



FISCAL REFORM COMMISSION

PRESS RELEASE

Customs Authority and PCIC cooperate to prevent fiscal evasion and fraud

Dili, 12 December 2018 - The Customs Authority and the Scientific Police of Criminal Investigation / PCIC signed today a Protocol to cooperate on the exchange of information to prevent and investigate customs criminal offenses, combat fraud and investigate illegal practices.

The protocol of cooperation is an effort to implement the fiscal reform objectives and ensure that the collection of revenue complies with the applicable legislation and procedures, in particular, the Customs Code and Tax and Duties Act 2008. This cooperation is in accordance with the World Customs Organisation requirements for a modern, transparent and rules based Customs organisation that provides legal certainty, facilitates trade and collects revenue for the State.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Taur Matan Ruak stated that: *“It is a high priority for the Government of Timor-Leste to create the necessary environment to attract foreign investment and promote trade, enable diversification of the economy and improve revenue collection. Accordingly, this Protocol is an important tool for good governance, prevent revenue leakage and tax evasion”*.

The Protocol will support the Customs Authority to implement standards of good administration, using principles such as legality, transparency, participation, accountability, efficiency, effectiveness and consistency.

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