



Press Release
17 April 2020

JSMP requests for the competent entities to ensure that funds for Covid-19 are executed in accordance with the law

On 2 April 2020 the National Parliament, via an extraordinary plenary meeting, approved Draft Law No. 13/V (2nd) authorizing an extraordinary transfer from the Petroleum Fund totalling US\$ 250 million.

These funds are for expenses relating to Covid-19 prevention, for the General State Account/Treasury, and for the development of policies and programs within the scope of preventing and combatting Covid-19. This law was promulgated by the President of the Republic on 7 April 2020.

“JSMP considers that these funds are crucial and urgent to ensure the functioning of the machinery of the State, and to specifically combat Covid-19 which is a major threat to the nation. Therefore, JSMP requests for the competent entities such as the National Parliament and the Anti-Corruption Commission (KAK) to exert maximum oversight to ensure that these funds are executed in accordance with the law and so that Covid-19 can be combatted effectively”, said Casimiro dos Santos, Acting Executive Director of JSMP.

To ensure proper and effective oversight, JSMP suggests for the National Parliament to create an Ad Hoc Committee with a specific focus, and for the KAK to establish a task force made up of members from relevant institutions.

JSMP reminds those relevant parties who are going to carry out this work to continue adhering to the mechanisms and rules for the prevention of Covid-19, to avoid endangering themselves or the nation.

From a total budget of US\$ 250 million that has been approved by the National Parliament, US\$ 150 million will be allocated to finance prevention measures and to combat COVID-19 under the COVID-19 Fund, US\$ 100 million for the General State Account/Treasury and US\$ 500 thousand to the National Parliament to develop policies and programs for preventing and combatting COVID-19. US\$ 150 million from the fund will be used to purchase medicine, medical equipment and materials, facilities and maintenance for locations used for quarantine

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and isolation, training and mobilization of professionals involved in preventing and combatting COVID-19 and social protection for victims of Covid-19.

Under this program the entity responsible for these funds is the Management Council which will be managed by members of Government from finance and health, and these funds will be regulated by the Government via a specific law.

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