



Fundasaun Mahein, 06 Abril 2017

Komunikadu Imprensa

Relatóriu Observasaun Eleisaun Prezidente Repúblika 2017

Eleisaun Prezidensial 20 Marsu 2017 nu'udar eleisaun dahuluk ne'ebé organiza husi Timor-Oan rasik hafoin eleisaun sira antes 2012, 2007, 2002 no 2001 ne'ebé hetan suporta husi Nasoens Unidas no organizasaun internasional sira seluk. Progresu boot ida iha Eleisaun Jeral 2017, Eleisaun ba Prezidente Repúblika konsege realiza mos iha rai liur ne'ebé hala'o iha Sidney no Darwin – Australia nomos Portugal. Maibe mos kritika balu husi Timor-Oan sira ne'ebé estuda iha Indonézia no servisu iha Korea do Sul la konsege partisipa tamba eleisaun la realiza iha nasaun rua ne'e.

Iha âmbito ida ne'e, pontu prinsipal ne'ebé sai atensaun husi sosiedade tomak kona-bá seguransa ba eleisaun 2017 no kompara buat seluk husi akontesementu sira iha tinan 10 (sanolu) liu ba iha eleisaun 2012 no 2007. Maibe Eleisaun ba Prezidente Repúblika 2017 hatudu ona buat diferente ida husi presepsaun no dúvida sira antes ne'e mosu iha públiku kona-bá paz no estabilidade. Prova ona katak susesu no maturidade Timor-Oan nian hodi realiza eleisaun refere iha ambiente ida livre no demokratiku hodi eskolla sira nia susesor hanesan Prezidente Repúblika ba períodu 2017 - 2022.

Maske nune'e Monitorizasaun FM nota katak durante períodu eleisaun nian rejista insidente kiik sira desde kampaña to'o loron votasaun nian. Rejista dahuluk ho insidente ne'ebé akontese iha loron primeiru kampaña nian 3 Marsu 2017 entre apoiante kandidatu sira nian iha Dili. Nune'e mos insidente seluk iha munisipiu durante períodu ne'e nian.

FM mos rejista katak durante períodu kampaña nian mosu mos boatus balu kona-bá "rejonalismu" ne'ebé foti husi ulun boot sira iha Parlamentu Nasional nian ne'ebé dirije ba kandidatu seluk nia apoiante espalla iha comunidade nia leet. Maibe la iha prova lolos kona-bá boatus ida ne'e nia verdade no la iha nia impaktu ruma hodi provoka instabilidade durante períodu sira ne'e nian.

Iha sorin seluk ida husi apuramentu nasional ba rezultadu eleisaun nian ne'ebé fo sai ona katak taxa partisipasaun husi sidadaun sira sei menus no sidadaun tuir vota hamutuk 71,16% ka 528.813 husi total votante ne'ebé rejistu hamutuk 743.150 ka ema ne'ebé la tuir vota hamutuk 28,84% ka 214.339 la tuir votasaun. Monitorizasaun FM konfirma katak ne'e tamba menus edukasaun sivika husi orgaun sira eleitoral nian hodi enkoraza sidadaun sira tuir votasaun no reklama husi sidadaun sira katak edukasaun sivika hala'o deit iha nível kapital munisipiu nian duke comunidade sira iha área rurais.

Nune'e mos sidadaun sira ne'ebé muda husi sira nia munisipiu ba munisipiu seluk no kapital nasaun nian hodi buka servisu no eskola la partisipa iha votasaun tamba vota tuir deit fatin ne'ebé sidadaun sira halo resensiamentu nu'udar lei eleisaun Prezidente Repúblika nia haruka. Inklui mos estudante no traballador sira iha rai liur la tuir votasaun tamba eleisaun iha rai liur hala'o deit iha Australia no Portugal.

FM mos nota katak durante prosesu eleisaun nian ofisiais sira husi Comissão Nacional de Eleições (CNE) no Sekretaria Tekniku Administrasaun Eleitoral (STAE) nian sei dúvida kona-bá sira nia papel rasik hodi dirije eleisaun iha sentru votasaun no idak-idak la hala'o nia kna'ar ho masimu. Portantu ofisiais balu to'o tarde iha sentru votasaun tuir orariu ne'ebé determina ona maske votante sira forma ona ba rejistu hodi vota. Nune'e mos ofisiais sira husi STAE nia la atensaun didiak ba lista votante nian hodi vistu lolos votante sira nian naran, ikus mai votante seluk ba rejistu hodi vota maibe ninia naran vistu ona. Maske votante ne'e seidak fo nia votu.

