

UNDP Timor-Leste **ELECTORAL PROJECT**

Newsletter

September 2017 | Issue 8

POLITICAL UPDATES

Timor-Leste's Fourth Legislative Parliament Session Begins



The electoral processes for the 2017 National Elections ended with the Swearing-In Ceremony of 65 Members of Parliament that took place on 5th September. 36.9% of the Members in a Unicameral Legislature are represented by female, which is highest in Asia. The electoral processes started in May with the formation of coalitions of political parties and submission of list of candidates by parties contesting the elections through closed and blocked-list of Proportional Representation System. Out of the 20 political parties and one coalition, only five political parties- FRETILIN, CNRT, PLP, PD and KHUNTO surpassed 4% threshold in the election to obtain seats in the Parliament.

UNDP Electoral Project- LEARN supported the Election Management Bodies of Timor-Leste- National Commission for Elections (CNE) and Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration (STAE) in every step of the electoral process- electoral legal framework, capacity building, voter education, operations and

logistics and national tabulation, for the successful conduct of National Elections.

As per the internal rules and procedures of the National Parliament, the members elected among themselves the President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary and Vice-Secretaries of the National Parliament who are responsible for the orderly running of the chamber. These positions are pivotal to parliamentary democracy and elected should have the dignity to represent the House in all its manifestations. The first session of a newly elected legislature will take place on 15th September.

For more information on the internal rules and regulations of the Parliament follow the link below for Regimento do Parlamento Nacional da República Democrática de Timor-Leste: <http://www.parlamento.tl/constituicao.php>



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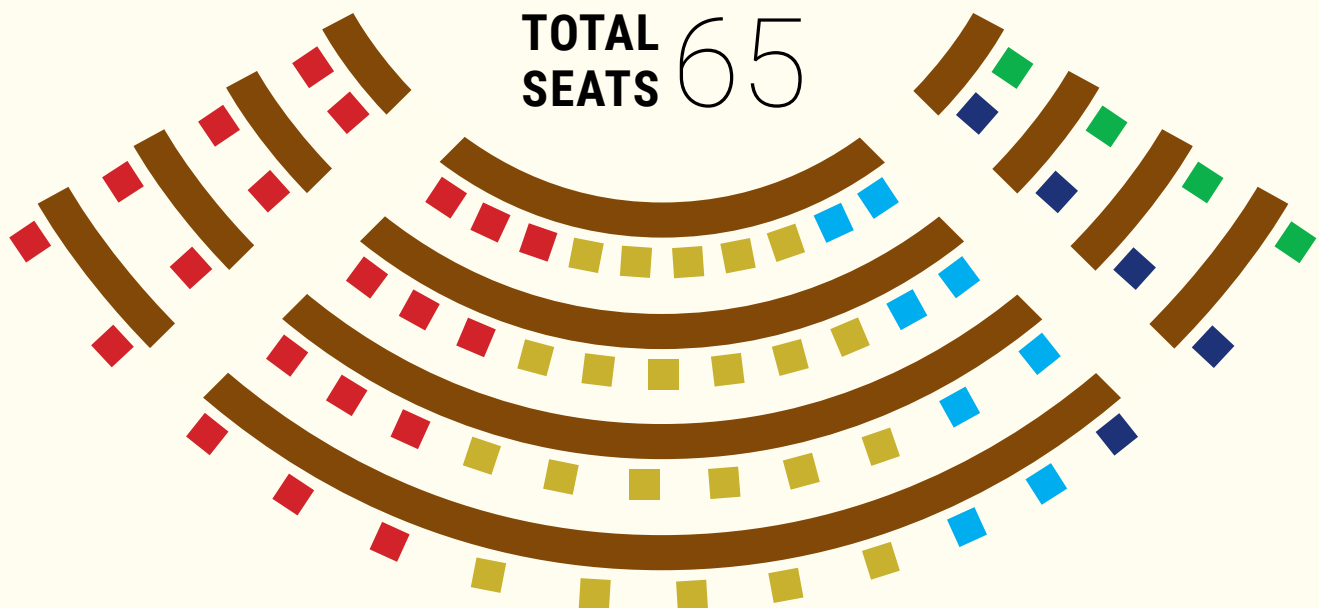


