

Press Release

Meeting of the Council of Ministers on August 26th, 2026

The Vice Minister for ASEAN Affairs, Milena Maria da Costa Rangel, presented the findings of the **ASEAN Secretariat's report on the implementation of the roadmap for Timor-Leste's full membership of ASEAN** to the Council of Ministers.

The report, covering progress between May 2025 and January 2026, highlights Timor-Leste's strides in meeting the criteria set out in the Roadmap, including active participation in ASEAN meetings, the strengthening of inter-ministerial coordination mechanisms, the operation of Timor-Leste's Permanent Mission to ASEAN, and the designation of national entities and focal points responsible for the various areas of cooperation. Between January and September 2025, Timor-Leste participated in 455 of the 504 meetings to which it was invited, corresponding to a participation rate of 90.3%.

Of the seven criteria set out in the Roadmap, five have been fully implemented, including those relating to institutional capacity, the Permanent Mission, national implementation and coordination mechanisms, visa exemptions and passport recognition, and the financial obligations arising from accession.

The process of acceding to ASEAN's legal instruments is partially implemented, with requirements under the Political-Security and Socio-Cultural pillars already met and work continuing within the framework of the Economic Community. Preparations are also underway to develop the infrastructure and logistical capacity required for Timor-Leste's future responsibilities within ASEAN and for the country's presidency of the organisation in 2029.

Following the proposal presented by the Minister of Public Works, Samuel Marçal, the Council of Ministers decided to **ratify the authorisations for expenditure and the decision to initiate the procurement process, through a public tender, to purchase fuel for the Hera and Betano power plants.**

The total estimated cost of the contract is US\$428.99 million, divided into two lots: approximately US\$316.31 million for the supply of about 372.5 million litres of fuel to the Hera Power Plant and approximately US\$112.67 million for about 129.9 million litres of fuel to the Betano Power Plant.

The procedure aims to ensure the continuity of fuel supply from January 2027 onwards and, consequently, to guarantee the operation of the two power plants and electricity generation in the country after the current supply contracts expire in December 2026. The three-year contract also seeks to provide greater supply stability, facilitate the management of fuel reserves, and enable the negotiation of more favourable prices.

Komunikadu Imprensa

Sorumutu Konsellu Ministrus loron 26 fulan-agostu tinan 2026

Vise-Ministra ba Asuntus ASEAN, Milena Maria da Costa Rangel, apresenta ba Konsellu Ministrus rezultadus **Relatóriu Sekretariadu ASEAN kona-ba implementasaun roteiru hosi adezaun plena Timor-Leste nian ba ASEAN.**

Relatóriu, ne'ebé abranje progresus ne'ebé rejista ona husi fulan-maiu 2025 to'o fulan-janeiru 2026, destaca avansu sira ne'ebé Timor-Leste alkansa hodi kumpre kritérius ne'ebé estabeselese ona iha Roteiru ne'e, inklui partisipasaun ativa iha reuniaun sira ASEAN nian, hametin mekanizmu koordinasaun interministeriál sira, funksionamentu Misaun Permanente Timor-Leste ba ASEAN, no mós dezinasaun entidade no pontu fokál nasionál sira ne'ebé responsavel ba área kooperasaun sira ne'ebé diferente. Entre fulan-janeiru no fulan-setembru 2025, Timor-Leste partisipa ona iha enkontru 455 hosi 504 ne'ebé hetan konvite, ne'ebé korresponde ba taxa partisipasaun 90,3%.

Husi kritériu hitu ne'ebé prevee ona iha Roteiru, lima maka implementa tomak ona, inklui sira ne'ebé relasiona ho kapasidade institusionál, Misaun Permanente, mekanizmu implementasaun no koordinasaun nasionál, izensaun vistu no rekoñesimentu pasaporte, no mós obrigasaun finanseira ne'ebé mosu hosi adezaun.

Prosesu adezaun ba instrumentu jurídiku sira ASEAN nian implementa parsialmente ona, ho rekizitus pilár Polítiku-Seguransa no Sosiokulturál nian ne'ebé kompleta tiha ona no serbisu kontinua iha âmbito Komuidade Ekonómika nian. Preparasaun ba infraestrutura no kapasidade lojístika ne'ebé nesesáriu ba responsabilidade futuru Timor-Leste iha ASEAN no ba Prezidénsia organizaun ne'e iha tinan 2029 mós la'o hela.

Tuir projetu ne'ebé apresenta hosi Ministru Obras Públikas, Samuel Marçal, Konsellu Ministrus delibera hodi **ratifika aktu sira ne'ebé autoriza despeza no desizaun hodi loke prosedimentu aprovizionamentu, liuhosi konkursu públiku, ba akizisaun kombustivel ne'ebé destina ba Sentrá Elétrika Hera no Betanu.**

Despeza ne'e iha valór másimu estimadu totál dolar amerikanu millaun 428,99 no fahe ba lote rua: maizumenus dolar amerikanu millaun 316,31 ba fornimentu maizumenus litru millaun 372,5 kombustivel ba Sentrá Elétrika Hera no maizumenus dolar amerikanu millaun 112,67 ba maizumenus litru millaun 129,9 ne'ebé destinadu ba Sentrá Elétrika Betanu.

Prosedimentu ne'e ho objetivu atu garante kontinuidade fornimentu kombustivel hahú hosi fulan-janeiru 2027 no, nune'e, garante operasaun hosi sentrá elétriku rua no produsaun eletrisidade iha nasaun ne'e, hafoin termina kontratu fornimentu atuál sira, ne'ebé marka ona ba fulan-dezemburu 2026. Kontratu tinan tolu ne'e ho objetivu mós atu fornese estabilidade boot liu iha fornimentu, fasilita jestaun ba reserva kombustivel sira no permite atu hetan folin sira ne'ebé vantajozu liu.