



FRENTE REVOLUCIONÁRIA DO TIMOR-LESTE INDEPENDENTE

FRETILIN

Media release

6 May 2007

Tell us what you own, Mr Ramos Horta

Jose Ramos Horta must stop trying to evade questions about his pecuniary interests, José Manuel Fernandes, official election representative for FRETILIN presidential candidate Francisco Guterres Lu Olo, said today.

“Jose Ramos Horta continues to evade the important question put to him by representatives of civil society and voters during this election campaign regarding a full and frank disclosure of his pecuniary interests,” Fernandes said.

“Lu Olo made public a signed declaration detailing all his interests, but Ramos Horta refuses to provide a written declaration and hides behind the absence of legislation requiring him to do so.

“It is easy to provide a written declaration and he should do it, just as Lu Olo did.

“Lu Olo declared his pecuniary interests 12 days ago. Are Ramos Horta’s pecuniary interests so extensive and complicated that he needs 12 days to write them down?”

“It seems Ramos Horta needs to be compelled by law in order to be transparent and honest with our people.”

Fernandes said gaining the trust of the people was crucial to Fretilin clandestine operations during the independence struggle. “We succeeded in winning the trust of our people to the extent that they never gave us up to an enemy with superior funds and military means. Lu Olo survived 24 years of armed resistance on this relationship of absolute trust with our people.

“An environment of real trust is built between people – not just because the state requires it by law.

“I call on Ramos Horta to conduct himself in a transparent and open manner which will set a precedent for future candidates in our young democracy.

“Every time he is asked about his pecuniary interests, Ramos Horta creates a diversion and speaks about other issues. Now he says he will provide a signed declaration of pecuniary interests only if regulated by law, and audited by a regulatory authority.

“This shows a gross misunderstanding of the function and nature of a pecuniary interest declaration. I have seen pecuniary interest declarations in other countries. To say they have to be audited is putting up a smokescreen.”

Fernandes pointed to the Australian state government of Victoria’s “Declaration of pecuniary interests for senior government officers and statutory appointees” (copy attached) which makes no requirement for audited statements or accounts.

Fernandes said Ramos Horta had put up another smokescreen by peddling a lie that Lu Olo owns a US\$700,000 “villa” in Ossu.

“Anyone who sees the Lu Olo family’s humble home, would agree it is nonsense to describe it as a villa.

“It is unpainted, has outside amenities, no doors on internal rooms and is about half the size of Ramos Horta’s luxurious villa in Dili,” said Fernandes.

For more information contact:

Harold Moucho (Lu Olo’s political adviser) (+670) 723 0048 (Dili)

Jose Manuel Fernandes (Lu Olo’s official election representative) (+670) 734 2174 (Dili)

<http://www.luolobapresidente.blogspot.com>, <http://luolo.blogspot.com>, <http://www.timortruth.com>

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS
FOR SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICERS
AND STATUTORY APPOINTEES

Department of Human Services: _____

Surname: _____

Other Names: _____

Note: If you completed a declaration last year and there has been no change in your interest, please tick the box opposite and sign this form.

No change to previous declaration

Registrable Interests	Details
1 The income source (see Note A) of any financial benefit (see Note B) which you received or were entitled to receive during any part of the return period.	1
2 The name of any company or other body in which you held office as director or otherwise during the return period.	2
3 The name or description of any company or other body in which you held a beneficial interest during the return period.	3
4 The name of any association or trade or professional organisation of which you are or were a member during the return period.	4
5 A concise description of any trust in which you hold a beneficial interest.	5
6 A concise description of any trust of which you are a trustee and in which a member of your family (see Note C) holds a beneficial interest.	6
7 The address or description of any land in which you hold a beneficial interest (other than by way of security for a debt).	7

Registrable Interests**Details**

8	The source of any significant contribution in cash or kind to travel beyond Victoria undertaken by you during the return period (but not including contributions from public funds).	8
9	Any gift exceeding \$500 in value received by you from a person other than a relative by blood or marriage.	9
10	Any other substantial interest (whether of a pecuniary nature or not) held by you or a member of your family of which you are aware and which you consider might appear to raise a material potential conflict with your public duty.	10
11	Any criminal conviction, or financial or taxation dealing or any other matter that might render or be seen to render you unfit for this office.	11

Signature of person making Declaration:.....

Signature of Witness:.....

Date...../...../.....

Note A**"Income source" means:**

- any person or body of persons with whom you entered into a contract of service or
- held any paid office; or
- any trade, vocation or profession engaged in by you.

Note B**"Financial benefit" means:**

- the remuneration, fee or other pecuniary sum received by you in respect of any contract of service entered into or any paid office held by you; and
- the total of all remuneration, fees or other pecuniary sums received by you in respect of any trade, vocation or profession engaged in by you.

Note C

"Family" is to include spouse, de facto spouse, dependent children and other members of the household or family with closely connected interests to you, and requires disclosure of family interest in trusts, companies or other bodies in which you may not be a beneficiary or a trustee.