finance and other competent Government departments, Timor-Leste's relations with development partners;
  - k) Carry out the duties assigned to the Ministry in connection with matters of economic diplomacy;
  - l) Perform the duties of National Authorizing Officer;
  - m) Establish mechanisms of cooperation with foreign missions established in the country;
  - n) Establish mechanisms of collaboration and coordination with other Government organs with responsibility for related areas of activity;
  - o) Organize, dynamize or participate in any type of activities that prove necessary for the establishment and operation of a sub-regional integrated economic development and cooperation platform between Timor-Leste, Indonesia and Australia.
2. Depend on the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation the:
  - a) ACTL – Timor-Leste Cooperation Agency;
  - b) Institute of Diplomatic Studies;
  - c) (Revoked).

3. The organs and services that comprise the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation are those defined in its organic law.

**Article 19**  
**Ministry of Justice**

1. The Ministry of Justice is the government department responsible for the design, implementation, coordination and evaluation of the policy, defined and approved by the Council of Ministers, in the area of justice, law, human rights and land and property, being incumbent upon this Ministry to:
  - a) Propose policy and prepare the necessary draft legislation and regulations for its areas of jurisdiction;
  - b) Propose measures on the definition of traditional justice regulation mechanisms and their interaction with the formal system;
  - c) Propose and implement measures for extending the judicial map;
  - d) Propose the definition of criminal policy and ensure its implementation and the good administration of justice;
  - e) Regulate and manage the Judicial and Legal Training Centre and promote training of human resources for the different areas of action of the justice sector;
  - f) Promote coordination and dialogue among all judicial actors, as well as to ensure their participation in the discussion and preparation of proposals for legislation and regulations of the judicial sector;
  - g) Regulate and manage the prison system, the execution of sentences and social reinsertion services;
  - h) Ensure adequate mechanisms for access to the law and the courts, especially for the most disadvantaged citizens, in the areas of legal information, legal consultation and legal aid, namely through the Office of the Public Defender and other entities and structures of justice;
  - i) Create and guarantee adequate mechanisms to ensure citizenship rights and to promote the dissemination of laws and regulations in force;
  - j) Organize cartography and cadaster of land and buildings and the registration of real estate;
  - k) Ensure, as a measure to promote access to the law for citizens, a legal translation service responsible for the use of official languages in the areas of law and justice;
  - l) Manage and supervise the system of registry and notary services;
  - m) Administer and carry out the day-to-day management of the State's real estate assets;
  - n) Promote and guide the legal training of judicial careers and other public servants;
  - o) Ensure international relations in the field of justice policy, namely with other governments and international organizations, without prejudice to the competencies of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation;
  - p) Establish mechanisms for collaboration and coordination with other Government organs with responsibility for related areas.
2. For the development of the policy defined in paragraph j) of the previous number, the Minister of Justice shall propose and promote the creation of an inter-ministerial commission to supervise and monitor land registry and implement a real estate registration system.

3. Depend on the Minister of Justice the:
  - a) Judicial and Legal Training Centre;
  - b) Scientific Police for Criminal Investigation;
  - c) Public Defender's Office.
4. The organs and services that comprise the Ministry of Justice are those defined in its organic law.

## **Article 20**

### **Ministry of State Administration**

1. The Ministry of State Administration is the government department responsible for designing, implementing, coordinating and evaluating policy, defined and approved by the Council of Ministers, in the areas of local government, administrative decentralization, support for community organizations, promotion of local development, organization and implementation of electoral processes and referendums, promotion of hygiene and urban organization, and classification and conservation of official documents with historical value, being incumbent upon this Ministry to:
  - a) Promote and conduct the process of administrative decentralization and the installation of local government organs and services;
  - b) Propose and implement the local government law, the municipal electoral law and the municipal finance, patrimony and supply law and other legal and regulatory norms necessary for administrative decentralization and the installation of organs representing local government;
  - c) Support training and permanent assistance leading to the process of administrative de-concentration and decentralization, in coordination with the Ministries and other relevant entities;
  - d) Promote the signing of cooperation agreements with local authorities of other States, with a view to deepening the decentralization process, in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation;
  - e) Coordinate and supervise the activities of the Ministry's peripheral services;
  - f) Establish and operate mechanisms for collaboration and coordination with other Public Administration organs with responsibility for related areas;
  - g) Propose public policies and legislative initiatives related to its areas of responsibility;
  - h) Propose and apply legislation to promote hygiene and urban public order, without prejudice to the powers of the Local Administration;
  - i) Propose and apply legal rules relating to toponymy, without prejudice to the powers of the Local Administration organs;
  - j) Ensure technical support for electoral processes and referenda;
  - k) Promote local and rural development policies to reduce economic and social inequalities, in cooperation with other governmental organs for their implementation;
  - l) Establish and operationalize mechanisms for collaboration and technical support to community leaders;
  - m) Ensure the coordination and implementation of Municipal Integrated Development Planning;
  - n) Ensure the coordination and implementation of the National *Suco* Development Program;
  - o) Develop and implement policies and support mechanisms for community and *Suco* development;

- p) Propose and develop standards and technical instructions for classification, processing and archiving of historical documents and State documents;
  - q) Promote the recovery, preservation and adequate custody of historical documents and State documents.
2. Depend on the Minister of State Administration the:
- a) Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration;
  - b) National Archive.
3. The organs and services that comprise the Ministry of State Administration are those defined in its organic law.

