



**National Parliament Chair
GENERAL STATE BUDGET FOR 2014
PROPOSED LAW Nº 10/III (2ª)**

[Unofficial translation from Portuguese by La'ó Hamutuk. For more information on the 2014 budget, see <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE14/13OGE14.htm>]

GUIDE TO DISCUSSION AND VOTE (as amended 8 Jan 2014)

1 - DISCUSSION AND VOTING IN GENERAL

1.1 - The debate generally lasts for **three parliamentary days**, with no place at each plenary session for the period before the agenda.

1.2 - The general debate will occur on days ~~8, 9 and 10~~ **9, 10 and 11 (Saturday) January 2014**.

1.3 - The **Prime Minister** opens the debate by presenting the bill, and has 45 minutes, extendable by the Chair if necessary.

1.4 - The **parliamentary benches** produce initial interventions, providing the FRETILIN (Opposition) with 30 minutes, 15 minutes for CNRT, 10 minutes for PD and 5 minutes for Frente Mudansa.

1.5 — Proceeding to the presentation of the conclusions of the **report and opinion of the Committee on Public Finance** by the respective Chairman and Rapporteur, who shall have 45 minutes, and the Chair may grant necessary additional time.

1.6 - The Chair sets a break, determining its time, for the Government to prepare the answers and provide comments to understand the issues raised in the report and opinion of the Committee of Public Finance.

1.7 - The **Government** replies and comments, for 30 minutes, to the issues raised in the report and opinion of the Committee of Public Finance, and the Chair may grant additional time to complete, briefly, the intervention.

1.8 - The **debate** follows, during which Members have the possibility to make interventions in accordance with the following scale for the time set globally, in minutes, for parliamentary party benches and government for all three days of debate:

GOVERNMENT	CNRT	FRETILIN	PD	FM
180' (3h)	180' (3h)	180' (3h)	64' (1h4m)	16'

Total = 620' (10h20m)

1.9 - The **overall time** allocated to each of the parties and the Government are managed by themselves, subtracting the time that each Member takes from the total time available to each Party or Government.

1.10 - No intervention will be longer than 20 minutes duration, the Chair will alternately give the floor, according to the names on the list, to FRETILIN, to others, and to the Government.

1.11 - Parliamentary benches can give each other time slots that they do not need, provided that the transfer is announced, by mouth, by the head of the transferring bench.

1.12 - The time spent discussing procedural rules, such as point of order and defense of honor and consideration, is not subtracted from the global times in paragraph 1.8 of this guide.



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1.13 - The Chair manages speaking according to the procedural rules, cutting off the right to speakers who intervene outside the subject matter of the debate and seeking to prevent speakers from using the word for purpose other than that for which they shall have been granted or from repeating comments already made .

1.14 - The Chair will only accept requests to speak, and to participate in the debate, **by 11 am on 10 11 January.**

1.15 - The debate ends when there are no more requests to speak or overall allocated time is used up.

1.16 - Next, the parliamentary benches produce a **final intervention** of 10 minutes each.

1.17 - The debate is closed by a **speech by the Prime Minister** for 30 minutes.

1.18 - After the closing remarks of the debate, the bill is **voted** on in general, with immediate announcement of the vote.

1.19 - Each Member shall then have the right to make a **statement about the meaning of his vote**, having one minute to do.

2 - DISCUSSION AND VOTING IN SPECIFICS

2.1 - Once the bill has been approved in general, discussion and vote on the specifics immediately follows, **which cannot exceed ten consecutive days**, beginning on **January 11~~3~~, SaturdayMonday.**

2.2 a) Proposed amendments to the Budget Law must be submitted to the Parliamentary table before noon, on Monday, 13 January, 2014.

b)- Three, four or five days of the initial ten-day period referred to in the preceding paragraph, as appropriate, are reserved to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Collection and Analysis of Proposed Consensus Amendments (*Comissão Eventual para a Recolha e Análise de Propostas de Alteração Consensuais*) to Proposed law No. 10/III (2nd) - General State Budget for 2014, hereafter called the Ad Hoc Committee, including the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee in the same number of days.

Methodology of discussion and voting on the specifics

2.3 - When the Ad Hoc Committee has finished its work, is briefly **discussed the substitute text of the single amendment** from the Ad Hoc Committee, featuring MPs and members of the Government making interventions in accordance with the following global time scale:

GOVERNMENT	CNRT	FRETILIN	PD	FM
30'	30'	25'	8'	2'
Total = 95' (1h35m)				

2.4 - In the discussion under the preceding paragraph the principles set out in paragraphs 1.9 to 1.13 and 1.15 of this guide will apply.

2.5 - After the discussion, the substitute amendment submitted by the Ad Hoc Committee is immediately **voted**, with the result announced immediately, and considering the approved substitute



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text **incorporated** in the bill text, if it is, that from that moment to serve as the basis for discussion and voting.

