



Press-release for the launching ceremony of **e-Request**

**Timor-Leste Tax Authority (TL-TA) of the Ministry of Finance** has once again marked a historical momentum by launching the **e-Request** feature that is part of the **e-Services** platform.

*“As the Vice-Minister of Finance, it is a privilege because the launching of **Certidão de Dívidas** via **e-Request** is a great milestone within the realm of **Fiscal Reform**, in which the **Tax Authority** has exercised for a continued improvement of services. As we all follow very closely, **Fiscal Reform** agenda has started since the **VI Gov**, in which a transformational change was accomplished whereby the two Directorate General of Customs and Revenue were leveled up to become **Customs Authority** and **Tax Authority**, respectively”* stated Vice-Minister of Finance Sra. Sara Lobo Brites on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at Auditorium of MF.

She further emphasizes that “the purpose of undertaking the **Reform** on these two Directorates, has been on the belief that the state income (collection) from petroleum resources would not last for long and hence would be depleted one day. Thus, the resilient income that would support fiscal sustainability in the future, is domestic tax revenue, in which the State bestows its trust on the **Tax Authority** to collect and manage the administration”.

Within the ambit of the **Reform**, particularly in the light with the services and performance by **TA**, the Vice-Minister further informed that “the **Reforms** are not implemented merely to grant the necessary power on **TA** in the undertaking of its role or for **TA** to simply enjoy its administrative and financial autonomy, however, the chief objective is rather to build a more credible institution, which entails that **AT** should gain trust and respect from all the citizens, especially the taxpayers. **TA** should become a reputed institution and to further improve its customer services much closer to the taxpayers in a more efficient and effective manner when collecting taxes for the State”.

At the launching ceremony of **e-Request**, the Director General of Tax Authority, Monica Rangel da Cruz informed that “The launching of **e-Request** marks another great milestone accomplished by the TL-TA, which is essentially to help and assist our taxpayers in terms of (i), avoiding unnecessary administrative hassles and (ii), minimizing compliance cost that may be suffered by taxpayers. With the **e-Request**, taxpayers would not necessarily present physically at the Tax Office when requesting for **Certidão de Dívidas**. They can request from anywhere, at any times, so long as they are connected with internet”.

Director General further adds that upon submission of request by taxpayers for **Certidão de Dívidas**, the taxpayers will receive an automatic alert generated from the system stating that their request is under review. Should there be no outstanding issue recorded under **SIGTAS** and provided that everything is satisfied under the law, the taxpayers should be able to get their **Certidão de Dívidas** issued within 1-2 days.

The **e-Request** is part of the **e-Services** platform which, was officially launched on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019 by the **Vice-Minister and Acting Minister of Finance** at the time and the Directorate General of Tax Authority (DGTA). This **e-Services** since its launch last year has enabled and benefited nearly **2000 taxpayers** to do **e-Filing** and **e-Reporting**. The Tax Authority of the Ministry of Finance plans to further develop the **e-Services** platform by introducing **e-Payment** in the near future.

#end