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FACTSHEET

National Parliament 2017, Timor-Leste



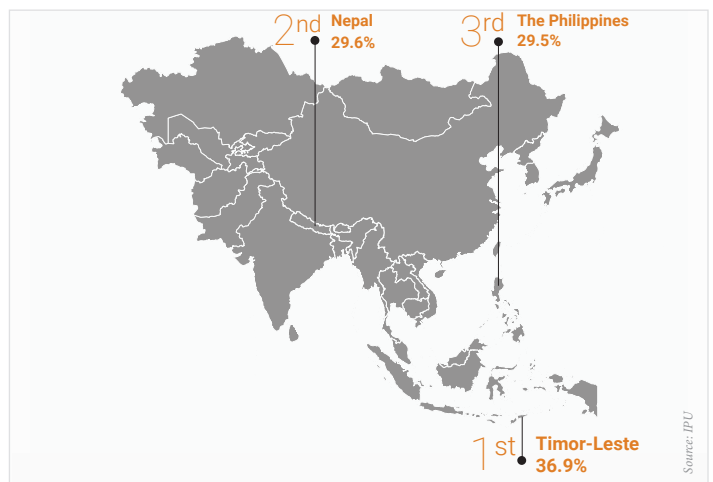
Party	Seats	Men	Women
FRETILIN	23 Seats	13	10
CNRT	22 Seats	15	7
PLP	8 Seats	5	3
PD	7 Seats	5	2
KHUNTO	5 Seats	3	2

Women representation is based on list as of 11 September 2017 presented by the National Parliament and subject to change after the formation of government and first session of the elected parliament.

GENDER DISTRIBUTION IN PARLIAMENT



WOMEN REPRESENTATION IN PARLIAMENT IN ASIA



National Parliament Approves Formation of Standing Committees



On 11th September, National Parliament through its Plenary Session established seven Standing Committees (*Comissões Especializadas*) that are specialized in specific areas of governance. These Committees, which are provided below are crucial for Parliament to function and requires the members to exceptionally handle diverse and complex range of

issues. Whereas Parliament is responsible for passing laws, it would be cumbersome to deal with every issue raised in the chamber. Therefore, Standing Committees can support in correcting any deficiency as it has the power to summon or question experts before the Parliament take any action.

Standing Committee A: Constitutional Affairs and Justice (11 members)

Standing Committee B: Defense and Security (9 Members)

Standing Committee C: Public Finance (11 Members)

Standing Committee D: Economic and Development (10 Members)

Standing Committee E: Infrastructure, Trade and Industry (9 Members)

Standing Committee F: Education, Health and Social Affairs (9 Members)

Standing Committee G: Citizenship, Youth, Gender Equality and Culture (7 Members)

Formation of Government for a Five-Year Term Agreed



The President of the Republic as per the Constitution invited the most voted party FRETILIN winning 23 seats to form the Government. According to the Constitution, "the Prime Minister shall be nominated by the most voted party or alliance of parties with parliamentary majority and appointed by the President of the Republic, after the consultation with the political parties representing in the National Parliament".

In such situation, FRETILIN initiated the negotiation with other four political parties and an agreement was finally reached with PD and KHUNTO having seven and

five seats respectively to form a coalition Government. Although CNRT with 22 seats in the parliament is likely to support the government and its proposed programmes, PLP with eight seats determined to perform a role of an opposition.

It is also likely that that the VII Government will be formed before the first session of the National Parliament (15th September). The Government will then put together a Program of Government that outlines their agenda that would like to pursue.

PROJECT UPDATES

A Transparent Process: Election Results Published Online

Publication of election results should guarantee greater transparency and accountability by the Election Management Bodies. To ensure such achievement, National Commission for Elections (CNE) published the Legal Documentation of the Election Results (Actas Eleitorais) in their website that gives access to Actas Eleitorais of 843 polling centres in the country (12 municipalities, 1 autonomous region of Oe-Cusse) and 6 cities of out of country voting. UNDP Electoral Project-LEARN assisted the CNE to publish the results in their website and can be viewed through the following link for more information: <http://www.cne.tl/eleisaun-parlamentar-2017>



PSA Produced to Promote Community Radios

UNDP Electoral Project- LEARN has produced a Public Service Announcement to promote the community radios of Aileu, Dili, Liquica, Manatuto and Maubisse as part of the political journalism component. These community radios are developing and broadcasting programmes on civic education in Tetum and local languages. As part of capacity building initiative, the project also trained young journalists of these community radios to produce and broadcast contents on civic education. For more information please refer to the promotional poster and watch the video in the link below. This activity is conducted in collaboration with Okinawa Peace Assistance Center (OPAC).



