PRESS RELEASE:HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC, TAUR MATAN RUAK, RECEIVES AMENDMENT TO THE 2016 GENERAL STATE BUDGET

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On 19 July 2016, the Office of His Excellency the President of the Republic received the *First Amendment to Law no. 1/2016 of January 14 on the 2016 General State Budget.*

An increase from US\$1.5 billion (1,562,223,000) to US\$1.9 billion (1,952,938,000) has been approved by Timor-Leste's National Parliament and now awaits promulgation or veto by the President of the Republic in accordance with the Constitution of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste.

The President of the Republic had alerted to the need to pay greater attention to sectors such as health, education and agriculture, and to increase the investment in the supply of drinkable water and in basic sanitation. The President of the Republic had also alerted to the need to ensure the sustainable development of the country, increasing non-oil revenues and reducing the use of the Petroleum Fund.

The President of the Republic has been using his constitutional powers guided by the highest interest of the Nation. Likewise, the President of the Republic, Taur Matan Ruak, will continue to monitor the implementation of the GSB, participating in the construction of a strong country, with fairness for all.

Nicolau Lobato Presidential Palace, 20 July 2016

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