



MINING

[Approval of areas for mineral exploration and mining](#)

According to Resolution No. 35/2022, of 16 December 2022, the Government approved the areas to be dedicated to mining activities, as well as the terms of reference for the opening of a tender to award mining rights for exploration and production of construction materials in the three concession areas proposed by the Minister.

CUSTOMS

[Amendment to the Customs Code](#)

Considering the ongoing process for accession to the World Trade Organization and the inherent requirements for national legislation to be in line with the rules of said organization, the Government approved, by means of Decree-Law No. 87/2022, of 14 December 2022, the first amendment to the Customs Code, that approved a new Table 1 on the customs value of imported goods.

ENVIRONMENT

Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change has been ratified

The National Parliament, through Resolution No. 1/2023 of 25 January 2023, ratified the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, adopted in Doha on 8 December 2012.

Approved schedule for waste disposal in the Municipality of Dili

Ministerial Diploma No. 4/2023, of 1 February 2023, approved the Municipal Regulation on the waste disposal schedule of the Municipality of Dili. According to this Regulation, all holders and producers are responsible for the packing of urban residues, which can only be disposed of daily between 0h00 and 06h00.

Rules for the registration and licensing of chainsaws defined

Aiming at the promotion of the protection and conservation of forests and forest resources, Ministerial Order No. 64/DM/MAP/XI/2022, of 21 December 2022, establishes the rules for the registration of non-electric chainsaw machines, as well as the rules regarding the licensing to carry and use chainsaw machines.

HEALTH

Amendment of the Law on the Exercise of Health Professions

In order to increase the level of demand for obtaining a professional license, as well as the qualifications of health professionals, and to improve the quality of the health care provided, the Government, by means of Decree-Law No. 88/2022, 14 December 2022, approved the third amendment to Decree-Law No. 14/2004, 1 September 2004, on the Exercise of Health Professions. Henceforth the independent exercise of a health profession depends on the professional's prior registration with the Ministry of Health, and on the individual holding a professional card, granted under the rules set forth in this statute.

STATE

Timor Digital 2032 Strategic Plan Approved

By means of Resolution No. 4/2023, of 8 February 2023, the Government approved the National Strategic Plan for the Development of Digital and Information and Communication Technologies from 2022 to 2032 (Timor Digital 2032), also establishing the entities, plans and mechanisms for its execution. The main objective of this plan is to establish a framework that allows Timor-Leste to successfully develop digital and information and communication technologies, especially in key areas such as governance, health and education. The Agency for Information and Communication Technologies, I.P. (TIC TIMOR) is the entity responsible for implementing the Plan, being its execution coordinated by the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.

Creation of Millennium Challenge Account-Timor-Leste, I.P.

Under the agreement with the State of Timor-Leste, the Millennium Challenge Corporation will provide funds to Timor-Leste for the implementation of two projects related to education and water disposal and treatment in Dili. In this context, Decree-Law No. 96/2022 of 30 December 2022, established the Millennium Challenge Account - Timor-Leste, I.P., a public legal entity under the indirect administration of the State, in the form of a public institute with administrative, patrimonial and financial autonomy, whose responsibility is to coordinate and monitor the implementation of the Compact Agreements.

Date for the Parliamentary elections

The President of the Republic established, through Decree No. 9/2023, of 13 February 2023, that the election of the new Members of Parliament will take place on 21 May 2023.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Establishment of the Copyright and Related Rights Code

The National Parliament approved Law No. 14/2022, of 21 December 2022, setting forth the Copyright and Related Rights Code. This Law mainly aims at the protection of literary, artistic and scientific works, as well as the copyrights of their authors, artists, producers of phonograms and video grams and broadcasting organizations, thus aiming to stimulate

the creation and production of intellectual work in the areas of literature, art and science.

BUDGET

Approval of the General State Budget for 2023

The General State Budget for 2023 was approved by the National Parliament through Law No. 15/2022, of 21 December 2022. According to this statute, the State of Timor-Leste foresees a total of USD 2,089,061,835\$ in revenues to finance State expenses, of which USD 1,346,090,000\$ are petroleum revenues and USD 453,910,000\$ are nonpetroleum revenues. This statute also includes the rules applicable to the Social Security Budget for 2023.

Execution of the General State Budget for 2023

Due to the approval of the State Budget for 2023, by Law No. 15/2022, of 21 December 2022, and aiming to ensure effective and rigorous budget control, as well as simplifying budget execution procedures, the Government, through Decree-Law No. 1/2023 of 25 January 2023, established the rules for the execution of the State Budget for 2023. This statute applies to the Central Administration Budget, to the Budget of the Special Administrative Region of Oe-Cusse Ambeno and to the Social Security Budget.

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