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MEDIA ACT

Considering that the right to information, freedom of expression and the press are fundamental for the consolidation of democracy, the Timorese State is preparing to strengthen the media sector. In this context, the present law, the first in free and independent Timor-Leste, on safeguarding freedom of the press and media regulation, defends citizen's right to the full exercise of freedom of expression and thought and allows information professional to guarantee professional secrecy and safeguard independence.

It is therefore important to delimit, by law, the ways in which the exercise of these freedoms is regulated, ensuring that they are implemented.

The provision of rules on the exercise of the right to information and freedom of expression and of the press is fundamental, not only in order to comply with the corresponding constitutional imperatives laid down in Articles 40 and 41 of the Constitution, but also, ultimately, to ensure the construction of a democratic constitutional state.

This law seeks to ensure freedom of the press by promoting the necessary balance between the exercise of this fundamental freedom and other constitutionally protected rights and values.

The eight chapters of this diploma seek to regulate the exercise of journalistic activity in the national territory by journalists and the media. The systematic structure is arranged in the form described in the single annex to this law.

Fundamentally, it is intended that properly prepared and ethically responsible professionals can inform the public in an objective and impartial manner, stimulating the exercise of active and enlightened citizenship by the population.

While it is admitted that foreign capital may eventually contribute to the financing of the media sector, it is also necessary to consider the need to restrict its participation, to ensure national control of the national media, as a national interest to be protected, under Article 140 of the Constitution of the Republic, because in this way it is intended to ensure that the information and educational content is mainly national, promote national identity, affirm and enhance the personality of the Timorese people and their cultural heritage. On the other hand, the restriction is made for reasons of state security and to defend and guarantee the country's sovereignty in the face of the media's power of influence, with support in Article 6(a) of the Constitution of the Republic.

The purpose of this law is to create mechanisms for the regulation and resolution of conflicts resulting from the relationship of the media with citizens and society.

An independent administrative entity, to be created by decree under the name of the Press Council, shall ensure compliance with this law, namely the observation of the rights and duties of journalists, as well as the observance of the ethical principles of journalistic activity.

Finally, there are certain sanctions against any acts that impair the right to information.

Thus, the National Parliament decrees, under the terms of Article 95(1) of the Constitution of the Republic, the following as law:

CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 Object

The purpose of this law is to guarantee, protect and regulate the exercise of freedom of information, the press and the media.

Article 2 Definitions

For the purposes of this law, the following definitions shall apply:

- a) "Journalistic activity", activity of research, collection, selection, processing and dissemination of information in the form of text, sound or image, to the public, through disclosure in the media;
- b) "News agency" means a company specializing in disseminating news to the media;
- c) "Censorship" means the forced removal of information to be published or transmitted, including the attempt thereof, and the imposition of content on the media;
- d) "Code of Ethics for Journalists" means the compilation of the ethical rules applicable to the profession;
- e) "Media" means the dissemination of information by means of text, sound and image made available to the public regardless of the form in which it is reproduced and disseminated;
- f) "Right of rectification" means the right of every natural or legal person to have the news published or transmitted incorrect facts about him corrected;
- g) "Right of reply" means the right of every natural or legal person to have a reply published or transmitted to a content that discloses facts offensive to his honor, good name, reputation or image;
- h) "Press" means the same as media;
- i) "Journalist" means the professional whose main activity is journalism;
- j) "Media" means the vehicle which allows regular dissemination of journalistic activity, in printed or electronic form;
- k) "Organization of journalists" means a legal person, formed in the form of an association, which brings together media professionals, with objectives distinct from those of trade union organizations;
- l) "Media outlet" means the legal entity, public or private, engaged in journalistic activity.

Article 3 Functions of the media

1. The functions of the media are to:
 - a) contribute to the formation of public opinion and civic education of citizens;
 - b) promote democracy;
 - c) disseminate information and news as well as to spread knowledge;
 - d) spread national culture, values and identity;
 - e) promote social peace and stability, national harmony and solidarity;
 - f) defend peace and solidarity among peoples.