**Article 21**  
**Ministry of Health**

1. The Ministry of Health is the government department responsible for the design, implementation, coordination and evaluation of policy, defined and approved by the Council of Ministers, for the areas of health and pharmaceutical activities, being incumbent upon this Ministry to:
- a) Propose policy and prepare the necessary regulatory projects for its areas of jurisdiction;
  - b) Guarantee access to health care for all citizens;
  - c) Coordinate activities related to epidemiological control;
  - d) Provide technical support to health care in municipalities and regions, either directly or through Local Administration;
  - e) Carry out health control of products with influence on human health;
  - f) Promote the training of health professionals;
  - g) Contribute to the success of humanitarian assistance, promotion of peace, security and socio-economic development, through coordination and collaboration mechanisms with other Government organs in related areas;
  - h) Implement the medicine drug policy, regulate pharmaceutical activity and supervise it in articulation with the Investigation and Supervision Agency of the Economic, Sanitary and Food Activity, I.P;
  - i) Promote academic training, qualification and professional specialization of health professionals;
  - j) Promote the ethics of health professionals;
  - k) Develop and promote the complementary use of traditional medicine.
2. Depend on the Minister of Health the:
- a) Hospitals of the National Health Service;
  - b) Autonomous Service of Medicines and Medical Equipment, EP (SAMES);
  - c) National Institute of Health;
  - d) National Health Laboratory;
  - e) National Ambulance and Medical Emergency Service.
3. The organs and services that comprise the Ministry of Health are those defined in its organic law.

## Article 22

### Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport

1. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports is the government department responsible for designing, implementing, coordinating and assessing policy, defined and approved by the Council of Ministers, in the areas of education and qualification at all levels of education, excluding higher education, consolidation and promotion of official languages, youth and sports, being incumbent upon this Ministry to:
  - a) Propose and ensure policies concerning pre-school and school education, comprising primary and secondary education and incorporating special forms of education, for the promotion of recurrent education and lifelong learning;
  - b) Participate in the definition and implementation of qualification and vocational training policies;
  - c) Guarantee the right to education and to ensure compulsory schooling in order to promote inclusion and equal opportunities;
  - d) Strengthen teaching and learning conditions, contributing to the full development of the student, to the improvement of school success and to the qualification of the population, with a view to greater employability;
  - e) Define the national curriculum at the various levels of education and the system of student assessment and to approve teaching programs and guidelines for their implementation;
  - f) Ensure and promote quality teaching of the official languages, namely the strengthening of learning outcomes in the Portuguese language and the consolidation and regularization of the Tetum language;
  - g) Promote the creation of an entity responsible for the consolidation, standardization and promotion of the Tetum language;
  - h) Promote and manage the school park of public pre-school, primary and secondary education establishments and to strengthen their capacity to respond to the population's needs, as well as to support initiatives within the scope of private and cooperative education, including community education;
  - i) Promote effective and quality school management and administration and to ensure the evaluation and accreditation of the pre-school, primary and secondary education system;
  - j) Promote training and evaluation of education professionals and ensure implementation of teaching career legislation;
  - k) Design policy measures in the youth and sports fields and their organization, funding, implementation and evaluation, promoting integration with education initiatives;
  - l) Promote activities aimed at the practice of sport and physical education in general, as well as the practice of high-performance sport as a factor of sports development and representation of the country in international competitions;
  - m) Ensure implementation of the legal and regulatory framework of activities related to sport and high competition;
  - n) Establish collaboration mechanisms with civil society organizations working in the area of sport;
  - o) Create support mechanisms and project funding for the practice of physical education and sport;

- p) Establish collaboration and coordination mechanisms with other Government organs with responsibility for related areas in the implementation of the national education, youth and sports policy;
  - q) Promote active inclusion policies in the areas of education, youth and sport, especially through inclusive education measures and the participation of people with disabilities;
  - r) Ensure and promote gender equality within their areas of competence, in coordination with relevant public authorities;
  - s) Plan and implement an analysis and monitoring system in order to assess the results and impact of education, youth and sport policies.
2. Depend on the Minister of Education, Youth and Sports the:
- a) National Sports Commission (CND);
  - b) Martial Arts Regulatory Commission (CRAM);
  - c) National Institute for Teacher and Education Professional Training (INFORDEPE).
3. The organs and services that comprise the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports are those defined in its organic law.

