



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF TIMOR-LESTE

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

ADDRESS BY

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRIME MINISTER

KAY RALA XANANA GUSMÃO

ON THE OCCASION OF THE SWEARING-IN OF MR. ABEL

DOS SANTOS FÁTIMA AS THE CIVIL SERVICE

COMMISSIONER

30 April 2012

Government Palace

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Your Excellency the President of the Civil Service Commission, Mr Libório Pereira,
Dear Commissioners,
Dear Commissioner Abel dos Santos Fátima,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On the 14th of August 2010, the Civil Service Commission started its activities with the swearing-in of its President, Mr. Libório Pereira, as well as the then Commissioners, Mr. Abel da Costa Ximenes and Ms. Maria Olandina Caeiro Alves.

As the latter went on to work at the Timorese consulate in Bali, she was replaced by Ms. Isabel da Costa Ferreira, whom I swore-in on June 9th 2011.

Today we must make a new change in the Civil Service Commission, since Mr. Abel da Costa Ximenes, in light of exclusively professional reasons, has requested to step down from office. I thank you, Mr. Abel da Costa Ximenes, for your dedication throughout these almost two years of your mandate, and I wish that you continue to have the greatest success in your already long career for the cause of the public service.

It is with great satisfaction that I swear-in today, as Civil Service Commissioner, a person for whom I have great consideration. This person has worked most of his life in positions of great responsibility in the area of Public Administration.

Indeed, Mr. Abel dos Santos Fátima needs no introductions, as his resume speaks for himself. Our Fatherland was still under Portuguese rule when he was already working as the Head of Post in Baguia.

Later on, during the Indonesian occupation, he performed several tasks within civil service, namely deputy Governor.

During UNTAET's mandate, after the Referendum that enabled the Timorese to gain their independence, Mr. Abel dos Santos Fátima was appointed administrator of the district of Manatuto. He remained in this position until 2002, when he moved to Cova Lima in order to hold the same position.

Since 2004, Mr. Abel dos Santos Fátima has kept himself active in seeking better public service delivery for the country, working as Director-General of the Secretariat of the Civil Service Commission. Today he leaves this office to take on a new challenge, with greater responsibilities.

His great experience, the knowledge he perfected throughout four decades, the moderation and common sense for which he is known, as well as his love for Timor-Leste and its People, will unquestionably enrich the Civil Service Commission and considerably facilitate its task to provide quality public services to the population.

This has been one of the main banners of the Fourth Constitutional Government, namely to create the required conditions so that any citizen who makes use of State services is well received with professionalism and efficiency.

We can only reach this goal if the State has good, competent, honest, disciplined and hard-working civil servants. It is urgent to ensure these qualities, which is why the Civil Service Commission was created.

And in this Commission we only want the most skilled and honest citizens, who work well in the service of Public Administration. This is why we are here today to swear-in Mr. Abel dos Santos Fátima, to whom, as well as to the other members of the Commission, I wish great success in this new stage of his life.

Thank you very much.

Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão
30 April 2012