2. As a development partner, the functions of the media are also to:
 - a) encourage and support economic policies and quality services;
 - b) stimulate economic actors to good practice in the provision of services;
 - c) exercise public censure against malpractice in the provision of services;
 - d) support consumer protection bodies in protecting the interests of their members;
 - e) facilitate access of cultural, economic and other operators to the media for dissemination of their products and services.
3. The functions referred to in the preceding paragraph relate to actions and omissions of any service providers, public or private, national or foreign, without excluding those of the media themselves.
4. The State may institute the awarding of prizes as a form of recognition of the journalistic work and action of the media that stand out in the performance of the functions provided for in this article.

Article 4

Duties of the media

These are duties of the media:

- a) Verify the veracity of the information provided, using, whenever possible, several sources, guaranteeing the plurality of versions;
- b) To respect human dignity, the honor and consideration of persons and the other rights of others;
- c) Not make discriminatory references about race, religion, sex, sexual preferences, diseases, political beliefs and social condition;
- d) Use ethical and lawful means to obtain news and information;
- e) Ensure the right of reply and rectification;
- f) Not identify victims of sexual abuse and child offenders;
- g) Defend the public interest and democratic order.

Article 5

Functions of the State in the media field

1. These are essential functions of the State in the media field:
 - a) ensure the existence and operation of public service broadcasting;
 - b) ensure the free flow of information and free access to information products;
 - c) preserve and defend pluralism and competition;
 - d) supervise compliance with the law and the rules for the exercise of media activity;
 - e) contribute to the training of media professionals;
 - f) setting up support measures for private media.
2. Public media service may be provided by public or private media entities under a concession contract, in accordance with the applicable legal regime.

Article 6

State support

The State may attribute to media activity benefits that translate into direct or indirect support, in particular by granting tax benefits and tariff bonuses, which are granted according to general and objective criteria to be included in the law.

CHAPTER II FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

Article 7 Right of information

Citizens' right to information must be guaranteed objectively and impartially, by clearly distinguishing between facts and opinions and with respect for the diversity of currents of opinion.

Article 8 Freedom of the press

The right of journalists to inform is exercised on the basis of constitutional prerogatives, and cannot be subject to interference that undermines their independence and objectivity, freedom of creation, freedom of conscience, their right to seek and obtain information, professional secrecy and the right to participate in the editorial guidance of the media for which they work, or constraints on fulfillment of deontological duties of their profession.

Article 9 Freedom of expression

1. Everyone has freedom to express and disseminate their ideas through the media.
2. No one can be disturbed by political, philosophical, religious or other opinions.

Article 10 Prohibition of censorship

Freedom of expression by the media is exercised without any form of censorship, authorization, bond or prior qualification.

Article 11 Limits to press freedom

Freedom of the press has, as its limits, only the right to honor, a good name, reputation, privacy and the presumption of innocence, secrecy of justice and State secrecy.

CHAPTER III JOURNALISTS

Article 12 Capacity

Journalists can be the adult citizens in full enjoyment of civil rights and qualified with at least secondary education.

Article 13 Practice of the profession

1. It is a condition for the exercise of the profession of journalist the qualification with the respective title, called professional card, which is issued and renewed by the Press Council.
2. The Government approves the regulation of the professional portfolio of journalists and trainee journalists by decree.
3. Pending the adoption of the Regulation referred to in the previous paragraph, the Press Council shall issue a provisional document.
4. Professional titles of journalist issued by a foreign country are recognized, and their holders may apply for registration and issuance of a title by the Press Council, exempted from the professional internship.
5. No media outlet may admit, or retain, those who are not duly qualified with the respective title.

Article 14
Access to the profession

Access to the profession of journalist begins with a mandatory internship, to be successfully completed, lasting eighteen, twelve and six months, for those who possess the respective secondary education, degree in any area and degree in the media.

Article 15
Registration and title of trainee

1. The trainee must apply for his/her registration and issuance of the respective title.
2. The application shall be accompanied by the following documents:
 - a) Declaration proving the admission as a trainee in a media outlet, signed by the director, with the identification of the journalist guiding the internship and the number of their professional card;
 - b) Copy of the identity document;
 - c) A copy of the educational qualification certificate.
3. The title of trainee is the identification document of the trainee journalist and constitutes a qualification enough for the exercise of journalistic activity.