### **Article 23**

#### **Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Culture**

1. The Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Culture is the Government's central body responsible for the design, execution, coordination and evaluation of the policy, defined and approved by the Council of Ministers, for the areas of higher education and qualification, as well as for the areas of science, technology, arts and culture, being incumbent upon this Ministry to:
- a) Design policy measures in the areas of higher education, science, arts and culture and technology, as well as their organization, funding, implementation and evaluation;
  - b) Promote equal opportunities in access to higher education, science and the enjoyment of cultural goods;
  - c) Promote the development, modernization, quality, competitiveness and international recognition of higher education, and scientific and technological systems;
  - d) To promote links between higher education and scientific and technological institutions, and between them and the productive system;
  - e) Promote permanent evaluation and inspection of higher education, scientific and technological institutions;
  - f) Promote the evaluation of higher education professionals;
  - g) Plan an analysis and monitoring system in order to evaluate the results and impacts of higher education policies;
  - h) Assess the results and impacts of higher education;
  - i) Draw up policy and regulations for the conservation, protection and preservation of historical and cultural heritage;
  - j) Propose policies for the definition and development of arts and culture;
  - k) Promote the creation of cultural centers at the municipal level, in articulation with the local administration and with the objective of promoting national cohesion;
  - l) Establish policies for cooperation and cultural exchange with CPLP countries and cultural organizations, and countries of the region;



- m) Establish cooperation policies with UNESCO;
  - n) Develop programs, in coordination with the Ministry of Education, for the introduction of artistic and cultural education in Timor-Leste's education;
  - o) Promote creative industries and artistic creation in Timor-Leste in its various areas;
  - p) Ensure proper preservation of official and historical documents by virtue of the mandate;
  - q) Protect the rights related to artistic and literary creation.
2. The following services and organisms shall be under the responsibility of the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Culture:
    - a) Timor Lorosa'e National University - UNTL;
    - b) Polytechnic Institute of Betano;
    - c) National Institute of Science and Technology;
    - d) UNESCO National Commission;
    - e) National Agency for Academic Evaluation and Accreditation (ANAAA);
    - f) Technical Secretariat of the Human Capital Development Fund;
    - g) Implementation Unit of the Academy of Arts, Culture and Cultural Creative Industries;
    - h) Monitoring Committee of the Academy of Arts, Culture and Cultural Creative Industries;
    - i) National Library of Timor-Leste;
    - j) Timor-Leste National Museum.
  3. The organs and services that comprise the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Culture are those defined in its organic law.

#### **Article 24**

##### **Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion**

1. The Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion is the government department responsible for designing, implementing, coordinating and assessing policy, defined and approved by the Council of Ministers, in the areas of social security, social assistance and community reintegration, being incumbent upon this Ministry to:
  - a) Design and implement social security systems for workers and the rest of the population;
  - b) Develop social assistance programs;
  - c) Promote humanitarian aid for the most disadvantaged;
  - d) Propose and develop policies and strategies in disaster risk management with a social impact;
  - e) Develop and implement social assistance programs in disaster risk management, including emergency response and post-disaster recovery;
  - f) Provide monitoring, protection and community reintegration of vulnerable groups;
  - g) Establish collaboration and coordination mechanisms with other Government organs in related areas.
2. Depend on the Minister of Social Solidarity and Inclusion the:
  - a) National Institute of Social Security, IP;
  - b) National Rehabilitation Centre;
  - c) Commission of Children's Rights;
  - d) Commission to Fight HIV-AIDS.
3. The organs and services that comprise the Ministry of Social Solidarity are those defined in its organic law.



**Article 25****Ministry for National Liberation Combatants Affairs**

1. The Ministry for National Liberation Combatant Affairs is the government department responsible for designing, implementing, coordinating and evaluating the policy, defined and approved by the Council of Ministers, for the affairs of former National Liberation Combatants, being incumbent upon this Ministry to:
  - a) Conceive the policy, legislation and regulation measures for the National Liberation Combatants' affairs, as well as their financing, execution and evaluation;
  - b) Coordinate and plan government policies in matters related to National Liberation Combatants;
  - c) Promote the registration of National Liberation Combatants, in accordance with the law;
  - d) Implement programs for the allocation of pensions and other financial benefits to National Liberation Combatants and families, in accordance with the law;
  - e) Provide for the monitoring and inclusion in the society of veterans and National Liberation Combatants;
  - f) Promote, in coordination with the Presidency of the Republic and the Commission of Tribute, Supervision of Registration and Resources, the holding of valorization, demobilization and public recognition ceremonies of the National Liberation Combatants, namely through official decorations, building of memorials to the martyrs and other relevant actions;
  - g) Maintain a service of research, archiving and dissemination of the national liberation struggle history;
  - h) Promote a deep revision of the National Liberation Combatants registration database;
  - i) Maintain a database of registration, processing, analysis and supervision that supports their activities;
  - j) Promote and plan support programs for the National Liberation Combatant, namely in the areas of health, education and technical-professional training, employment, access to credit and income generating activities;
  - k) Develop assistance and aid programs for the National Liberation Combatants;
  - l) Promote demobilization, retirement and pension programs to be awarded to National Liberation Combatants;
  - m) Provide monitoring and inclusion in society of veterans and National Liberation Combatants;
  - n) Establish mechanisms for collaboration and coordination with other Government organs with jurisdiction over related areas;
  - o) Exercise the other powers conferred to the Ministry by law.
2. The Commission of Tribute, Supervision of Registration and Appeal of National Liberation Combatants shall be under the responsibility of the Minister for National Liberation Combatants Affairs.
3. The organs, services and other entities that integrate the Ministry for National Liberation Combatants' Affairs shall be those defined in its organic law.

