

DILI, MARCH 12TH, 2015

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PRESS RELEASE

Meeting of the Council of Ministers from March 12th, 2015

The Council of Ministers met this Thursday, March 12th, 2015, in the Council of Ministers' Meeting Room, at the Government Palace, in Dili, and approved:

1. Law Proposal approving the First Amendment to Law n. 6/2014, from December 30th, approving the General State Budget for 2015

This amendment reflects the new organic structure of the Sixth Constitutional Government. It establishes a budgetary policy allowing to improve the formulation of public policies at its due implementation by the whole Government, to strengthen long-term planning and eliminate unnecessary functioning expenses, mainly by reducing the number of Government members. It is aimed, by this amendment, to increase administrative effectiveness, and to continue a sustainable quality economic growth, reducing poverty and providing services with effectiveness and efficiency gains to citizens.

It should be noted that the estimated total of expenses of the General State Budget (GSB) for this financial year remains unchanged, being of 1.570.000 millions of dollars.

2. Government Resolution, approving the Rules of Engagement for the Operational Forces

Following the Government Resolution, approved at the extraordinary meeting of the Council of Ministers from last Monday, the Command of the FALINTIL-Defence Forces of Timor-Leste (F-FDTL) and the Command of the National Police of Timor-Leste (PNTL) developed the Rules do Engagement for the Task-force, acting under the scope of the joint operational commitment, in accordance with the use of force, under the National Security Law.

These Rules of Engagement reflect the establishment of clear and strict rules for the Task-Force in the security operations, essentially on what concerns the use of force in the aim of a joint action to face a situation gualified as a serious public disorder, in conflict with the State of Law and social peace.

The Government agrees on the Rules of Engagement for the Task-force, which, it should be highlighted, respects citizens' rights, freedoms and warranties, the human rights and the peoples' rights and the principle of legality, namely the existing rules of international law.

Palácio do Governo, Avenida Presidente Nicolau Lobato,