Article 16
Professional traineeship

1. The professional traineeship takes place in a media outlet, consisting of deepening trainee's technical and linguistic knowledge and aiming to provide him/her with knowledge about the legal regime of the media and the legal and ethical rights and duties of the journalistic profession.
2. The trainee is followed by a journalist with more than five years of experience in the profession, who is responsible for guiding the traineeship.
3. The internship consists of a theoretical component and a practical component.
4. During the internship, the trainee must perform at least five of the following acts and functions of a journalistic nature:
 - a) Writing, coordination, choice of titles, integration, correction or coordination of matter to be disclosed in the media, with or without comments;
 - b) Commentary or chronicle in the media;
 - c) Interview, inquiry or written or spoken report in the media;
 - d) Planning and technical organization of services;
 - e) Research, collection, selection and treatment of facts, news, information or opinions and their preparation through texts, image or sound for dissemination in the media;
 - f) Revision of originals of journalistic articles and research of the respective data for the preparation of news;
 - g) Organization and conservation of journalistic archive and research of the respective data for the preparation of news;
 - h) Execution of distribution of text, photography or illustration of journalistic character for disclosure purposes;
 - i) Execution of artistic or technical drawings of a journalistic nature.

5. The media organ issues a certificate of successful completion of the internship, to which documents are attached proving the practice of acts of journalistic nature referred to in the previous number.
6. The internship ends with an examination by the Press Council in which the trainee must demonstrate knowledge related to professional ethics, rights and duties of journalists, functions and duties of the media, functions of the State in the media sector and other relevant issues of the legal regime of journalistic activity.
7. The internship is carried out in the main occupation, permanent and remunerated with at least the national minimum wage.

Article 17

Incompatibilities

1. The profession of journalist may not be carried out concomitantly with the following functions:
 - a) civil servant;
 - b) holding an office in a sovereign body, local authority or community leadership;
 - c) political party leader;
 - d) public relations or press, communication and image advisor;
 - e) any activity aimed at promoting goods or services in the form of advertising.
2. The provisions of paragraph a) of the preceding number shall not apply to civil servants performing the functions of journalist in the State media.
3. While performing the duties specified in paragraph 1, the professional shall return his/her identification title to the Press Council, being prevented from exercising journalistic activity.
4. The impediment ceases as soon as the situation that gave rise to it ceases, and the journalist can once again carry out his duties as a journalist if he joins any of the media again.
5. Violation of paragraph 1 is punished with a fine of \$250 to \$1,000 (USD).

Article 18

Freedom of affiliation

1. Journalists have the right to join journalists' organizations of their own free choice.
2. Anyone who compels or by any means coerces a journalist to join a particular organization is punished with a fine of \$250 to \$500 USD.

Article 19

Rights

1. The journalist has the right to identify with his name any work of his/her authorship or in which he has collaborated.
2. The journalist has the right of access to official sources of information, in accordance with the law.
3. The journalist has the right of access to all events open to the public in the performance of his duties, as well as to those which, although of restricted access, are or may be open to the generality of the media.
4. The journalist has the right to professional secrecy and cannot be obliged to reveal his sources of information, except when ordered to do so by the court, in accordance with the law of criminal procedure.

5. The journalist must not be embarrassed to express or to subscribe to opinions or perform professional tasks contrary to their conscience or to the Journalists' Code of Ethics, nor may him/her be sanctioned for such refusal.
6. The journalist may not be detained, removed or in any way prevented from performing his/her activity in the place where his/her presence as a media professional is required.
7. Under no circumstances may the journalist be deprived of his/her professional material or obliged to display collected items, except by court order.
8. The journalist has the right to participate in the internal life of the media body in which he is working, namely the editorial board or similar body, when it exists, in accordance with its statutes.

Article 20

General Obligations

1. General duties of the journalist are to:
 - a) contribute to freedom of expression and of the press and shall report to the competent authorities any acts and omissions which constitute restrictions on freedom of expression, freedom of the press or any other form of limitation on the right of citizens to information of which they are aware;
 - b) inform citizens in an educational, honest and responsible manner, and should refrain from:
 - i. Publishing false news or rumors;
 - ii. Disseminating fraudulently obtained text, images or sound;
 - c) defend pluralism of opinion and refrain from systematically withholding information of public interest relating to a particular current of opinion, cultural tradition, religion or ethnic group;
 - d) exercise his/her profession independently and impartially, and shall refrain from:
 - i. Producing news or opinion at the behest of political or economic interests;
 - ii. Treating, differently, situations or facts that are essentially the same or similar;
 - e) respect the presumption of innocence of those concerned in legal proceedings until such time as the decision of the courts has become final.
2. A culpable breach of the duties provided for in the preceding paragraph shall constitute a disciplinary offence punishable under the terms of the regulation referred to in article 44(c), guaranteeing the right of defense and the adversarial procedure.