**Article 26****Ministry of the Plan and Territorial Planning**

1. The Ministry of the Plan and Territorial Planning is the government department responsible for designing, coordinating and assessing policy, defined and approved by the Council of Ministers, for the areas of promoting the economic and social development of the country, through strategic and integrated planning and the rationalization of available financial resources, assuming specific responsibilities for the implementation of the Strategic Development Plan, especially with regard to:
  - a) Infrastructure and Urban Planning;
  - b) Oil and Minerals;
  - c) Planning and Land Use Management.
2. The Ministry of the Plan and Territorial Planning is responsible for planning, proposing and coordinating the implementation of infrastructures of strategic nature.
3. The Ministry of the Plan and Territorial Planning is also responsible for supervising the quality of the implementation work and activities of physical projects promoted, developed or financed by the:
  - a) Infrastructure Fund or others, whose purposes or characteristics are to finance strategic multi-annual projects;
  - b) Public Private Partnership Unit of the Ministry of Finance.
4. The Ministry of the Plan and Territorial Planning, under the terms of the previous numbers and based on statistical and cadaster data made available by the appropriate services, has specific responsibilities to:
  - a) Evaluate capital development projects, based on a careful analysis of project feasibility and cost-benefit;
  - b) Supervise, inspect and certify project implementation, contributing to the rationalization of available financial resources, and to the economic development and economic activities, both at national, district and local levels;
  - c) Plan and control the costs and quality of capital development projects;
  - d) Promote transparency and quality through the provision of procurement services for capital development projects;
  - e) Develop studies, opinions, technical and sectorial analyses to evaluate development project impact and economic feasibility;
  - f) Analyze and select investment proposals for the country;
  - g) Study, plan and propose sectoral development policies;
  - h) Study, plan and propose the national land use planning policy, in coordination with the relevant government departments;
  - i) Help promote the adoption of technical standards and regulations concerning the use of materials in civil construction, as well as to develop laboratory tests to ensure the safety of buildings;
  - j) Propose and develop the national policy on natural and mineral resources;
  - k) Support the development of the legal and regulatory framework for activities related to renewable energy resources;
  - l) Support studies on the capacity of renewable and alternative energy resources;
  - m) Keep an archive of information on operations and renewable energy resources;
  - n) Contribute to the development of the national transport and communications policy;

- o) Help prepare and develop, in cooperation with other public services, the implementation of the national road plan;
  - p) Support the coordination and promotion of a management and maintenance system and the modernization of the airport, air navigation, road, port and related services infrastructures;
  - q) Promote the creation of the National Development Bank, in coordination with the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs and the Minister of Finance;
  - r) Study, plan and implement spatial planning and national housing policy, in coordination with the relevant Ministries.
5. Depend on the Minister of the Plan and Territorial Planning the:
- a) National Development Agency - ADN;
  - b) Secretariat of Major Projects.
6. The organs and services that comprise the Ministry of the Plan and Territorial Planning are those defined in the respective organic law.

## **Article 27**

### **Ministry of Public Works**

1. The Ministry of Public Works is the government department responsible for the design, implementation, coordination and assessment of policy, defined and approved by the Council of Ministers, for the areas of public works, housing, supply, distribution and management of water, sanitation and electricity, and implementation of urban planning and housing, being incumbent upon this Ministry to:
- a) Propose and implement the Ministry's policy guidance in the areas of public works, housing, water supply, water resources management, sanitation and electricity;
  - b) Implement land use plans and the national housing policy, in coordination with the Ministry of the Plan and Territorial Planning;
  - c) Ensure implementation of the legal and regulatory framework of the Ministry's activities;
  - d) Create and implement the legal and regulatory framework of the construction activity and research on construction materials;
  - e) Study, plan and implement construction works necessary for the protection, conservation and repair of bridges, roads, river and sea coasts, namely for flood control;
  - f) Promote the study and implementation of new infrastructure network systems related to water supply and water resources, as well as basic sanitation, and supervise their operation and exploitation, without prejudice to the responsibilities of other entities in these fields;
  - g) Establish coordination and promote the quality of physical projects implemented by the State;
  - h) Promote construction, conservation and repair of public buildings, monuments and special facilities, in cases where this is legally committed;
  - i) License and supervise all urban buildings, namely private or public, in accordance with applicable legislation;
  - j) Promote the adoption of technical standards and regulations concerning materials used in civil construction, as well as develop laboratory tests to guarantee the safety of buildings;
  - k) Operate and maintain the infrastructures of production, transmission and supply of electric energy, as well as promote the planning and expansion of the national electrical power network;
  - l) Maintain and develop a national information and surveillance system on the state of works and on civil construction materials, including the effects of floods on infrastructures;

- m) Ensure the coordination of the renewable energy sector and stimulate complementarity between its various modes, as well as its competitiveness, in order to better satisfy users;
  - n) Regulate, in coordination with other ministries, operators in the area of electrical power generation;
  - o) Establish mechanisms for collaboration and coordination with other Government organs with responsibility for related areas.
2. Depend on the Ministry of Public Works the:
- a) Institute for Equipment Management – I.P.;
  - b) Electricity of Timor-Leste E.P;
  - c) National Electricity Authority I.P;
  - d) Bee Timor-Leste E.P.<sup>1</sup>;
  - e) National Water and Sanitation Authority I.P.;
3. The organs and services that comprise the Ministry of Public Works are those defined in its organic law.

