



**ANNEX**  
**CODE OF CONDUCT FOR**  
**MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT**

**Article 1**

**Object**

- 1 - This Code of Conduct is an instrument of self-regulation that provides clear guidance on the behavior of the members of the VIII Constitutional Government.
- 2 - The provisions of this Code of Conduct do not preclude compliance with any legal obligation or instructions from the Prime Minister.

**Article 2**

**Scope of Application**

- 1 - The Code of Conduct shall apply to the members of the VIII Constitutional Government.
- 2 - Members of the VIII Constitutional Government are understood to include Ministers, Deputy Ministers and Secretaries of State.

**Article 3**

**Principles of conduct**

f) Honesty

The members of the Government shall have a commitment to act with integrity, probity and truthfulness, as well as to foster a culture of trust in society by acting with diligence, sense of honor, justice and transparency to strengthen the confidence of citizens in State Institutions in general, and in ministries and secretaries of State in particular.

g) Politeness

The members of the Government shall adopt a dignified and proper behavior in the exercise of their functions, in accordance with the good customs of the Nation, and shall treat citizens with respect, diligence and humility, demanding equal treatment and taking care of reciprocal obligations and duties.

h) Inter-Institutional Respect

The members of the Government shall commit themselves to loyal, supportive and transparent cooperation with the other organs of sovereignty - the National Parliament, the President of the Republic and the Courts - in order to achieve the common goal of making Timor-Leste a country with development, progress and economic growth, as well as to provide its citizens with higher levels of welfare, security and prosperity.

i)

- b) Offering or authorizing, directly or indirectly, an undue advantage for any person or public agent involving direct personal gain or that of an intermediary third party.
- 2- Members of the Government shall inform the Public Prosecutor's Office of any acts which may constitute attempts at corruption.

**Article 6**  
**Responsibility**

- 1 - Non-compliance by members of the Government with the guidelines established by this Code shall imply political accountability to the Prime Minister.
- 2 - The provisions of this Code do not exclude or prejudice other forms of liability, namely criminal, disciplinary or financial, that are provided for by law.

**Article 7**  
**Conflict of interests**

Members of the Government may not intervene in the assessment or the decision-making process, whenever their personal or private interest in a particular matter interferes, or is likely to interfere, with the interests of the Ministry or the Secretary of State, or of third parties, seriously compromising the impartiality of their conduct.

**Article 8**  
**Sanctioning of the conflict of interests**

- 1 - Any member of the Government who identifies that he or she is in a situation of conflict of interest, shall withdraw from the procedure in progress, in accordance with the law, and immediately inform the Prime Minister, in the case of Minister, Vice-Minister, or Secretary of State who depends directly on him or her, or the respective Minister, in the case of Vice-Minister or Secretary of State.
- 2 - Any member of the Government facing a conflict of interest shall take the necessary measures to avoid, remedy, or cease the conflict in question, in full compliance with the provisions of this Code and the law.

**Article 9**  
**Gifts**

- 1- Members of the Government shall not receive any gifts in cash and may only receive gifts of a symbolic value not exceeding USD 250.

- 2 - The precise records of the gifts referred to in paragraph 1 reflect the reputation, integrity and credibility of the members of the Government, and so it is essential to keep a publicly accessible record of them.
- 3 - The gifts referred to in paragraph 3 of article 9 shall be given to institutions pursuing educational or social purposes or given directly, whenever appropriate, to students of basic, secondary, vocational or university education of their own merit, to families or to underprivileged persons who need it most.

#### **Article 11**

##### **Invitations or similar benefits**

- 1 - The members of the Government shall refrain from accepting invitations from private individuals and legal entities, national or foreign, and from foreign public entities, to attend social, institutional and cultural events that may condition the impartiality and integrity of the exercise of their functions, namely
  - a) Invitations to parties, sporting events or similar benefits;
  - b) Travel or accommodation expenses.
- 2 - For the purposes of this Code, it is understood that there is conditioning of impartiality and integrity of the exercise of functions when there is acceptance of invitations or other similar benefits whose value exceeds USD 250.
- 3 - The situations in which members of the Government accept invitations or similar benefits as a result of official representation, both nationally and internationally, shall be exempt from the provisions of the preceding paragraphs, namely
  - a) In the participation in official ceremonies, conferences, congresses, seminars, fairs or similar events;
  - b) When participating in a summit, ceremony, or formal or informal meeting when the invitations come from other States, international organizations, or other public entities.

#### **Article 12**

##### **Sexual harassment**

Members of the Government may not engage in acts that may constitute sexual harassment, as defined in the Civil Service Commission Guideline No. 12/ 2017, of August 9, on preventing and combating sexual harassment in the civil service.

#### **Article 13**

##### **Final provision**

This Code of Conduct shall apply from the date of entry into force of the Government Resolution approving it.