Press Release

State of Emergency

Measures Relating to International Circulation

In view of the declaration of a state of emergency, a Government Decree listing the measures for implementation of the declaration of the state of emergency was approved at the Meeting of the Council of Ministers on March 28, 2020.

The measures adopted aim to prevent COVID-19, contain the pandemic, save lives and ensure the subsistence of supply chains of essential goods and services for our population, even though they may limit some fundamental rights and freedoms. These measures are taken with respect for constitutional limits and following the guidelines of the World Health Organization and the example of other States.

The state of emergency is in force between 00:00 hours on March 28, 2020 and 23:59 hours on April 26, 2020 and applies to the entire national territory.

Regarding international movement, the Government Decree prohibits the entry of foreigners into national territory, except for foreigners born in Timor-Leste, resident citizens and legal representatives of minors of Timorese nationality. The Prime Minister may exceptionally authorise the entry of foreigners, in duly substantiated cases, relating to the defence of the national interest or convenience of service. This prohibition does not apply to oil rig workers located in the Timor Sea.

Foreigners responsible for the transport of goods or release of imported goods must remain in the international zone of seaports, airports or land border posts.
All persons wishing to leave the country will be subject to health control, in particular by measuring body temperature or other means of diagnosis. Except in cases of medical evacuation, those who present symptoms of COVID-19, fever greater than 38º C, cough and/or breathing difficulties will be prevented from traveling and will be taken to a health facility to perform diagnostic tests of COVID-19.

All persons entering the country are required to be quarantined for at least 14 days and if they have symptoms of COVID-19 will have to be subject to diagnostic examination of COVID-19 and in positive cases will be subject to therapeutic isolation. ENDS