



## PRESIDÊNCIA DA REPÚBLICA

### PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Over 1000 runners from 28 countries prepare for the 2010 Dili Marathon**

**Dili, 19 Jun (PPR) – President of Timor-Leste and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, José Ramos-Horta, today has announced: “It is my honour to welcome, on behalf of the State, all of our participants and supporters of the first Dili Marathon. This is an inaugural event, which will help place Timor-Leste in its rightful place on the world stage.”**

The President went on to say “We have 28 nationalities represented in the race with over 1000 runners participating. We are also honoured to have Rosa Mota, who is the most famous woman marathon runner of all time, joining me to walk the 5 km course tomorrow. The Dili Marathon will be an incredible experience for everyone involved. As an annual event it will show the world that Timor-Leste’s doors are open and its people are ready to welcome visitors to this beautiful nation.”

The course for the marathon has just been remeasured by Steve Jackson, who was the course director for the Sydney Olympic Marathon. Mr. Jackson stated that “the course fully meets the requirements of the IAAF (International Amateur Athletic Federation), this means that the course is up to national championship standards and the winner of the Dili Marathon will set the first national record for a marathon here in Timor-Leste.”

The first Dili Marathon actually has four running events: the full marathon (42 kms.), the half marathon (21kms.), a 10 km. fun run and the 5 km. fun run. The current registrations for the four events are as follows: 112 runners in the marathon, 182 runners in the half marathon, 253 runners in the 10 km and 492 in the 5 km. Registration for the 5 km. is still open today and race organizers are expected many late registrations to the race.

*Visit the official website: [www.dilimarathon.com](http://www.dilimarathon.com) for more info.*

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