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WHO strengthen services at the National Health Laboratory

In order to strengthen diagnostic services and emergency preparedness, WHO has supported the provision of vital equipment for the National Health Laboratory. The handover ceremony of the equipment, took place at the National Health Laboratory, Dili on August 14th, 2014.

Dr. Jorge Mario Luna, WHO Representative and H.E. Dr Sergio Gama Lobo Spb, Minister of Health, Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste handed over the equipment to Dr Maria Santina de Jesus Gomes, Director of the National Health Laboratory, which included an Ultra-Low Temperature Freezer, an Ice lined Freezer and an RT PCR (Real Time Polymerase Chain Reaction) Machine. This equipment will greatly strengthen the capacity of the National Health Laboratory.



HE Dr Sergio Lobo, Minister of Health inspects the new equipment at the National Health Laboratory with Dr Maria Santina de Jesus Gomes, Director of National Laboratory and Dr Jorge Mario Luna, WHO Representative

During the handover ceremony, H.E. Dr. Sergio Gama Lobo expressed his gratitude for the continued support from WHO to strengthen and develop health services in Timor-Leste. The donation of this equipment is part of the ongoing support from WHO to the National Health Laboratory and the Ministry of Health. Earlier this year, WHO assisted the Ministry of Health in situational analysis of Timor-Leste health laboratories and development of a National Health Laboratory Strategic Plan (2015-2019) under the “EU-WHO Universal Health Coverage Partnership in Timor-Leste (2013-2015). Supporting policy dialogue on national health policies, strategies and plans and universal health coverage.” During his handover speech, Dr. Jorge Mario Luna, WHO Representative, expressed WHO’s firm commitment to continue to support the National Health Laboratory in order to improve diagnostics and the national capacity in the event of a public health emergency.