



Press Release
28 April 2020

Celebration of the XIX Anniversary: JSMP Launches its Institutional Report and Swearing In of the New Executive Director of JSMP

28 April 2020 marks the **XIX** Anniversary of JSMP, and to commemorate this anniversary JSMP will also launch an Institutional Report and the Swearing In of the Executive Director Ms. Ana Paula Marçal for a period of four years by the President of the JSMP Board, Mr. Joaquim da Costa Freitas. Meanwhile, Mr. Casimiro dos Santos will assume the role of Program Manager, and will be responsible for program management, finances, and human resources.

“Despite the Covid-19, JSMP is continuing its work to ensure justice for all, whilst respecting the State of Emergency and compliance with existing rules, and JSMP is also continuing to ensure the prevention of Covid-19”, said Joaquim da Costa Freitas, President of the JSMP Board.

For a long time JSMP has always been led by men, and this is the first time JSMP will be led by a woman. This change is based on a succession plan within the institution since 2015, which allows for women to progress. Currently there are four women and two men who assume key positions in JSMP. This change acknowledges the capacity of women to hold strategic positions within the institution.

The JSMP anniversary in 2020 will be different to previous years. This year JSMP is only launching its 2019 Institutional Report to present its achievements during the 2019 financial year and to commemorate the JSMP anniversary, with consideration of the Covid-19 outbreak which has had an impact around the world. The Overview of the Justice Sector Report (OJS) and Parliamentary Watch Report for 2019 will be launched in the near future.

“The achievements noted in this report have been made possible due to the contribution and hard work of all staff, including JSMP partners. Therefore on behalf of JSMP we wish to thank all parties who have contributed to this success, particularly donors such as the Australian Embassy or DFAT in Timor-Leste which is supported through the Governance for Development (GfD) Agency, the Asia Foundation (TAF), The Government of Timor-Leste through the Civil Society Support Office, Office of the Prime Minister, the Norwegian Government through HIVOS and Friends Against Domestic Violence in Timor--Leste Inc and the Canadian Embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia”, said

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Casimiro dos Santos, Acting Executive Director of JSMP.

The Institutional Report provides a summary of JSMP activities conducted throughout 2019 with the financial support of donors, and reports on JSMP collaboration with national and international organisations. In this report JSMP has also described the financial support given by donors to justify accountability to the public.

Also, in this report JSMP describes how in 2019 it has managed to monitor 493 criminal cases and 11 civil cases in all the courts. In the legislative sector, JSMP has managed to monitor 64 plenary sessions from a total of 80 plenary sessions and 33 meetings of Committee A.

In terms of advocacy, JSMP has written 10 opinions and analysis and legislative research and has met with and handed over 6 submissions to the National Parliament, including meeting with and submitting an opinion to the Legislative Reform Committee. In addition, JSMP also provided training to 22 rural communities and students from 3 secondary schools. JSMP also produced 45 case summaries, 1 thematic report and 3 annual reports, 48 press releases, 96 newspaper articles, 2 radio programs, 4 TV programs and 2 bulletins.

JSMP will continue to strengthen its relationship with local and international partners. JSMP hopes that with their support, as well as the support of donors, JSMP will be able to continue its work in the future and achieve even better results and progress.

As a result of the Covid-19 outbreak, JSMP did not invite key partners, the Government, Parliament, the Courts, Donors, Civil Society and the media to celebrate JSMP's XIX anniversary and swearing in ceremony. JSMP will launch its report online, and it can be accessed via JSMP's website: www.jsmp.tl

For more information, please contact:

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