Link to the PSA: <https://youtu.be/NvMJpbSmwIk>

A Video on Electoral Cycle Produced

A video has been produced showing each process of the electoral cycle from Suco Elections of 2016 to National Elections of 2017 (Presidential and National Parliament) that have been supported by UNDP Electoral Project-LEARN. The support is part of the project's mandate for electoral assistance to the Election Management Bodies (EMBs) of Timor-Leste for institutional strengthening and social inclusion focusing on youth, women and people with disabilities. This video captures moments of each element of the electoral cycle that are deemed necessary to be accomplished and could be a solid resource for people, donors, stakeholders for obtaining information on the electoral process.



Link to the video: <https://youtu.be/J6gqmy9M33s>

NATIONAL PARLIAMENT - IV LEGISLATURE

Members of Parliament

President of the Parliament: Aniceto Longuinhos Guterres Lopes (M), FRETILIN

Vice-President: Julio Sarmento da Costa “Meta Malik” (M), PD

Vice-President: António Verdial de Sousa (M), KHUNTO

Secretary: Lúcia Norberta dos Santos Martins (F), FRETILIN

Vice-Secretary: Angélica da Costa (F), FRETILIN

Vice-Secretary: Elvina Sousa Carvalho (F), PD

FRETILIN – 23 seats

Maria Anabela Sávio (F)
Francisco Miranda Branco (M)
Josefa Álvares Pereira Soares (F)
Joaquim dos Santos (M)
Ilda Maria da Conceição (F)
Noémia Sequeira (F)
Aurélio Freitas Rebeiro (M)
Cidália Mesquita Ximenes (F)
David Dias Ximenes “Mandati” (M)
José Agostinho Sequeira “Somotxo” (M)
Florentina da Conceição Pereira Martins Smith (F)
Antoninho Bianco (M)
Osório Florindo da Conceição Costa (M)
Maria Angélica Rangel da Cruz dos Reis (F)
António dos Santos (M)
Dário Madeira (M)
Gabriela Alves (F)
Silvino Adolfo Morais (M)
Domingos Sávio Cabral Ribeiro (M)
Fausto Freitas da Silva (M)

CNRT – 22 seats

Arão Noe De J. DA C. Amaral (M)
Firmino Taequi (M)
Bentida Moniz Magno (F)
Adérito Hugo Da Costa (M)
Domingos Carvalho De Araújo (M)
Virgínia Ana Belo (F)
Jacinto Rigoberto Gomes De Deus (M)
Natalino Dos Santos Nascimento (M)
Carmelita Caetano Moniz (F)
Ricardo Baptista (M)
Jacinto Viegas Vicente (M)

Brígida Antonia Correia (F)
Vicente Da Silva Guterres (M)
Duarte Nunes (M)
Maria Fernanda Lay (F)
Domingos Lopes Lemos (M)
Eduardo De Deus Barreto “Dusae”(M)
Maria Rosa Da Camara “Bi Soi” (F)
Patrocino Fernnades Dos Reis (M)
Virgílio Pereira (M)
Albina Marçal Freitas (F)
Leandro Lobato (M)

PLP – 8 seats

Signi Chandrawati Verdial (F)
Fidelis Manuel Leite Magalhães (M)
Rosalina Ximenes (F)
Abrão José Freitas (M)
Demétrio do Amaral de Carvalho (M)
Maria Angelina Lopes Sarmento (F)
Abel Pires da Silva (M)
Mericio Juvinal dos Reis (M)

PD – 7 seats

Mariano Sabino Lopes “Assanami” (M)
Ernesto Fernandes “Dudu” (M)
Adriano do Nascimento (M)
Maria Teresa da Silva Gusmão (F)
Manuel Tomas Amaral de Carvalho (M)

KHUNTO – 5 seats

Armanda Berta dos Santos (F)
Olinda Guterres (F)
José Agostinho da Silva (M)
Luis Roberto da Silva (M)

List of Members of Parliament as of 11 September 2017 presented by the National Parliament and subject to change after the formation of government and its first session.