Rekomendasaun

1. CNE no STAE presiza hasa'e kuiñesementu ofisiais sira ne'ebé dirije prosesu eleisaun kona-bá mekanismu eleisaun nian hahu husi rejistu ba votante sira, regulamentu sira votasaun nian to'o kontajen ba votu iha nível sentru votasaun nian.
2. CNE no STAE presiza habelar-tan edukasaun sivika to'o iha nível suku hodi enkoraja partisipasaun sidadaun sira nian iha eleisaun no prosesu sira iha sentru votasaun.
3. Autoridade seguransa sira presiza halo avaliasaun nafatin ba asuntu sira seguransa nian liga ho eleisaun hodi dirije ba Eleisaun Parlamentar ne'ebé sei hala'o iha tinan klaran 2017.
4. Rekomenda ba líder partidu polítiku sira kontinua promove diskusaun no enkoraja militante no simpatizante sira hodi kontribui ba paz no estabilidade iha Eleisaun Parlamentar ne'ebé sei mai duke lansa linguajen provokativu sira hodi promove violênsia.

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Press Release

Observation Report of the Presidential Election 2017

The Presidential Election conducted on March 20 2017 was the first election organized by the Timorese people, with the previous elections in 2012, 2007, 2002 and 2001, organised and supported by the United Nations (UN) and other International organizations. It was also notable in that Timorese citizens living in Australia and Portugal were also able to vote remotely. However, Timorese citizens studying in Indonesia and working in South Korea have been critical of their inability to participate in the elections.

That the election was conducted safely and securely was of great importance to Timorese society, especially when compared to security incidents that occurred during the 2007 and 2012 elections. The 2017 Presidential election proved somewhat different from the concerns and perceptions that were raised by civil society over safety and security preceding the election. It has proven that the Timorese people have developed more maturity around the democratic process, and are able to engage in safe and positive behaviour during elections.

However, Fundasaun Mahein's (FM) monitoring noted that during the electoral process, several incidents did occur from the start of the campaigning period through to voting. The first incident occurred during the first day of the campaigning period, and took place in Dili on March 3 2017 between supporters of the Presidential candidates. FM registered that there were rumours during the campaign period of "regionalism" in regards to East and West, which was highlighted by members of the National Parliament, with accusations made by competing candidates regarding the spreading of such rumours within communities. However, there is no real proof of the rumors and they did not provoke instability during the campaign period.

In terms of voter participation, the national tabulation of the election results revealed that voter participation was less than anticipated. From the total of 743 152 Timorese citizens that registered to vote, 528 813 (71.16%) voted, whilst 214 330 (28.84%) did not participate in voting. FM's monitoring confirmed that this occurred due a lack of civic education by electoral organs responsible for educating and encouraging citizens to participate in the election. Furthermore, FM notes that some citizens in rural areas felt that civic education was only run in municipal capitals, and failed to address the needs of citizens living in rural areas.

An additional problem that FM noted was the issue of identification cards owned by voters. Voters are required by law to vote in their registered municipalities. However, many Timorese citizens have moved from their home municipalities for work or education, and were therefore unable to participate in the election in their current location, or unable to return to their home municipalities to vote. The only exception to this was the Timorese citizens living in Australia and Portugal whose participation was properly facilitated.

FM also notes that during the electoral process, officials from the National Electoral Commission (CNE) and the Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration (STAE) were still confused over their roles in running the election in voting centers, and that some officials were unable to fulfill their responsibilities due to arriving late on election day, whilst voters stood in line to vote. Apart from this, some STAE officials did not pay proper attention whilst marking off voters names on their registration lists, and even marked off the names of citizens who had not yet voted.

Recommendations

1. CNE and STAE need to improve the knowledge of their staff who run the electoral process, in terms of the electoral mechanisms starting from registrations of voters, voting regulations and the voting process at electoral centers.
2. CNE and STAE need to implement a higher level of civic education from the village through to the national level in order to educate and encourage more people to participate in the electoral process.
3. Security authorities need to make routine assessments of security issues related to the election in order to ensure that the electoral cycle surrounding the July 2016 Parliamentary election is safe, fair and free.
4. Recommends political party leaders continue promoting discussion, and encourage their supporters and sympathizers to participate peacefully and contribute to stability in the upcoming July 2017 Parliamentary election, and not use dialogue that provokes conflict, but instead promotes mature and peaceful participation in the electoral process.

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