## **Article 28**

### **Ministry of Transport and Communications**

1. The Ministry of Transport and Communications is the government department responsible for the design, implementation, coordination and assessment of policy, defined and approved by the Council of Ministers, in the areas of transport and communications, being incumbent upon this Ministry to:
- a) Propose and implement policy guidance of the Ministry in the areas of transport and communications;
  - b) Formulate, develop and ensure the implementation of the legal and regulatory framework for the transport and communications sectors;
  - c) Develop and regulate the activity of transport and communications, as well as to optimize the means of communication;
  - d) Ensure coordination of the transport sector and stimulate complementarity between its various modes, as well as its competitiveness, in order to better satisfy users;
  - e) Promote management, as well as the adoption of technical standards and regulations regarding the public use of communication services;
  - f) Ensure the provision of public telecommunications services and the use of radioelectric space, through public companies or by granting public service provision to private entities;
  - g) Maintain and develop national meteorological and seismological information and surveillance systems, including the construction and maintenance of their infrastructure;
  - h) Promote and coordinate scientific research and technological development in the fields of land, air and maritime transport of a civil nature;
  - i) Establish collaboration and coordination mechanisms with other Government organs in related areas.
2. Depend on the Minister of Transport and Communications the:
- a) Administration of the Ports of Timor-Leste - APORTIL;
  - b) Airports and Air Navigation Administration - ANATL EP;
  - c) Civil Aviation Authority of Timor-Leste AACTL;
  - d) ANC - National Communications Authority.

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<sup>1</sup> Bee Timor-Leste E.P. - Timor-Leste Water Public Co.

3. The organs and services that comprise the Ministry of Transport and Communications are those defined in its organic law.

## **Article 29**

### **Ministry of Tourism, Commerce and Industry**

1. The Ministry of Tourism, Commerce and Industry is the government department responsible for the design, implementation, coordination and evaluation of policies, defined and approved by the Council of Ministers for the areas of tourism, commercial and industrial economic activities, being incumbent upon this Ministry to:
  - a) Propose policies and draft legislation and regulations necessary for its areas of responsibility;
  - b) Design, implement and evaluate tourism, trade and industry policies;
  - c) Contribute to the dynamization of economic activity, including national and international competitiveness;
  - d) Support the activities of economic agents, promoting the necessary diligences for the valorization of solutions that make procedural processes simpler and faster;
  - e) Appraise and license projects of facilities and operation of tourist, commercial and industrial enterprises;
  - f) Inspect and supervise tourist, commercial and industrial activities and developments, in accordance with the law;
  - g) Maintain and manage an information and documentation center about companies;
  - h) Propose qualification and classification of industrial undertakings, under the terms of applicable legislation;
  - i) Organize and administer the registration of industrial property;
  - j) Promote domestic and international rules of standardization, metrology and quality control, unit measurement standards and physical magnitude;
  - k) Contribute to the dynamization of the tourism sector and propose measures and public policies relevant to its development;
  - l) Establish collaboration and cooperation mechanisms with domestic and international organs whose action targets the Ministry's areas of action, namely with the Timor-Leste Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI-TL), World Trade Organization, World Tourism Organization and "Pacific Asia Tourism Organization";
  - m) Support activities of economic agents in the tourism sector, promoting the necessary steps to valorize solutions that make the process of licensing simpler and faster;
  - n) Give an opinion on requests for prior information for the establishment of tourism companies;
  - o) Appraise and license installation projects and to supervise the operation of tourist enterprises in coordination with the Ministry of Public Works, as well as to qualify and classify them;
  - p) Exercise oversight, supervise and inspect social and entertainment games, gaming machines and traditional games;
  - q) Propose necessary legislation and regulation projects for the exercise of casino activities;
  - r) Maintain and manage an information and documentation center on companies and activities in the tourism sector;
  - s) Suspend and revoke licenses to engage in tourist activities, in accordance with the law;
  - t) Draw up the annual plan of promotional activities for tourism development with the respective estimated costs;

- u) Implement and enforce legislation relating to the installation, licensing and verification of operating conditions of tourism facilities;
  - v) Establish collaboration mechanisms with other services and government organs with jurisdiction over related areas, namely the services responsible for spatial planning and physical development, with a view to promoting strategic areas for tourism, commercial or industrial development;
  - w) Collaborate, with competent public agencies and institutes, in the promotion and dissemination of Timor-Leste, to investors and tour operators, ensuring dissemination of the necessary information.
2. Depend on the Minister of Tourism, Commerce and Industry the:
- a) (Revoked);
  - b) Institute for Quality in Timor-Leste, IP;
  - c) Dili Convention Centre - CCD;
  - d) Tourism and Tourist Information Centers;
  - e) Catering / Food Courts Centers;
  - f) Hostels.
3. The organs and services that comprise the Ministry of Tourism, Commerce and Industry are those defined in its organic law.

