



**DILI, APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2016** 

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## Meeting of the Council of Ministers of April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016

The Council of Ministers met this Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at the Government Palace in Dili, and approved:

1. Decree-Law approving the curriculum of the National Equivalence Programme for Basic Education

With this approval, it is intended to give a second chance to young people and adults (between 15 and 17 years) who need or want to complete basic schooling, ensuring equivalence to basic education. This law applies to public, private and cooperative education bodies (e.g. Community Learning Centres). The programme is characterized by flexibility, as well as by the guarantee of continuity, adapted to the particular situations of the persons for whom they are intended and the sociocultural context in which it is applied.

2. National Action Plan for the implementation of Resolution 1325 of the Security Council of the United Nations (Women, Peace and Security)

The Council of Ministers approved the National Action Plan, developed under the leadership of the Ministry of the Interior. The United Nations Entities based in Timor-Leste, representatives of Civil Society, women organizations, twelve ministries, donors, and other stakeholders were involved in drafting the plan. Taking into account the past armed-conflict in the country, in which women and children were the main victims, their participation to promote peace and security, the protection to human rights violations, access to justice and access to services to face discrimination is important.

The Council of Ministers also reviewed:

 Report on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The Secretariat of State for the Support and Socio-Economic Promotion of Women presented the recommendations of the Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) on legislative, judicial and administrative provisions applied in the country, based on the general report that comprises the period from 2009 to 2013, which included the contributions of CEDAW members and of Civil Society organizations, among others.

2. Legislative calendar

Following an earlier presentation, at the meeting of the Council of Ministers of February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016, the Secretary of State of the Council of Ministers reported on the current status of the ministerial legislative initiatives to be presented in the Council of Ministers during the March to June period. This calendar aims to organise the work and projects sent to the Council of Ministers.

3. Strategic Plan for Restructuring and Modernising the National Printing House

On the meeting of the Council of Ministers of February 23<sup>rd</sup>, a Government Resolution authorising the National Printing House (NPH) to produce and sell services to the public and private sectors was approved.

The investment in equipment has been done according to the requirements set out in the Strategic Plan for the Restructuring and Modernising of the National Printing House, funded from the General State Budget.

By 2017, it is expected to fully equip the NPH with high-tech equipment, fully enabling it to compete in the market.