Article 21

Code of Ethics

The Journalists' Code of Ethics is approved by the Press Council, after hearing the journalists, and binds all professionals in the exercise of their activity.

CHAPTER IV

ORGANS AND MEDIA

Article 22

Establishment of the media

1. The role of the media is to inform, educate and entertain by contributing to an informed society and diverse public opinion.
2. Any citizen is free to form a media outlet in the form of a commercial company established under the law.

3. The State has the right to establish public service media in accordance with the law.
4. The State and citizens are free to set up news agencies with a view to disseminating information at the national and international level.

Article 23

Non-profit-making media

Community, associative, confessional and doctrinal media are regulated by law.

Article 24

Foreign capital

The participation of foreign natural or legal persons in the share capital of a media outlet may not exceed 30 % of the share capital of the respective body.

Article 25

Foreign Media

1. Foreign media wishing to distribute or post a correspondent in Timor-Leste must apply for the respective body's registration and accreditation with the Press Council.
2. The Press Council issues a professional card to the correspondent.

Article 26

Frequency Licensing

Radio and television media may operate only under a frequency license, to be granted by the National Communications Authority, which ensures the management of the radio spectrum.

Article 27

Formal requirements

1. Print media shall also contain, on the first page, the title of publication, the date or periodicity to which it refers and its price, as well as, on any internal page, the identification of the owner, the management members, editorial officers, and the name and address of the head office.
2. Radio or television programs should refer to the identification of the transmitting media and authors, as well as editorial and technical managers.
3. The media have an obligation to preserve a copy of audiovisual materials for six months after their publication.
4. Violation of the provisions of the preceding paragraphs constitutes a violation punished with a fine of \$1,000 to \$2,500 USD.

Article 28

Registration

1. All media are subject to registration with the Press Council.
2. Registration is an administrative measure and does not constitute an act of authorization.
3. The Press Council shall establish the items to be entered in the register.
4. The register shall be published in the Official Gazette by the Press Council.

Article 29

Legal deposit

1. The entities that own any publication must send two copies to the National Library and the National Archive on the same day of distribution.

2. The purpose of the legal deposit is to allow the constitution of a documentary fund, the conservation of the documentation and its consultation by interested parties.

Article 30

Disclosure of owners

1. Companies and the media shall make public the identity of their owners or associates, partners or cooperators, or the legal persons that own them.
2. The disclosure referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be made at the beginning of each calendar year and whenever there is any change in the ownership of the property right or in the composition of the legal person or its capital.
3. The act of disclosure is published in the *Jornal da República* and in the media belonging to the media company.
4. Violation of the provisions of this article constitutes an infraction punished with a fine of \$1,000 to \$2,500 USD.

Article 31

Editorial Board

1. All media should have an editorial board.
2. The editorial board is headed by an editor-in-chief.
3. It shall be the task of the editorial board, in particular, to:
 - a) Cooperate with management in the exercise of editorial orientation functions of its responsibility;
 - b) Issue opinion on the drafting and changes to the editorial statement;
 - c) Comment on the conformity of advertising texts or images with the media editorial statement;
 - d) Rule on the invocation by journalists of the right to freedom of conscience in accordance with the law;
 - e) Issue statements on ethical issues or other editorial related issues;
 - f) Comment on disciplinary liability of journalists, including proceedings for dismissal for good cause, within five days of the date on which the case is handed over to them.
4. The editorial board is internally and externally responsible for all journalistic products.

Article 32

Editorial status

1. All media organizations should adopt editorial statutes that clearly define their orientation and objectives and include a commitment to ensure respect for deontological principles and professional ethics, as well as the good faith of their readers.
2. The editorial statute is prepared by the media director and, after the opinion of the Editorial Board, submitted to the ratification of the proprietary entity, and must be inserted in the first edition of the publication or in the first issue of the broadcasting station and sent within ten days after the Press Council.
3. Without prejudice to the provisions of the preceding paragraph, the editorial statute shall be disclosed at the beginning of each calendar year to inform the public of its maintenance.
4. Changes to the editorial statement are subject to prior opinion by the Editorial Board and should be reproduced in the first edition or issue following its ratification by the owner and must be sent within ten days of the Press Council.