2.6 - Following, the discussion and vote continues in the order of the actions set forth in the following paragraph, debating and voting on **any other amendments** submitted or to be submitted in the following paragraphs:

2.7 - The order of discussion and voting on items is as follows:

- Article 1 (Definitions);
- Article 2 (Adoption);
 - Annex I (on revenues, loans and balances of special funds), to discuss and vote on the whole;
 - Paragraph a), whose vote was the vote confirming Annex I;
 - Annex II (on budget appropriations for 2014), to discuss and vote line by line, ending up with an overall vote on Annex II confirming all approved funds, with or without modification;
 - Paragraph b) whose vote is intended to consolidate the approval of all budget allocations of expenditure table;
 - Annex III (about expenditure of autonomous funds and services), debated and voted on as a whole;
 - Paragraph c), by which approves Annex III;
 - Annex IV (on the budget allocations for 2014 Fund of Infrastructure), discussed and adopted globally;
 - Paragraph d), by which approves Annex IV;
 - Annex V (on the budget allocations for 2014 from the Human Capital Development Fund), debated and voted on as a whole;
 - Paragraph e), by which approves Annex V;
- Article 3 (Fees and Taxes);
- Article 4 (authorized credit limit for GSB), whose vote must be consistent with the vote on Annex I;
- Article 5 (Maximum amount of authorized indebtedness), whose vote must be consistent with the vote on Annex I;
- Article 6 (maximum authorized amount for Public-Private Partnership arrangements);
- Article 7 (maximum authorized amount for membership dues for international organization);
- Article 8 (Paying taxes on imports);
- Article 9 (Appropriations for the Whole of Government), whose vote must be consistent with the respective budget lines adopted in place of Annex II;
- Article 10 (Own revenues);
- Article 11 (Financing through independent donors);
- Article 12 (Liability);
- Article 13 (Entry into force).

2.8 - Discussion and voting on each article, paragraph or subparagraph, appendix or in the case of Annex II of the bill, budget line, that has been the subject of proposals for amendments accepted by the Chair.



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2.9 - There will be no discussion of any Article, Annex or budget line if no amendment has been proposed.

2.10 - For the **discussion of each proposed amendment**, its author or authors can present it for a maximum time of three minutes and present clarifications from the same time, with speaking by other Members and the Government for maximum times set globally in the following table:

GOVERNMENT	CNRT	FRETILIN	PD	FM
3'	3	3'	2'	1'
Total = 12'				

2.11 - The discussion and voting on each proposed amendment are organized by the Chair under the rules for amendments, which are voted in the following order: proposed deletions, proposed substitutions, proposed amendments, proposed additions and finally, articles or annexes in their entirety, with or without amendments.

2.12 - The discussion and voting on proposed amendments of the same kind are made in the order of submission.

2.13 - Where there are no proposals to amend several articles or budget lines, one or other may be voted on *en bloc*.

2.14 - The author of any proposed amendment is allowed to withdraw it until the moment that it is voted on.

2.15 - The vote on any proposed amendment shall be held immediately following the end of the respective discussion.

2.16 - The outcome of each vote is announced immediately once the voting process and counting is finished.

2.17 - Discussion of Annex II of the draft law is organized for continuous debate, in the order they appear in the table of expenditure, of appropriations in each budget line (agency, ministry, State secretariat).

2.18 - Proposed amendments relating to the first budget line included in the order of Annex II of the bill (table of expenditures) must be submitted no later than **11 am 12 noon** on **11-13 January 2014**.

2.19 - Proposed amendments to each of the other budget lines listed in Annex II of the bill (table of costs) must be submitted to the Chair **up to the close of the discussion and vote on the previous budget line**.

2.20 - Proposed amendments relating to budgetary appropriations, under Annex II of the bill, are discussed within each budget line, in the order of the categories of expenditure, which is: "wages and salaries", "goods and services", "transfers", "minor capital" and "development capital."

2.21 - Within each category of expenditure, the rules set out in paragraphs 2.11 and 2.12, with appropriate adaptations, shall apply to the discussion and voting on proposed amendments to appropriations.

Requirements for proposed amendments



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2.22 - In general, the proposals for amendment follows, with appropriate adaptations, to the admission requirements prescribed for legislative initiatives and must, under penalty of admission:

- a) be intelligible;
- b) be written in Portuguese, in the case of articles, or one of the official languages, in the case of amounts;
- c) Identify clearly the meaning of modification to be made and the article, paragraph, subparagraph, appendix or budget to which they relate;
- d) Contain the signature of the proposing MPs.

2.23 - In the case of c) above, any proposed amendment that relates to budget must include, under penalty of admission, by explicit reference to the budget line and expense category it will change in Annex II of the bill, being optional to indicate the item or items in the statement of detailed budgets affected by the proposed modification.

2.24 - The Chair shall decide on the admission or non-admission of amendments, and may invite the authors of amendments which do not meet the requirements to further improve them, so that they can be accepted, debated and voted on.

2.25 - The decision referred to in the previous paragraph can only be challenged by appeal to the Plenary, without prejudice to the right of the Member or Members authors affected by the decision to request and obtain a clarification of the judgment when is not obvious.

3 - FINAL GLOBAL VOTE

3.1 – When all discussions and voting are finished, in their respective order, the **overall vote** on the proposed law will take place, which deals with the text of the bill with the amendments incorporated.

3.2 - After the global voting and counting has established the final results, **voting declarations** can be made for a maximum time of one minute per Member.

Prepared in accordance with resolutions of the Conference of Representatives of the Parliamentary Benches taken on December 5, 2013, amended 8 January 2014