

João Lourenço invested as President of the Republic of Angola

João Lourenço was today invested as President of the Republic of Angola, the third president that the country has known since independence, in November 1975.



The event, attended by national and international guests, and thousands of members of the public, took place at the António Agostinho Neto Memorial, in Luanda, in the same place and on the same day that José Eduardo dos Santos was invested for the last time as head of the Angolan State, after the 2012 elections.

The ceremony was attended by around two dozen heads of State and Government, and was conducted by Presiding Judge Councillor of the Constitutional Court, Rui Ferreira, who proclaimed the election of João Lourenço and Bornito de Sousa for the positions of President and Vice-President of Angola.

In his investiture speech, João Lourenço spoke of the principles of universal justice and economic freedom in the country, taking on the commitment to “deal” with an “inclusive governance” of the “nation’s problems” throughout his term in office.

The new President has stated that “during this new political cycle that starts today, legitimised at the ballot box, the Constitution will be our compass for guidance and the laws our decision criteria”. João Lourenço considers himself to be the “President of all Angolans” and proposes working on the improvement of the Angolan people’s living and well-being conditions, which will continue to be a national priority.

In his speech, he emphasised the importance of the public administration reform process, and the promotion of a policy to increase the efficiency of services. For João Lourenço, the public administration reform must prioritise the simplification of procedures and the valuation of human capital, through policy focussed on training, motivation and the career development of officers and civil servants.

João Lourenço believes that it is necessary to promote the social state, with policies of economic and social inclusion and the reduction of inequalities, investing in development with emphasis on the rural environment.

The President also had words of hope for young people, upon whom he rests responsibility for the future of the nation, and for women, who “play a fundamental role in the balance of society”.