



PRIMEIRO-MINISTRO

Order No. 9/PM/V/2026

On the Establishment of the Blue Economy Working Group

Government Resolution No. 17/2026 of 27 March approved the Policy and Action Plan for the Promotion of a Resilient and Sustainable Ocean Economy in Timor-Leste (2025–2035).

This Policy, hereinafter referred to as the BEP, was approved with the objective of establishing the political vision and national ocean strategy, constituting a public policy instrument based on the preservation and sustainable use of ecosystem services and marine resources.

Under the Organic Law of the Ninth Constitutional Government, the Prime Minister is responsible for coordinating the implementation of the Blue Economy Policy through the Land and Maritime Boundary Office.

Specifically, pursuant to the law, the Land and Maritime Boundary Office (LMBO) is responsible for developing the implementation strategy for Timor-Leste's Blue Economy Policy and coordinating all related matters, in cooperation with the relevant ministerial departments.

The period 2025–2035 has been established as the first phase for the implementation of the Blue Economy Policy and its Action Plan, reflecting the cross-sectoral nature of the Blue Economy and the need for an interministerial approach.

Within this context, in August 2025 the Government established an informal working group composed of members of the LMBO and representatives of government departments and other bodies (MAPPF, MTA, MAE, MTC, MD, MPRM, MI, MOP and MPIE) with responsibilities relating to ocean affairs. The group discussed and prepared the basic legislation on the Planning and Management of the National Maritime Space, subsequently approved by Decree-Law No. 15/2026 of 1 April.

With the aim of implementing the objectives established by the Government under the BEP and executing the measures and actions set out in the action plan, a formal working group is now hereby established, composed of several technical representatives from different ministries and institutions with responsibilities connected to ocean affairs and the Blue Economy, whose priority mission shall be the preparation of mechanisms and supporting legislation for the implementation of the Blue Economy Policy.

Whereas, pursuant to Article 6(3) of Decree-Law No. 46/2023 of 28 July approving the Organic Law of the Government, as amended by Decree-Law No. 36/2024 of 6 November and Decree-Law No. 11/2026 of 4 March, the Prime Minister, as Head of Government, has the power to establish temporary or permanent working groups for matters falling within the competence of the Government;

Accordingly, pursuant to Article 6(3) of Decree-Law No. 46/2023 of 28 July, approving the Organic Law of the Ninth Constitutional Government, as amended, the Prime Minister determines as follows:

1. The establishment of the Blue Economy Working Group, with the following objectives:
 - a) To implement the measures and actions whose execution is assigned to it under Part III (Action Plan) of the BEP, within the deadlines established therein, as set out in Government Resolution No. 17/2026 of 27 March;
 - b) To propose other measures and actions not included in the BEP Action Plan whose implementation may be deemed necessary and strategic for its implementation;
 - c) To gather and share data relating to the Blue Economy, in accordance with the respective powers and responsibilities assigned under the Organic Law of the Government;
 - d) To collaborate in monitoring and evaluation activities relating to the measures and actions included in the BEP Action Plan, including the preparation of monitoring reports and, where appropriate, proposals for amendments to the BEP whenever deemed necessary;
 - e) To carry out any other tasks assigned to it by the Prime Minister.

2. The Working Group shall be composed of the following members:
 - a) The Coordinator of the Blue Economy Unit of the Land and Maritime Boundary Office, who shall coordinate the Working Group;
 - b) The Director of the Legal Unit of the Land and Maritime Boundary Office;
 - c) Permanent members from the government departments represented therein, who shall possess scientific and technical expertise in matters relating to the mission of the Working Group, namely:
 - i) Two representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry;
 - ii) Two representatives of the Ministry of Tourism and Environment;
 - iii) Two representatives of the Ministry of State Administration;
 - iv) Two representatives of the Ministry of Transport and Communications;
 - v) Two representatives of the Ministry of Defence;
 - vi) Two representatives of the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources;
 - vii) Two representatives of the Ministry of Interior;
 - viii) Two representatives of the Ministry of Planning and Strategic Investment;
 - ix) Two representatives of the Ministry of Public Works;
 - x) Two representatives of the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Culture;
 - xi) One representative of the Ministry of Finance;
 - xii) One representative of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers;
 - xiii) Two representatives of the National University of Timor Lorosa'e;
 - xiv) One representative of the Secretary of State for Equality.

3. The Ambassador of Timor-Leste for Climate Change shall also be invited to participate in the meetings of the Working Group.
4. The representatives referred to in paragraph 2(c) may, whenever necessary depending on the matters to be discussed, be accompanied by advisers or specialist technical staff from their respective ministries and institutions.
5. The members of Government responsible for the government departments referred to in paragraph 2(c) shall appoint the representatives referred to therein within five days following publication of this Order.
6. Where necessary, depending on the matters under discussion, other bodies or entities may be invited to participate in meetings of the Working Group, namely non-governmental organisations, researchers or other persons whose participation is considered relevant.
7. Technical, legal, logistical and administrative support for the activities of the Working Group shall be ensured by the LMBO.
8. The Working Group shall meet at least once a month and whenever convened by the Coordinator, and a summary of the meetings shall be prepared indicating the matters discussed and the conclusions and actions proposed.
9. Meetings of the Working Group shall be confidential, without prejudice to the respective members informing the members of Government responsible for the ministries or the heads of the institutions to which they belong, in compliance with their professional duties.
10. Without prejudice to the provisions of the preceding paragraph, the members of the Working Group and all individuals invited to participate in its meetings may not share with third parties any documents or information discussed within the framework of the Working Group unless expressly authorised in advance.
11. Participation in the Working Group shall not confer upon members or invited participants any payment or benefit of whatever nature, namely remuneration, compensation, allowance, attendance fee or per diem.
12. This Order shall take effect on the day following its publication.

To be published.

Dili, 11 May 2026.

The Prime Minister,

Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão

