

ELECTION PROJECT



UNDP Timor-Leste | Newsletter | 13.02.2017 | Issue.4

Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

Electoral Calendar for the Presidential Elections

The President of Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste H.E. Taur Matan Ruak declared the dates for the Presidential Elections (both rounds) for 2017. The First round of presidential elections will take place on 20th March 2017. The President is elected through the system based on the majority of validly expressed votes, excluding blank votes. According to the legal framework, "Where no

candidate gets more than half of the votes, a second round shall take place on the 30th day following the first voting". Therefore, if needed, second round of elections will take place on 20th April 2017.

The Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration (STAE) has released the Operational Calendar for the Presidential elections after the announcement of the dates for 20th March 2017.

The Operational Calendar clearly provides the dates for each activity like submission of the candidacies to the President of the Supreme Court (STJ); time period to file an appeal against any candidate; the establishment of polling locations, electoral campaign period; activities for Election Day and post elections including counting of votes and publishing results; and other pre-requisite activities.



Credit: ©Yuichi Ishida /UNDP



Credit: ©Nuno Ram /UNDP

Nomination of Candidates

A total of eight persons submitted their candidacy for 2017 presidential elections in Timor-Leste, including one female candidate.

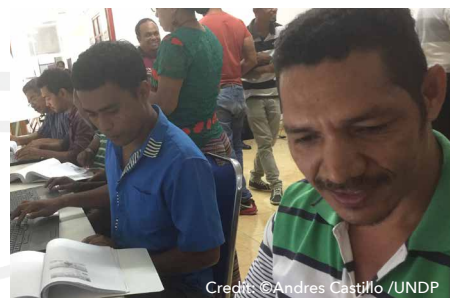
The candidates are:

- 1) Jose A.D. Neves
- 2) Amorim Vieira
- 3) Maria A.F. Silva
- 4) Antonio da Conceição
- 5) Antonio Maher Lopes
- 6) Francisco Guterres - Lu Olo
- 7) Jose Luis Guterres
- 8) Luis A. Tilman

will announce the candidates who have presented the complete requirements to participate in the elections.



STAE is verifying the document submitted. The Court of Appeal



Credit: ©Andres Castillo /UNDP

LEARN-Project Supports to the Production of Communication Materials

LEARN project has produced one minute video Public Service Announcement (PSA) as part of communication support to STAE. Following the operational calendar, the video provides information to the people for registering as a candidate for the upcoming Presidential elections on 20th March 2017. It also states the importance of being a citizen of the country to register as a candidate in democratic practices as the last day for

the registration is 5th February 2017.

The video was screened through LED in strategic places in Dili and is also uploaded in youtube channel and promoted through other

social media websites.

Similarly, as per the request from STAE, the project also supported producing banners for big hoarding boards in strategic locations of Dili. The hoarding boards exhibit information for citizen to file nomination as candidates before 5th January 2017 for the Presidential elections to be held on 20th March 2017. This activity also follows the operational calendar as prepared by STAE.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FxLVSwocpRs>



Credit: ©Yuichi Ishida /UNDP



Credit: ©Yuichi Ishida /UNDP

Senior Minister Visits UN to Seek Support for Elections



Credit: ©Andres Castillo /UNDP

Minister of State, Coordinator of State Administration Affairs and Justice and Minister of State Administration Mr.

Dionísio Babo Soares meet the United Nations Resident Coordinator Mr. Knut Ostby on 24th January to discuss

on the preparation for the upcoming presidential elections. Director-Geral of STAE Mr. Acilino Manuel Branco, Assistant Country Director/Head of Governance Unit of UNDP Mr. Mariano Duarte Quintao Carmo, and Chief Technical Advisor of Election Project of UNDP Mr. Andres Del Castillo were also present during the meeting giving updates and progress on the election preparation.

CNE Organised Workshop for Political Parties

Comissão Nacional de Eleições (CNE) organised a workshop with political parties, civil societies and other stakeholders on 13 January 2017. The objective of the workshop was to disseminate

information on electoral legal framework in the run up to the elections that will be conducted in 2017. This year, the country will organise both Presidential and Parliamentary elections in March and July

respectively. The event that took place at CNE premises was also attended by the representatives of UNDP LEARN Project staff.