Political Commitment and Basis for Understanding FRETILIN, PD AND KHUNTO PARTY

Whereas,

1. Since 2000, with UNTAET, Timorese together began the construction of the State.
2. In the last five years, with an inclusive political environment among all political actors represented in the National Parliament, Timor-Leste has seen its own political situation with enormous improvements achieved with the strengthening of peace and stability, creating conditions for the national development.
3. This was also possible because of the solid basis of parliamentary support that the Fifth (V) and the Six (VI) Constitutional Government benefited from the platform of understanding between the political party coalition and the new political stance initiated by FRETILIN, translated into successive positive and constructive acts of parliamentary influence.
4. During the National Parliament Election, none of the political party gained absolutely majority.
5. Interpretation of the electoral results shows that the electorate has voted for peace and stability, and that it is necessary to guarantee the continuity of a broad political understanding among political parties to ensure the stability of the country, an indispensable condition for the process of development and social and economic inclusion- to achieve the national cause of poverty reduction and to the building a more balanced and fair society.
6. Timor-Leste young democracy must contribute to the creation of a new democratic culture with strict respect to the meaning of vote and always recognizing the right to rule by the first most voted political party in collaboration with other parties representing the parliament and the living forces of the National and International Society.
7. To this end, it is mandatory to create a solid base for parliamentary understanding to guarantee a stable Seventh Constitutional Government.

In view of this,

- a. Respecting the formal positions of the CNRT, assumed in the form of a Resolution approved in the National Conference as well as in public statements made by its President and other members of the Leadership,
- b. Also respecting the positions taken successively during and over the last weeks by the PLP and its President

FRETILIN, Democratic Party (PD) and KHUNTO decided to form a political party alliance to serve as a basis for the dynamic consultation and taking permanent positions in the National Parliament during the IV Legislature and for the stability of the Seventh Constitutional Government, on the following principles:

- I. To guarantee a stable government throughout the IV legislature of 2017-2022;
- II. Promote together a Government Program taking into account the FRETILIN Program, as the most voted political Party;

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- III. Constitute a platform to support the Government in the National Parliament and within the Timorese and international society;
- IV. Sharing responsibilities at the table of the National Parliament and the Government as well as in the whole process of inclusive and participatory governance;
- V. To contribute and support the candidatures presented by FRETILIN to the President of the Republic and for all the representative members of the political parties to compose the Board of the National Parliament;
- VI. To recognize that it is incumbent upon FRETILIN to nominate the Prime Minister and, the incumbent upon the Prime Minister to initiate and direct the entire formation process of being the sole Chief of Government and the President of the Council of Ministers;
- VII. Ensure balanced national development, gender equality and social inclusion, to combat asymmetries between urban and rural areas;
- VIII. To combat corruption, collusion and common nepotism with determination;
- IX. To guarantee the creation of conditions to set clear directions for the consolidation of the State of Democratic Rights and of the National Structural Policies of the country and, all matters not foreseen in this Agreement will be opened through mutual consultation;
- X. Prepare and ensure the generational transition for National Leadership.

4th September 2017

Signatures of political representatives.
 Pela FRETILIN
 Pelo PD
 Pelo KHUNTO

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UNDP Leveraging Electoral Assistance for Regionalized Nation-Building (LEARN)
 UN House, Caicoli Street, Dili, Timor-Leste | Phone: +670 3311220

PROJECT TEAM MEMBERS

Andrés del Castillo	Chief Technical Adviser	Georgete Gomes	Admin and Finance Officer
Giovanni D’Amato	Senior Electoral Adviser	Teresinha Cardoso	Social Inclusion Officer
Anna Lisa Picone	Legal Advisor for CNE	Candida Moniz	Finance and Admin Assistant
Yuichi Ishida	Communication Analyst	Tito Ximenes	Civic/ Voter Education Officer
Juan Andrés Mussini	ICT & Database specialist	Shinichiro Monjo	Visual Media Consultant
Hemant Pathak	Election Reporting/M&E Officer	Cosme Boavida	Driver/ Administration Clerk
Rochan Kadariya	Electoral Graphic Designer	Nuno Ram	Driver/ Communication Asst
Sangeun Yeo	Youth Engagement Officer		

RONA RADIO COMUNIDADE

HODI ASESU INFORMASAUN



- Comoro, Dili **94.1 MHz**
- Tokodede, Liquica **92.3 MHz**
- Mauloko, Maubisse **89.7 MHz**
- Rai Husar, Aileu **87.9 MHz**
- Ili-Wai, Manatutu **96.1 MHz**



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