



Luta Hamutuk

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Press Release

“Eliminating Corruption will only remain a dream”

On 22 February 2010, national parliament of Timor Leste officially appoint Mr. Aderito de J. Soares as Chief Commissioner of Commission for Anti-Corruption in line with article 7 of anti-corruption law.

Luta Hamutuk as civil society organization would like to bid congratulation to Mr. Aderito de J. Soares who has been elected democratically to chair the lead position in Timor Leste Commission for Anti Corruption. Luta Hamutuk also would like to congratulate the new commission which opens to all entities including civil society sectors to collaboratively struggle to eliminate corruption in this country.

During his speech in national parliament, the elected commissioner conveyed his expectation for all Timorese to support the government in combating corruption within the government itself. Luta Hamutuk observes that the hope of the commissioner is in vain since historically AMP government has no sufficient capacity to eliminate corruption imminent in the government since corruption itself is resulted from weak or fragile system and corrupted mentality of government officers.

In fact before the establishment of Constitutional Government IV, Mr. Xanana Gusmao himself promised during political campaign that “**who steals \$5 cent, out...**” but to date none of his officers are ousted. PDHJ as an independent organization established for years has never brought one corruptor to jail. Another politics of public administration reformation within the government took place through appointment of Mr. Mario V. Carascalao for this assignment with sole objective to eliminate corruption. This also has no impact to date. Now, a commission for anti-corruption is formed and led by Mr. Aderito de Jesus with similar purpose.

Based on the above mentioned facts Luta Hamutuk believes that the presence of the new commission to combat against corruption is no more than a dream!!! For that reason Luta Hamutuk wants to give a deadline of two (2) years for the elected commissioner and all his members to eliminate corruption within the government. If the commissioner failed to meet the deadline Luta Hamutuk will organize a public manifestation to ask the commissioner to resign from his post and dissolve the Commission for Anti - Corruption.

In relation with anti-corruption law promulgated by the president of the Republic on 7 July 2009 (Article 9; incompatibilidades), Luta Hamutuk would like to ask Mr. Aderito de Jesus as commissioner of the commission for anti - corruption to resign immediately from his political party "Fretelin Mudansa" and officially declare to public about his resignation. This is very important as "Fretelin Mudansa" is a coalition group of the current AMP administration so as to avoid conflict of interest in undertaking his assignment. Luta Hamutuk will question the independency of Mr. Aderito de Jesus as commissioner if he is not officially resigned from "Fretelin Mudansa".

Luta Hamutuk, 22 February 2010

Mericio Akara
Executive Diretor of Luta Hamutuk