



**JUDICIAL SYSTEM MONITORING PROGRAMME
PROGRAMA DE MONITORIZAÇÃO DO SISTEMA JUDICIAL**

Press Release

23 August 2012

National Seminar:

**Village authorities meet with members of the National Parliament for the
third legislature**

On 23 August 2012 the Judicial System Monitoring Program (JSMP) through its Parliamentary Watch Program (POP) organized a National Seminar on the theme of **“The Role of the National Parliament regarding Legislation, Oversight and Political Decision Making: Expectations and Challenges”**.

“This seminar is very important to enable the village authorities to have a good understanding about the Role of the National Parliament, especially in regards to the legislative process to date, to seek new perspectives and alternatives to strengthen the relationship between members of parliament and the village authorities, said Luis de Oliveira Sampaio, the Executive Director of JSMP.

The main goal of this seminar was to promote dialogue and open and direct communication in relation to the role of the National Parliament in the context of law making, oversight and political decision making. In addition, the seminar aimed at promoting public involvement in the legislative process and political policies within the National Parliament. This process was aimed at ensuring that law making and political policies are effective and efficient and that the results reflect the real needs of the people.

This one day seminar was financially supported by the Asia Foundation (TAF) and USAID. Participants were invited from different villages in a number of districts including Ainaro, Lautem, Manufahi, Covalima and Dili.

This seminar was opened by MP Adriano do Nascimento, the Deputy President of the National Parliament, who acted as a guest speaker during the seminar.

During the seminar the Deputy President of the National Parliament spoke about **‘The Role of the National Parliament’**. MP Francisco Branco, representing the Opposition Bench in parliament spoke about **“The Role of the Opposition in the National Parliament”**, and Natalino dos Santos, the Chief of the CNRT Bench and representative of the Parliamentary Coalition spoke about **‘The Expectations of the Parliamentary Coalition during the third legislature’**.

The last part of the seminar provided an opportunity to participants to ask questions, make criticisms, comments or express their views and share their real experiences with other participants and the guest speakers.

For more information, please contact:

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