Article 33
Advertising

1. Dissemination of advertising materials must respect the fundamental values, principles and institutions enshrined in the Constitution.
2. All written or graphic advertisement, in the form of text or image whose insertion has been paid for, must be identified by the word "PUBLICITY" or the letters "PUB".
3. The insertion of advertising materials in the media must not prejudice their editorial independence.
4. Advertising that expresses opinions on matters of public interest must contain the identity and direction of the advertiser.
5. Violation of the provisions of the preceding paragraphs constitutes an infraction punished with a fine of \$5,000 to \$25,000 USD.

CHAPTER V
RIGHT OF REPLY AND RECTIFICATION

Article 34
Conditions of effectiveness

1. The right of reply or rectification shall be exercised by the holder or legal representative within thirty days from the date of publication or transmission of the content to which a reply or rectification is addressed.
2. The right of reply or rectification shall be respected if, in the meantime, with the agreement of the holder or his/her representative, the media has corrected or clarified the content in question.
3. The duly identified reply or rectification should be addressed to the head of the media.
4. The reply or rectification must be published or transmitted in the edition following the date of receipt, using the same criteria of visibility of the content that gave rise to it.
5. The rectification is mandatory and cannot be refused.
6. The reply text may be refused if it:
 - a) goes beyond the scope of the references which caused it;
 - b) goes beyond the limits of space or time of the content which gave rise to it;
 - c) contains offensive or derogatory language to any of the persons or entities involved.
7. Reasons must be given for such a refusal by the editorial officer of the media outlet and must be made known to the right holder on the day following receipt of the reply.
8. Failure to state reasons for refusing to exercise the right to reply constitutes an administrative offence punishable by a fine of \$2,500 to \$10,000.

Article 35
Judicial intervention

1. If the reply is not published, the person concerned may, within thirty days from the date of knowledge of the refusal, request the court of first instance to order its publication.
2. The request must state the grounds on which it is based, clearly state the reasons for its rejection, the mistakes made and the rules infringed, and be accompanied by a sample or copy of the text giving rise to the right of reply and the dated and signed text of the reply in triplicate.

Article 36
Judicial processing

1. The judge, upon receipt of the request, shall order, within forty-eight hours, the citation of the editor-in-chief of the publication to respond and sustain the reasons for the non-publication of the response.
2. The deadline for reply is forty-eight hours.
3. The case shall be decided within eight working days of the application being lodged with the judicial office.
4. In the judgment, the judge orders the defendant to publish the reply and also to have it published in a broadcasting station with the largest audience and in another periodical with the largest circulation, all costs being charged to the defendant.
5. The publication and disclosure referred to in the preceding paragraph shall take place within three days of the final court decision.

Article 37
Qualified disobedience

Failure by the editor-in-chief of the court order ordering publication or dissemination of the reply shall constitute qualified disobedience, punishable under the terms of the Penal Code.

CHAPTER VI
FORMS OF LIABILITY

Article 38
Forms of liability

The perpetrators are civilly and criminally liable for acts that harm the interests and values protected by law, committed through the press.

Article 39
Civil liability

1. The author, the director or his/her legal representative and the company or the media are jointly and severally liable for the damages they have caused in cases of publication of text, sound or image in a media outlet;
2. The right to compensation for damages caused by means of the press shall expire if the respective action is not filed within three years from the date on which the targeted publication or transmission occurred, as provided in Article 432 of the Civil Code.

Article 40
Administrative offences

1. Violations of the provisions of this law that do not entail criminal or disciplinary responsibility, and for which the Press Council has exhausted its mediation mechanisms, if any, shall be judged by the Press Council, which shall impose the respective fines.
2. The procedure for imposing fines is regulated in a separate statute and guarantees the right of defense and adversarial proceedings.
3. Appeals to the court of first instance shall lie from the decisions of the Press Council.
4. The destination of the proceeds of the fines referred to in paragraph 1 shall be determined by a joint decree of the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry responsible for the Media sector.

