



JUDICIAL SYSTEM MONITORING PROGRAMME
PROGRAMA MONITORIZASAUN BA SISTEMA JUDISIÁRIU

Press Release
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Prosecutor-General delivers 2013 annual report to the National Parliament

On 1 April 2014, before a plenary session of the National Parliament, the Prosecutor-General Jose Ximenes submitted his annual report about the performance of the Public Prosecution Service in 2013.

The report states that in 2013 the Public Prosecution Service of Timor-Leste managed to settle 4,341 cases from a total of 8,371 cases registered at the national level, representing the Public Prosecution Service as a whole. The report also mentioned that the Office of the Prosecutor-General views cases of corruption and drugs as a top priority.

“JSMP praises the efforts of the Public Prosecution Service for resolving almost half of the cases that have been pending to date, as well as the commitment of the Public Prosecution Service to prioritize cases of corruption and drugs in the pursuit of its current mandate,” said Luis de Oliveira Sampaio, the Executive Director of JSMP.

In his report the Prosecutor-General highlighted other priorities such as reducing the backlog of cases, striving to represent the State when required and strengthening institutional cooperation both at the national and international level.

Although JSMP welcomes the Office of the Prosecutor-General giving priority to eradicating cases of corruption and drugs, JSMP also encourages the Office of the Prosecutor-General and everyone within its ranks to prioritize cases of gender based violence, especially cases

involving domestic violence, rape and the sexual abuse of minors. This is because JSMP has shown that almost all of the district courts predominantly deal with cases of gender based violence in comparison with other cases.

JSMP has observed that the MPs welcomed the delivery of this report; however they also took issue with the application of suspended sentences in cases of corruption involving members of the executive and the lack of adequate administrative sanctions by the court to stand down those who commit corruption from their positions.

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