CNE Appoints Staff for Conduct of Activities

Comissão Nacional de Eleições (CNE) organized an oath-taking ceremony of the new officials on 20th January 2017 at its premises. Directors, Chief of Departments and Municipal Representatives took the oath for supporting regular activities of CNE and upcoming elections. The President of CNE Dr. Alcino

Baris and President of Civil Service Commission Mr. Faustino Cardoso Gomes declared these officials into

office for serving the CNE. The LEARN project staff and other stakeholders were invited by CNE for this ceremony.



Credit: © Hemant Raj Pathak/UNDP

CNE HQ in Dili Inaugurated

The Prime Minister of Timor-Leste Dr. Rui Maria de Araújo inaugurated the building



Credit: © Andres Castillo/UNDP

of Comissão Nacional de Eleições (CNE) on 28th January 2017. The President of CNE Dr. Alcino Baris welcomed and appreciated the presence of the dignitaries highlighting the history of the construction of the building. The Prime Minister on behalf of the government relayed the importance of the establishment of the institution to safeguard democracy in the country

and is always committed to support CNE to fulfill their roles in electoral processes. The event took place in presence of many other dignitaries including Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão, Resident Coordinator of UN Mr. Knut Ostby, UNDP Country Director Mr. Claudio Providas including staff from the UNDP Electoral Project- LEARN.

New LEARN Project Staff



Hemant Raj Pathak

Working in the project as Election Reporting/Monitoring and Evaluation Officer. Previously, worked for Election Project in UNDP Nepal with portfolios on reporting, communications, M&E and Electoral Operations and Logistics.

Project team:

Andres / Giovanni / Emmi / Yuichi / Juan / Shinichiro / Tito / Hemant /

Georgete / Nuno / Cosme

Contact us

electoral_support_tl@undp.org

Working as National Finance and Administration Associate in the Project since December 2016. Previously, worked with several UNDP projects such as Peace Building Project, Support to Timor-Leste Electoral Cycle Project, and Pro Poor Policy unit.



Georgete Gomes



Tito Filipe

Working as Voter and Civic Education Consultant based in STAE. Previously, served as Communication Specialist at USAID project ba Distrito for the suco elections in 2016.

Graphic Design by: Yuichi Ishida / UNDP Timor-Leste

Graphic Pattern: Ruy Cinatti / Motivos Artísticos Timorense E A Sua Integração



CALENDAR FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

1- CALENDAR FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

Event	Legal Basis Law No. 7/2016	Date	Remarks	
SCHEDULING OF ELECTIONS				
1	The President schedules by decree the election date.	Art. 12, No. 1	16/01/2017	Published in the Official Gazette on 16/01/2017.
2	STAE publicizes the Calendar for Electoral Operations.	Art. 13	From 17 to 24/01/2017	Within 8 (eight) days from the publication of the decree announcing the date of election.
PRESENTATION OF CANDIDACIES AND APPEALS				
3	Submission of the candidacies to the President of the Supreme Court of Justice – STJ	Art. 16	Until 05/02/2017	Within a period of 20 (twenty) days from the date of publication of the decree scheduling the election day.
4	The STJ verifies the legitimacy of the process as well as the authenticity of the documents and the eligibility of the candidates.	Art. 19	As soon as the candidacies are submitted	STJ supported by STAE
5	Period of time to correct any irregularity upon notification of the President of the STJ to the representative of the candidate.	Art. 19, No. 4	Within 2 days upon notification	Upon detection of irregularities the representative of the candidate shall be immediately notified.
6	The STJ decides on the admission of candidacies.	Art. 19, No. 5	15/02/2017	Within 10 (ten) days from the end of time limit for presentation of candidacies, decision notified to all representative of the candidate, STAE and CNE.
7	Period of time to file an appeal against the decision of the STJ regarding the presentation of candidacies with the plenary of STJ.	Art. 20, No. 1	16/02/2017	Within 1 (one) day.
8	Decision of the Appeal	Art. 20, No. 3	18/02/2017	Within 2 (two) days from the end of the time limit for filing an appeal.
9	Candidacies definitely accepted shall be reported to CNE and STAE.	Art. 22	18/02/2017	
10	STAE shall promote the public disclosure of the candidacies that have been definitely accepted.	Art 22, No. 2	From 19 to 21/02/2017	Namely through the national radio and other media for 3 (three) consecutive days

