



JUDICIAL SYSTEM MONITORING PROGRAMME
PROGRAMA MONITORIZASAUN BA SISTEMA JUDISIÁRIU

***Press Release
Dili District Court
26 February 2015***

Mobile court conducts hearings at the former Ermera District Court

On 23 February 2015, the Dili District Court heard three cases through the mobile court in Ermera District.

These cases comprised one case of simple offences against physical integrity, one case of serious offences against physical integrity, and one case of rape which the court adjourned until July 2015 because the defendant, victim and witness did not obey the court summons.

“JSMP believes that mobile court hearings conducted in the districts have a positive impact on the justice system” said the Director of JSMP, Luis de Oliveira Sampaio.

JSMP values the courts because they continue to bring the mobile court to the community. This mechanism reminds people that the formal justice system is indeed operational, even though it faces various challenges. This process also serves as a mechanism to increase people’s knowledge about the law.

In relation to the two cases heard by the court, in the first case involving simple offences against physical integrity, the court sentenced the defendant to 6 months in prison, suspended for 1 year, and ordered him to report to the authorities twice a month for three months.

Meanwhile, in the case involving serious offences against physical integrity, the court sentenced the defendant to three years in prison, suspended for four years, and ordered him to pay compensation to the victim of US\$4,000 because he was found guilty of slashing the victim’s head and injuring him.

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The mobile court was presided over by judges Antonio Helder do Carmo, Jumiaty Freitas and Nasson Sarmiento (trainee). The Public Prosecution Service was represented by Matias Soares and the defendants were not accompanied by their public defender because the public defender was not present when the mobile court conducted the hearings.

For more information, please contact:

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