### **Article 30**

#### **Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries**

1. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is the government department responsible for the design, implementation, coordination and assessment of policy, defined and approved by the Council of Ministers, in the areas of agriculture, forestry, fisheries and livestock breeding, being incumbent upon this Ministry to:
- a) Propose the policy and prepare draft legislation and regulations necessary for its areas of responsibility;
  - b) Ensure implementation and continuity of rural development programs, in coordination with other government departments with responsibilities in the field of rural development;
  - c) Create technical support centers for farmers;
  - d) Manage technical and agricultural education;
  - e) Promote agricultural research and the optimization of agricultural soil;
  - f) Control land use for agricultural production purposes;
  - g) Promote and monitor animal health;
  - h) Promote the agricultural and fishing industry;
  - i) Promote and inspect food production, including seed production;
  - j) Manage Quarantine Services;
  - k) In coordination with the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs, promote rural development by implementing a cooperative system of production and marketing of agricultural production;
  - l) Carry out feasibility studies for the installation of irrigation and water storage systems, as well as the construction of the respective facilities;
  - m) Manage forest resources and hydrographic basins in coordination with the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs, the Ministry of Tourism, Commerce and Industry and the Ministry of Public Works;
  - n) Promote the production of industrial plants, in particular for coffee cultivation;

- o) Manage water resources intended for agricultural purposes;
  - p) Promote and monitor the fisheries and aquaculture sector;
  - q) Establish collaboration and coordination mechanisms with other Government organs with jurisdiction over related areas;
  - r) Manage National Parks, Protected Areas and the Botanical Garden;
  - s) Ensure protection and conservation of nature and biodiversity, supervising the policy implementation and monitoring activities harmful to the integrity of the national fauna and flora, in collaboration with related entities.
2. The Institute for Research, Development, Training and Promotion of Bamboo, IP, is under the responsibility of the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.
  3. The organs and services that comprise the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries are those defined in its organic law.

### **Article 31**

#### **Ministry of Defense**

1. The Ministry of Defense is the government department responsible for the design, implementation, coordination and assessment of policy, defined and approved by the Council of Ministers, in the areas of national defense and military cooperation, being incumbent upon this Ministry to:
  - a) Propose and implement policy on the military component of national defense;
  - b) Draft legislation and regulations necessary in the field of defense;
  - c) Promote strategic-military diplomacy, coordinating and guiding the activities arising from military commitments under instruments of international law and bilateral and multilateral agreements, as well as relations with states and international organs of a military nature, without prejudice to the powers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation;
  - d) Ensure maintenance of relations in the area of defense policy with other countries and international organizations, without prejudice to the attributions of other Sovereign Organs and of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, within the scope of the objectives established for Timorese foreign policy;
  - e) In coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, coordinate and monitor, actions of cooperation developed by international organizations, States or defense forces of other countries in support of the development of their respective areas of expertise, within the framework of the international agreements referred to in the previous paragraph;
  - f) Administer and supervise the Defense Forces of Timor-Leste;
  - g) Promote adequacy of military means, monitor and inspect their use;
  - h) Supervise maritime and air navigation for military purposes;
  - i) Exercise oversight authority, administer and supervise the Maritime Authority;
  - j) Establish collaboration and coordination mechanisms with other Government organs with jurisdiction over related areas.
2. The National Defense Institute shall be under the responsibility of the Minister of Defense.
3. The organs and services that comprise the Ministry of Defense shall be those defined in the respective organic law.



