



**Press Release**  
**22 November 2021**  
**National Parliament**

**JSMP urges the National Parliament to approve the additional proposals from the Courts, the Public Prosecution Service, the Office of the Public Defender, the Anti-Corruption Commission and the Police Forensic and Criminal Investigations in the 2022 State Budget**

Committee A of the National Parliament held a public consultation with State public institutions to hear their thoughts on the budget plan for each institution for 2022 and also progress regarding the execution of the 2021 general budget. These institutions are the courts, the Public Prosecution Service, Office of the Public Defender, the Anti-Corruption Commission (CAC) and Police Forensic and Criminal Investigations (PSIK).

During the consultation, representatives from these five institutions also conveyed their concerns about the budget package that they require which was not included in the report of the Budget Review Commission that impacts on the implementation of activities within the five institutions for 2022, especially for minor capital and goods and services.

“JSMP believes that it is important for the National Parliament to consider approving the additional proposals from the courts, the Public Prosecution Service, the Office of the Public Defender, the CAC and the PSIK, to assist these institutions to carry out their work more effectively in the field of justice, especially to ensure access to formal justice for all persons”, said the Executive Director of JSMP Ana Paula Marçal.

JSMP also believes that the support and political good will of the Parliament should not just be “political rhetoric” linked to judicial sector reform programs but should take the form of concrete political action by allocating sufficient funds to these institutions to help them function and implement their activities effectively.

The budget proposal for the courts for 2022 totalled US\$7,091,187.00 which will be split into budget lines under the categories of salaries and wages US\$3,606,288.00, goods and services US\$2,602,899.00 and capital and development US\$882,000.00 and the additional proposal from the courts totalled US\$900,000.00 with the budget line of minor capital which will be allocated to court equipment such as photocopiers, recording equipment for simultaneous recording, IT equipment, cannon cameras, projects, water pumps and the acquisition of furniture for the courts.

The 2022 budget proposal for the Public Prosecution Service totalled US\$4,087,573.00 split into budget lines under the categories of salaries and wages US\$2,480,498.00, goods and services US\$1,206,475.00 and capital and development US\$400,600.00 and the additional proposal from the Public Prosecution Service totalled US\$328,000.00 for the budget line of goods and services US\$130,000.00 which will be allocated for the maintenance of district residences, the provision of operational services and attendance

in international meetings overseas and US\$198.000.00 for minor capital to purchase electronic equipment, furniture and also to purchase a car for the Deputy Prosecutor.

The 2022 budget proposal for the Office of the Public Defender totalled UDS\$783.282.00 which will be split into the categories of goods and services USD\$100,000.00 for local trips, the payment of debts, the maintenance of vehicles, and the provision of office materials. Capital minor USD\$145,000.00 will be distributed for the purchase of vehicles and the acquisition of furniture and equipment for the Offices of the Public Defender in Bobonaro and Ermera, and capital and development USD\$538,282.00 will be allocated for the construction of a new building for the Office of the Public Defender in Viqueque and the preparation of a design and BOQ for the central building of the Office of the Public Defender.

The additional budget proposal for the Police Forensic and Criminal Investigations (PSIK) for 2022 totalled USD\$137,079.00 which will be allocated for minor capital for the acquisition of equipment and furniture, IT equivalent, photocopiers, UPS and other equipment to facilitate the work of the PSIK in the future.

The budget proposal for the Anti-Corruption Commission (CAC) for 2022 totalled US\$1,884,440.00 which will be split into budget lines under the categories of salaries and wages US\$973,966.00, goods and services US\$878,834.00 and minor capital US\$67,640.00 and the additional proposal from the CAC totalled US\$748,416.00 for the budget line of minor capital to purchase IT equipment for registration and for goods and services to pay advisors and technicians to help other investigators including transport allowances for managers.

Meanwhile, the other institutions that fall under the responsibility of Committee A have also submitted their additional proposals, namely the Ministry of State Administration, the Civil Society Support Office, CHEGA, Resistance Archives, CNE and STAE.

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