



Press Release
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JSMP Launches its 2019 Annual Reports Progress and challenges in the justice and legislative sectors

Like previous years, the Judicial System Monitoring Programme (JSMP) is launching its annual reports that provide an overview of the justice and legislative sectors. This year JSMP is also launching its 2019 annual reports to publish results relating to the monitoring of important developments, progress and challenges in the justice sector and also in the legislative sector to inform relevant entities and the public. This is a way to contribute towards improving and strengthening these two important sectors.

“JSMP hopes that these two reports can provide useful information to the public in general and particularly to the relevant State organs and institutions. JSMP also hopes that relevant institutions can consider the recommendations in this report to improve the functioning of the formal justice sector and legislative sector in the future,” said Ms. Ana Paula Marçal, Executive Director of JSMP.

The Overview of the Justice Sector Report outlines progress achieved and challenges faced in the justice sector, describes cases tried at the courts, such as crimes of domestic violence, rape, and crimes relating to the exercise of public functions that have been dealt with by the courts. The final part of this report includes statistics about cases heard by the district courts and the Court of Appeal during 2019.

Meanwhile the Parliamentary Watch Report provides information that JSMP has gathered during 2019, specifically, critical observations about the political situation in Timor-Leste, the productivity of the parliament in 2019, progress and challenges relating to legislative work including the punctuality of members of parliament.

Other issues included removing the immunity of members of the National Parliament as set out in the Rules of Procedure of the National Parliament as well as issues relating to the functioning of the National Parliament, including issues such as cancelling visits of the President of the Republic overseas and the rejection of the 2020 State Budget by the National Parliament.

The report concludes with several important and relevant recommendations that are addressed directly to the competent and relevant organs and institutions for their consideration.

JSMP acknowledges that the timing of the launch of these two reports does not coincide with previous years because of the Covid-2019 situation that has affected the entire

world, including Timor-Leste. However, JSMP has an ongoing commitment to launch these reports online and will not involve its partners.

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