Article 41

Attack on freedom of information

1. A prison sentence of up to two years or a fine shall be imposed on any person who:
 - a) prevent or disturb the composition, printing, distribution and free movement of publications;
 - b) seize any publications;
 - c) seize or damage any materials necessary for the exercise of journalistic activity;
 - d) prevent journalists or teams of press organs from gaining free access to public places;
 - e) practice any other act that disturbs, impedes, questions or diminishes the ability to exercise journalistic activity under this law.
2. A public official or state agent who commits an attack on the freedom of the press shall be punished by imprisonment for up to three years or by a fine.
3. The attempt is punishable.
4. The criminal liability of the offender shall be without prejudice to the right to compensation under the general system of civil liability.

CHAPTER VII

PRESS COUNCIL

Article 42

Nature and independence

1. The Press Council is the independent administrative body and exercises its duties and powers without any subordination to directives or guidelines from the political power.
2. The statute of the Press Council is approved by decree.

Article 43

Essential tasks

The Press Council has the essential attributions of watching over the professional and ethical conduct of journalism professionals and media operators, as well as ensuring compliance with the conditions for access to and exercise of journalistic activity.

Article 44

Powers

The competences of the Press Council are to:

- a) promote freedom of expression and the press and the independence of the media from all influences of individuals, groups or political and economic interests;
- b) approve and supervise compliance with the Code of Ethics by all journalists and media;
- c) exercise disciplinary power over journalists, in accordance with its own rules, to be approved by the Press Council, where infringements, the corresponding sanctions and the disciplinary procedure are laid down;
- d) assign, renew, suspend and revoke the professional title of journalist;
- e) carry out registration of all media and promote publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic;
- f) maintain an up-to-date database of media companies, organizations of journalists and practicing journalists;
- g) arbitrate and mediate disputes arising from the exercise of journalistic activity, in the relationship between citizens, the organizations, state bodies and the media;

- h) issue opinions whenever the Court deems it necessary to obtain the expert opinion of the Press Council in order to settle disputes arising from journalistic activity;
- i) promote dialogue between media operators, society and state bodies;
- j) support organizations of journalists in developing professional, technical and intellectual skills of journalists.

Article 45

Composition

1. The Press Council shall consist of five members, to be appointed as follows:
 - a) two representatives of journalists chosen by them and by election;
 - b) a representative of the media, chosen by them and by election;
 - c) two citizens of recognized professional reputation and merit, preferably linked to the media, one of them being a lawyer, appointed by the National Parliament.
2. The members of the Press Council elect their President from among themselves.

Article 46

Mandate

The term of office of a member of the Press Council is four years and may be renewed only once.

Article 47

Status of members

1. The performance of the function of member of the Press Council is cumulative with the exercise of his/her professional activity, is neither remunerated nor subsidized, and is not permanent.
2. Members of the Press Council shall be entitled to a presence ticket, in accordance with the terms laid down in their statute.

Article 48

Financing

1. The financial costs of the Press Council shall be met by appropriation entered in the General State Budget, without prejudice to the collection of its own revenues.
2. The way the budget is allocated must not affect the independence of the Press Council.

Article 49

Reporting

The Press Council presents an annual activity report to the National Parliament, which is subject to consideration and discussion in plenary session, with the mandatory presence of the President of the Press Council.

CHAPTER VIII

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 50

Previous rights

1. Journalists are recognized as those who, on the date this law comes into force, are in the exercise of their activity for the same or a longer period of time than that required for the professional traineeship corresponding to their academic qualifications.
2. For journalists with a literary qualification lower than secondary education, the probationary period required for those with that degree shall apply.

3. The journalists referred to in paragraph 1 shall be exempt from completing their professional traineeship and shall have the right to immediate issuance of their professional card, unless they are working for less than the time allowed for the traineeship corresponding to their literary qualification, in which case the professional card may be requested and issued only after the time allowed for the traineeship.

Article 51

Transitional regime

The media that do not comply with the provisions of this law, namely articles 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 30, 31 and 32, on the date of entry into force of this law, shall have one year after this date to complete the process of regularization of their situation before the competent public entities.

Article 52

Regulation

The statute of the Press Council shall be approved within ninety days of the entry into force of this law.

Article 53

Rule of repeal

Article 11(1)(a) of Law No 9/2003 of 15 October 2003 on Immigration and Asylum is hereby repealed.

Article 54

Entry into force

This law shall enter into force thirty days after its publication.

Approved October 27, 2014.

The President of the National Parliament,

Vicente da Silva Guterres

Promulgated on 13 November 2014.

Be it published.

The President of the Republic,

Taur Matan Ruak

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