

Timor-Leste government signs contract in 2016 for construction of the port of Tibar

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The contract for the public-private partnership with the French Bolloré Consortium for the construction and management of the port of Tibar is scheduled to be signed in the first quarter of 2016, announced Wednesday in Dili the prime minister of Timor-Leste.

Rui Maria de Araújo said the government, gathered Tuesday in a Cabinet meeting examined the international public tender report for the project and “approved the ordinance that defines the contract conditions which will work with a public-private partnership model.”

The prime minister was cited by Lusa as saying he expected the contract would be signed in the first quarter of 2016 and that the work, which has an estimated cost of US\$400 million, would be completed next year.

The Bolloré Consortium was better ranked than the only other competitor, the United Kingdom’s Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Company (P&O), a subsidiary of DP World group of Dubai.

Along the way other competitors dropped out including the consortium made up of Portuguese companies Mota-Engil – Ambiente e Serviços, Mota-Engil, Engenharia e Construção and the Besik group and International Container Terminal Services Inc. of the Philippines.

The public-private partnership already approved by the Timor-Leste government is planning the construction and management for 30 years of the port of Tibar and includes construction of a road between Dili and Tibar, a breakwater and installing onshore facilities and drainage systems.

The Timorese government has said that the new port will have capacity to process 1 million tons of cargo per year and conditions for receiving commercial and passenger vessels. (macauhub/TL)

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