



Press Release
13 December 2021
National Parliament

**National Parliament approves additional budget for the Office of the
Public Defender**
JSMP praises the good will of the members of parliament

On 9 December 2021 the National Parliament through a plenary meeting held a discussion and special vote on the the 2022 State Budget and managed to approve the additional budget for the Office of the Public Defender via a special vote on the budget of the Ministry of Justice.

The draft additional budget for the Office of the Public Defender in 2022 totals US\$245,000.00 divided into the categories of goods and services totaling US\$100,000.00 and line items such as local trips, payment of debts, maintenance of vehicles, office supplies. Meanwhile USD\$145,000.00 is for minor capital that is divided into line items, namely the purchase of vehicles and acquisition of equipment and furniture for the new building for Public Defenders in Bobonaro and Ermera Municipalities.

“JSMP praises the consideration and good will of the members of parliament who were the proponents of this proposal as well as all MPs who approved the additional proposal for the Office of the Public Defender because it is very important and necessary. These additional funds can respond to some difficulties that the Office of the Public Defender has been facing for many years, especially facilities and maintenance,” said the Executive Director of JSMP, Ana Paula Marçal.

JSMP urges the members of parliament to continue giving consideration to voting in favor of other additional proposals from judicial institutions, namely the courts, the Public Prosecution Service, the Anti-Corruption Commission and Police Forensic and Criminal Investigations Unit that have been submitted to the Parliament by MPs who are the proponents of these proposals.

Another two proposals (proposals no. 51 and 52 on additional funds for goods and services and minor capital for the Office of the Public Defender) were put forward by MP Joaquim dos Santos, MP Francisco de Vasconcelhos and MP Luis Roberto da Silva.

For more information, please contact:

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