



SOVEREIGN ORDER OF SAINT JOHN OF JERUSALEM  
KNIGHTS OF MALTA  
FEDERATION OF THE AUTONOMOUS PRIORI

*Magisterial House*

**MAGISTERIAL DECREE 24 / 2019**

**To all Dames and Knights, Brethren of  
Our Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem  
Knights of Malta  
Federation of Autonomous Priorities,  
let it be known by the present letters that**

**We, José, by the Grace of God Hereditary Regent and Grand Chancellor of the Sovereign Order of Cyprus, Hereditary Grand Prior and Procurator General of the Grand Priory of the Most Holy Trinity of Villedieu and, by the Will of Our fellow Knights, Prince Grand Master and Head of State of the Federation of Autonomous Priorities of the Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, also said of the Knights Hospitallers or of Malta, in virtue of the powers bestowed upon Us, namely the by the Articles n° 1, n° 2, n° 3, n° 4 and n° 8 of Chapter VII and all the Articles of the Chapter XIV of Our Constitutional Letter;**

**Considering that to be able to respect and to continue the glorious historical and traditional past of Our Sovereign Order, the structure of the Government of Our State requires, whenever necessary, to be altered and updated ;**

**Considering that one of the historical missions of Our Sovereign Order and State is to contribute for the progress and the development of Mankind, and that for this purpose we need the commitment of Knights and Dames of recognized value and merit who are ready and willing to collaborate in our mission ;**

**Considering the special attention that our Government has been giving to the African Continent, where for many years and in different countries we are conducting since the years of 1994 an important humanitarian work, as well as many activities of Cooperation in different fields through our Embassies and Consulates ;**

**Considering that the State Secretary for African Affairs of Our Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Sir Dr. Manuel Inácio Santos Torres has recently been appointed as State Counsellor for African Affairs of Our Magisterial State Council and due to this high position, in accordance with the Paragraph a) of the Article 2<sup>nd</sup> of the Chapter XVIII of Our Constitutional Letter, had to cease all his Governmental duties, leaving this position vacant ;**

**Considering that the Knight hereinafter appointed has by his work largely proven for several years his merit, dedication and commitment , and also the fact that he is well-known and very dear to Us,**



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having had all of the aforementioned facts in consideration, in accordance with Our Constitutional Letter and after having consulted with the competent Governmental bodies in accordance with the Article 8<sup>th</sup> of the Chapter VII of Our Constitutional Letter,

We come to decree and We do decree:

ARTICLE 1<sup>st</sup> – By the present Decree We come to appoint

*His Excellency Ambassador Reinaldo Viriato  
de Sousa, KCM*

as

**STATE SECRETARY FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS OF OUR MINISTRY  
FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

of the Government of Our State.

ARTICLE 2<sup>nd</sup> – The new State Secretary will perform his duties by delegation and under the supervision and coordination of His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs and will report directly and jointly to the said Minister, to the Prime Minister and to the Grand Master as Head of the State and President of the Government of Our State.

ARTICLE 3<sup>rd</sup> - This decree is effective from this day on and was given in two ( 2 ) pages, at Our Grand Magisterial House this 12<sup>th</sup> day of the month of December of the year of our Lord 2019 and to it We have hereunto set Our hand and the seals in use at this House .

His Most Eminent Highness José, PRINCE  
GRAND MASTER and HEAD OF STATE