

## **JSMP's Welcome Speech for the Participants DTP**

- **Your Excellency Provedor Direitus Umanus, Sr. Virgilio da Silva Guterres**
- **Your Excellency Head of Capacity Development, Global Campus, Sr. Adriano Remiddi**
- **Your Excellency Director of UNTL, Prof. João Soares Martins**
- **Your Excellency Embaxador of Thailand**
- **Your Excellency Director, UNTL Human Rights Center**
- **Your Excellency Director, Diplomacy Training Programm, Sr. Patrick, mana Clare and mana Chit**
- **Your Excellencies participants, and colleagues from DTP, Human Rights Center, Media and JSMP**

**Bondia/Good morning,**

First of all, I want to thank God for the opportunity that we have gathered here.

It is a great honour and a real pleasure for me to welcome you all on behalf of the Judicial System Monitoring Pogramme (JSMP) as co-hosts of this event in collaboration with Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) and Human Rights Center. Together, we have a shared commitment to advancing the recognition, promotion and protection of both human rights and human rights defenders in Timor-Leste and the Asia Pacific.

**Distinguished participants,**

As many of you have witnessed, human rights violations in the region have increased significantly in recent years and at the same time, we human rights defenders face enormous risks in the work to uphold human rights values. Therefore, this training is a strategic approach to respond to this situation and an opportunity for you all to build your capacity to be able to engage in effective advocacy to protect and promote human rights in your respective countries. I would, therefore, like to encourage you to actively

participate in the discussions and share your experiences as well as discuss common strategies on how to promote human rights at a local, national and regional level.

It is my belief that you will obtain extraordinary practical experiences from this training which will send you back to your work with a new spirit to continue fighting for human rights defenders and advocates.

Again, I encourage you all to utilize the next two weeks to build, develop and strengthen an advocacy network amongst yourselves.

In conclusion, we would like to extend our profound gratitude to those who directly and indirectly provide continued support for this program. We hope we continue this fruitful cooperation in coming years.

I once again welcome all the participants and thank you for showing keen interest in this unique and insightful opportunity.

**Obrigado and thank you**

**Ana Paula Marçal**  
**Executive Director of JSMP**