**Article 32**  
**Ministry of the Interior**

1. The Ministry of Interior is the government department responsible for the design, implementation, coordination and evaluation of policies, defined and approved by the Council of Ministers, in the areas of internal security, migration and asylum, border control, civil protection, road safety and police cooperation, being incumbent upon this Ministry to:
  - a) Propose, coordinate and implement policies on internal security, migration and asylum, border control, civil protection and road safety;
  - b) Participate in defining, coordinating and implementing national security policy;
  - c) Prepare draft legislation and regulations required by its areas of responsibility;
  - d) Exercise superintendence and oversight authority over the security forces and services of Timor-Leste;
  - e) Exercise powers of guidance, superintendence and oversight of the Civil Protection Authority, which is part of the Fire Brigade;
  - f) Ensure and maintain public order and tranquility;
  - g) Ensure the protection of freedom and security of people and their property;
  - h) Ensure the security of the State's real estate and furniture;
  - i) Prevent and repress crime;
  - j) Control the movement of persons at the borders, their entry, stay and residence, exit and removal of foreigners from national territory;
  - k) Control activities of import, manufacture, trade, licensing, possession and use of weapons, ammunition and explosives, without prejudice to the attributions of other Government organs;
  - l) Regulate, inspect and control the exercise of private security activities;
  - m) Prevent disasters and serious accidents and provide protection and assistance to the affected populations in case of fires, floods, landslides, earthquakes and in all situations that put them at risk;
  - n) Propose and develop policies and strategies in disaster risk management;
  - o) Develop and implement programs in disaster risk management, including civic education, prevention, mitigation, emergency response and post-disaster recovery in liaison with other relevant organs;
  - p) Coordinate and monitor Municipal Security Councils;
  - q) Promote development of the strategy of prevention, mediation and resolution of community conflicts;
  - r) Promote adequacy of police means, monitor and inspect their use;
  - s) Ensure maintenance of relations in the field of internal security policy with other countries and international organizations, without prejudice to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation's own attributions, within the scope of the objectives established for Timorese foreign policy;
  - t) Negotiate, under the leadership of the Prime Minister and in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, international agreements on internal security, criminal investigation, migration and border control and civil protection;
  - u) In coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, coordinate and monitor, cooperation actions developed by international organizations, States or security forces and services of other countries, in support of the development of their respective areas of responsibility, within the scope of international agreements referred to in the previous paragraph;



- v) Establish mechanisms for collaboration and coordination with other Government organs with authority over related areas.
- 2. The organs and services that comprise the Ministry of the Interior shall be those defined in the respective organic law.

### **Article 33**

#### **Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals**

1. The Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals is the government department responsible for designing and implementing energy policy and management of mineral resources, including oil and other strategic minerals, approved by the Council of Ministers, as well as for licensing and regulating extractive activity, industrial activity of oil and mineral beneficiation, including petrochemicals and refining, being incumbent upon this Ministry, in particular, to:
  - a) Prepare and propose policy and draft legislation for the sector;
  - b) Establish the sector's administration and management system and regulate the sector's activities;
  - c) Ensure maximum participation of Timor-Leste in the activities of the petroleum and mineral resources sector through the appropriate legal, administrative and technical instruments;
  - d) Promote national opportunities in the sector in order to attract and retain foreign investment devoted to the sector;
  - e) Monitor implementation of Treaties and monitor sectoral implementation of relevant instruments;
  - f) Conduct negotiation process regarding the development model of the “Greater Sunrise” field or other matters related to the exercise of jurisdiction in the Timor Sea, as well as in the area of the “Greater Sunrise Special Regime” under the terms of the “Treaty Between Australia and the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste Establishing Respective Borders in the Timor Sea”, signed in New York on March 6, 2018;
  - g) Advise the Government on petroleum and mining issues related to the delimitation of maritime and land borders of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste and appoint representatives and consultants to integrate the respective technical teams;
  - h) Coordinate the execution of the “Tasi Mane” project, creating the legal and institutional structures deemed necessary or appropriate for it, and to license and monitor activities developed in areas territorially dedicated to the “Tasi Mane” project;
  - i) Determine, in accordance with general conditions established by law, the specific contractual terms for the prospection and exploitation of petroleum resources and mining licenses;
  - j) Ensure mandatory minimum reserves of fuel and their regular supply to the market and to public power generation units;
  - k) Regulate, authorize and supervise downstream activities, as defined in Decree-Law no. 1/2012, of 1 February, and complementary regulations, namely import, export, transport, storage, distribution and marketing, wholesale or retail, of fuels and other petroleum products, as well as the import of crude oil and natural gas and other raw materials for refining and other petrochemical activities;
  - l) Ensure gas resources for domestic consumption in Timor-Leste, for housing and industrial purposes, promote and develop the necessary projects for their efficient and safe use;

- m) Promote and develop initiatives for the training and qualification of Timorese workers for the activities under its jurisdiction, in coordination with the ministries and other relevant public or private entities;
  - n) Authorize and license, at the downstream of extraction, projects of the manufacturing industry related to the processing, improvement, treatment, conversion or transformation of crude oil, its derivatives and minerals, namely, refineries, gas liquefaction units or petrochemicals;
  - o) Considering the complexity and technical expertise of the oil and mineral resources sector, conduct the respective environmental licensing procedures and approve the corresponding environmental licenses in this sector;
  - p) Exercise oversight powers and supervision over the indirect administration of the State, both institutional and corporate, which operates in the sector;
  - q) Develop knowledge and research on the geological structure of soils and subsoils and the national hydrogeological resources;
  - r) Propose to the Council of Ministers the enumeration and classification of strategic minerals;
  - s) Propose to the Council of Ministers the approval of the terms of reference applicable to each public tender and to approve the attribution of Mining Rights;
  - t) Propose to the Council of Ministers the approval of the mining contract model;
  - u) Proceed, under the legal terms, to the conclusion of Mining Contracts, the issuance of Licenses for Prospecting, Exploration and Production, and the issuance of authorizations to extend the existing Mineral Rights to also cover other Minerals, as well as to proceed to the approval of all studies, reports and projects that fall within its powers;
  - v) Determine the rescission or redemption of Mineral Rights, in accordance with the legal and contractual terms;
  - w) Authorize the cession or transfer of mining rights, as well as the change of control in a company that holds mining rights;
  - x) Act as the beneficiary of expropriation and conduct expropriation process, in accordance with Law No. 8/2017, of April 26, in relation to the expropriation for public utility and the constitution of administrative easements necessary for the performance of activities within its jurisdiction or subject to its supervision or guardianship;
  - y) Any others that may be assigned to it by specific legislation applicable to the sector;
  - z) Propose and promote the creation of a public company whose object is the performance of mining activities, including the activities of recognition, prospecting and research, evaluation, development, exploration and treatment, processing, refining and commercialization of mineral resources.
2. Depend on the Minister of Petroleum and Minerals the:
    - a) National Petroleum and Minerals Authority;
    - b) Timor Gap, EP;
    - c) Institute of Petroleum and Geology, IP.
  3. The organs and services that comprise the Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals shall be those defined in the respective organic law.

