

UNDP Timor-Leste **ELECTORAL PROJECT**

Newsletter

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POLITICAL UPDATES

VII Constitutional Government decreed by the President of Republic

The President of Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, Francisco Guterres 'Lu-Olo' has signed the decree to nominate Mari Alkatiri as the Prime Minister of the VII Government. Mari Alkatiri was nominated for a five-year term (2017-2022) after his party FRETILIN and PD having 23 and seven seats in the Parliament respectively agreed to form a coalition government. KHUNTO party who was also in the coalition before the commencement of the IV Parliament decided to pull out citing internal problems.

The President after the nomination stated that the people of Timor-Leste wants development and election results has shown support for dialogue between political parties to help country move forward. As Alkatiri is formally leading a minority government, he is convinced that other political parties will join for a stable government. Earlier, the leaders of FRETILIN and PD who signed the coalition agreement is based on nine points that includes establishing a support to the Parliament, Government Programme and Stability of the Government.

Highlights of the Agreement:

- Share responsibilities in the government in an inclusive and participatory governance.
- Defining the training of the members of the government based on principles of merit, effectiveness and efficiency, proportional and gender equality.



- Prime Minister given the authority to select his members of the government and its structure.
- Ensuring balanced National Development and combating disparities between rural and urban areas.
- Combating corruption, collusion and nepotism.
- Ensuring the creation and setting clear directions for the consolidation of the democracy, rule of law and national policies.
- Establishing broad policy of understanding between the political parties for peace and stability.

Mari Alkatiri and his members of the government have taken the oath of office and secrecy from the President of the Republic at President Palace on 15th September. The first session of the IV National Parliament chaired by the President also took place on the same day.



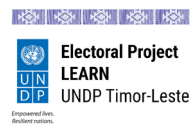
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VII Constitutional Government

(as of 15 September 2017)

- **Mari Alkatiri:** Prime Minister,
Minister for Development and Institutional Reform,
Head of the Special Areas of Social Market Economy in Timor (Ambeno and Atauro and four “special areas of development of national territory”) and infrastructure,
And temporarily Minister of Justice

Three out of four Ministers of State took oath today:

- **José Ramos-Horta:** Minister of State and Adviser to National Security,
- **Rui Araújo:** Minister of Health and temporarily Minister of Education
- **Estanislau da Silva:** Minister of Agriculture and temporarily Minister of Mineral Resources

Other Ministries:

- **Adriano Nascimento:** Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers,
- **Aurélio Guterres:** Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation,
- **Valentine Ximenes:** Minister of State Administration,
- **Rui Augusto Gomes:** Minister of Planning and Finance,
- **José Somotxo:** Minister of Defence,
- **António Da Conceição:** Minister of Trade and Industry,
- **Florentine Martins Smith:** Ministry of Social Solidarity,
- **Lourdes Bessa:** Vice Minister of Education

UNDP Leveraging Electoral Assistance for Regionalized Nation-Building (LEARN)

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