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Elections approaching

## THE POPULARITY OF THE PRIME MINISTER DECREASES

**Purikali** - The fall to 38% of approval for Ms Ruikawahi, the worst during her mandate, indicated by the opinion polls will likely affect the performance of the Party of Liberty-Green (PMR) in the next legislative elections. Although the result of the elections in October is still unpredictable, the PMR has reasons to fear the always strong Party of Progress (PM), the major opposition Party. The polls indicated a tie between both Parties for the projections of the number of seats in the Parliament.

Among the causes of this fall, analysts pointed out the weak performance of Kaupelanese economy last year, when the domestic product grew only 2.4%. If we consider the significant devaluation of the huwa against the dollar, in fact, the GDP decreased 7.3% in dollars. This is the second worst performance among the FICT countries in 2012, losing only to Tarmorya that decreased 18.5%, due to the civil war that almost ruined the country.

The government had to deal with a defeat at the Parliament where a pro-

posal to reduce the taxes on imported and locally produced cars, made by the opposition coalition PT-PM, was approved thanks to the support of PRI, a former allied of the government. The argument to keep the taxes high (50% for imported cars, 20% for local ones) was to stimulate the public transportation.

On international affairs, analysts see a loss of influence of current government too. In the last General Assembly of FICT, held in Adzhatia on May 4<sup>th</sup>, for instance, Kaupelan was the only country that voted in favour of FSCH, the FICT Secretariat for Cultural Heritage, which was originally in the wording of the Treaty of Ísðor as proposed by Kaupelan. Another Kaupelanese proposal to the Summit of Adzhatia, some rules for FESD, the Fund for Economic and Social Development, had its decision postponed.

The government coalition PMR-PH has to work hard to reverse this gloomy scenario. The economy shows signs of recovery in 2013, but it is still far from achieving the growth rates of previous years.

FICT

## THE DIRECTOR OF FSTS

Considered the best centre forward of the country, the former football player, former coach, former NGO activist and now former minister of culture and sports, Ramiru Sendereh (PMR), was chosen by the General Assembly of FICT as the director of FSTS, the Secretariat of Tourism and Sports.

Mi Sendereh will live for two years in La Mère à Boire, a town in the distant Île de Romanhe, where the FSTS office will be installed. Controversial, some people accuse him of being "a braggart", but now he counts on the votes of confidence of most countries of FICT.

Always optimist, he said that the initial mission of FSTS will be to prepare the FICT Games in the South American country of Yutyrama, in November, and that he is sure "the Games will be a flawless success". But he added that the secretariat will not focus only on sports. "Tourism is one important economic activity among FICT members and FSTS can have an important role in promoting the cooperation in this area".

His wife Maryani will move to the new country at the end of the year. Their three kids, however, will remain in Kaupelan due to their professional duties. Yesaya, 18, the youngest son, is also a football player and recently signed a contract with MKA Kaupelan, the same club his father played in the 70's.



2013 - YUTYRAMA  
FICT GAMES