## SECTION V OTHER ENTITIES AND INSTITUTIONS

### Article 34 Indirect administration

1. Under the terms of Article 115(3) of the Constitution of the Republic, the Government may proceed, by decree-law, to the creation of public corporate organs, which may be endowed with administrative and financial autonomy, and autonomy of assets, under the oversight authority and supervision of the member of the Government competent for the respective area, with the objective of proceeding to the satisfaction of collective needs, when it is verified that the indirect administration modality is the most adequate for the pursuit of public interest and the satisfaction of the said needs.
2. Public corporate organs referred to in the preceding paragraph may take the form of public institutes or public companies, as defined in the respective organic law.
3. Public institutes may take the form of personalized services, public establishments or public foundations under terms to be defined by law, which shall define the scope of their administrative autonomy or administrative and financial autonomy.

### Article 35 Administrative de-concentration

Government departments shall pursue their respective tasks, whenever possible, by delegating the powers of the State Central Administration organs to the State Local Administration organs, in accordance with the principle of administrative de-concentration.

## CHAPTER IV FINAL AND TRANSITORY PROVISIONS

### Article 36 Delegation of powers

1. The delegation of powers shall proceed from the highest-ranking managers to lower ranking managers, in accordance with the law.
2. Powers that are constitutionally determined shall not be delegable.
3. In all other cases, the delegation of powers shall be permitted whenever it is not expressly forbidden by law and shall be set out in a written document stating its scope and duration.
4. The delegating body shall remain responsible for the acts carried out in the exercise of delegated powers by the person receiving the delegation.
5. The delegation of powers shall have external effect only after its publication in the Series II of the Official Gazette.

### Article 37 Delegated powers

1. The exercise of their own powers may be delegated by:
  - a) The Prime Minister, to Vice-Prime Ministers or to other members of the Government;
  - b) The Ministers, to the members of the Government assisting them.
2. The members of the Government may delegate the powers relating to the services, organs, entities and activities dependent on them, to the heads of the Public Administration or to those treated as such, with the possibility of sub-delegation, when this is legally allowed and must be expressly referred to in the instrument of delegation.

**Article 38**  
**Transition of services**

1. All services, organs and entities whose ministerial framework is hereby changed retain the same legal nature, changing only, as the case may be, the organ exercising the powers of leadership, oversight and supervision.
2. Changes to the organic structure resulting from this legal diploma shall be accompanied by the consequent movement of staff, without any formality and without any loss of acquired rights.
3. (Revoked).
4. (Revoked).
5. (Revoked).
6. (Revoked).
7. (Revoked).
8. (Revoked).
9. (Revoked).
10. (Revoked).
11. (Revoked).
12. (Revoked).
13. (Revoked).
14. (Revoked).

**Article 39**  
**Offices of members of the Government**

The Vice-Prime Ministers and the other members of the Government provided for in this legal diploma may, as long as they do not have funds specifically allocated to the operation of their office, use the funds available in the budget chapter relating to appropriations for the Whole of Government

**Article 40**  
**Organic Laws**

1. The Ministries that are created through this legal diploma or that see their respective responsibilities changed through it shall, within sixty days of the date on which this legal diploma comes into force, prepare or change the respective organic law.
2. The Organic Laws of the various Government Departments shall conform the powers of the respective central organs to the powers of the Administrations and Municipal Authorities, as defined in their normative statutes and in compliance with the principle of administrative de-concentration.
3. With the entry into force of new organic laws, the appointments and service commissions of the holders of managerial or management positions shall cease to exist, and they shall remain in office on a transitional basis until their renewal or replacement.

**Article 41**  
**Repealed**

Decree-Law no. 35/2017 of November 21 is hereby repealed.

**Article 42**  
**Entry into force**

This decree-law shall enter into force on the day immediately following its publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved by the Council of Ministers on July 24, 2018.

The Prime Minister,

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**Taur Matan Ruak**

Promulgated on August 17, 2018.

Be it published.

The President of the Republic,

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**Dr. Francisco Guterres Lú Olo**