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE POLLING CENTRES AND POLLING STATIONS				
11	STAE shall announce the number and location of polling centres and polling station.	Art 31, No. 3	18/02/2017	Until 30 (thirty) days before election day.
ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN				
12	Period of the Election Campaign	Art 27	From 03 to 17/03/2017	The electoral campaign shall last for 15 (fifteen) days and shall end 2 (two) days before the day scheduled for the election.
ELECTION (1st Round) AND TABULATION OF RESULTS				
13	Election Day (1 st Round)	Art 32	20/03/2017	
14	Starting the counting of the votes in the polling centres.	Art. 44, No. 1	20/03/2017	Immediately after the closing of the polling centre or polling station.
15	The minutes of the district tabulation together with other elements (claimed votes and any complaints concerning electoral procedures) shall be forwarded to CNE.	Art 45, No. 3	From 20 to 22/03/2017	The minutes of the district tabulation shall be transmitted to CNE up to 2 (two) days after election day. Copy of the minutes shall be sent to STAE
16	National Tabulation (CNE)	Art 46, No. 1	From 23 to 25/03/2017	The national tabulation shall be completed within 72 (seventy-two) hours.
17	CNE shall prepare the minutes of the provisional tabulation and shall post them at its headquarters, with copies sent to STAE and the national media.	Art. 46, No. 2	From 26 to 28/03/2017	The national tabulation shall be completed within 72 (seventy-two) hours.
18	Appeals against the provisional tabulation of the national results.	Art. 47, No. 1	29/03/2017	Within 24 (twenty-four) hours of the posting of the provisional results
19	Decisions of Appeal.	Art 47, No. 1	30/03/2017	STJ decides within 24 (twenty-four) hours
20	CNE shall forward the minutes of the tabulation of the national results to the STJ, with indication that no appeal has been filed.	Art 47, No. 2	30/03/2017	After the time limit for appeal has expired without any appeal being filed.
21	STJ shall proceed to the analysis of the documents forwarded by CNE and shall validate and proclaim the final results and announce the total number of registered voters and actual voters, of blank and null (invalid) and	Art. 48, No. 1	From 31/03/2017 to 02/04/2017	Within 72 (Seventy-two) Hours after reception of the documents by the STJ.

	valid votes assigned to each candidate.			
22	Publication in the Official Gazette (Journal da Republica) in agreement with the Court of Appeal.	Art. 48, No. 2	02/04/2017	
2nd ROUND				
23	President of the Court of Appeal issues a Notice indicating candidates for the second round of the Presidential Elections and proceeds to the drawing of candidacies to determine their order on the ballot paper	Art. 50	02/04/2017	
24	Period for Electoral Campaign	Art. 49	From 03 to 17/04/2017	Duration 15 days and ends 2 days before election day
25	Election Day: Second Round	Art. 49	20/04/2017	
26	Starting the counting of votes in polling centers and dispatch of ballot boxes for district tabulation	Art. 49	20/04/2017	Start immediately after closing of the polls
27	The minutes of the district tabulation together with other elements (claimed votes and any complaints concerning electoral procedures) shall be forwarded to CNE.	Art. 49	From 20 to 22/04/2017	The minutes of the district tabulation shall be transmitted to CNE up to 2 (two) days after election day. Copy of the minutes shall be sent to STAE
28	National Tabulation (CNE)	Art. 49	From 23 to 25/04/2017	The national tabulation shall be completed within 72 (seventy-two) hours.
29	CNE shall prepare the minutes of the provisional tabulation and shall post them at its headquarters, with copies sent to STAE and the national media.	Art. 49	From 26 to 28/04/2017	The national tabulation shall be completed within 72 (seventy-two) hours.
30	Appeals against the provisional tabulation of the national results.	Art. 49	29/04/2017	Within 24 (twenty-four) hours of the posting of the provisional results
31	Decisions of Appeal.	Art. 49	30/04/2017	STJ decides within 24 (twenty-four) hours
	CNE shall forward the minutes of the tabulation of the national results to the STJ, with indication that no appeal has been filed.	Art. 49	30/04/2017	After the time limit for appeal has expired without any appeal being filed.

32	STJ shall proceed to the analysis of the documents forwarded by CNE and shall validate and proclaim the final results and announce the total number of registered voters and actual voters, of blank and null (invalid) and valid votes assigned to each candidate.	Art. 49	From 01 to 03/05/2017	Within 72 (Seventy-two) Hours after reception of the documents by the STJ.
33	Publication in the Official Gazette (Journal da Republica) in agreement with the Court of Appeal.	Art. 49	03/05/2017	