José Manuel Santos Pais (Portugal)

**Date of birth**: 12 June 1954

**Working languages**: Portuguese, French, English, Spanish, Italian and German

**Current position/function**

Portuguese Constitutional Court (CC), Assistant Attorney General since 2009 (Procureur-Général Adjoint à la Cour Constitutionnelle), Member of the Portuguese judicial system; Public Prosecutor since 1977

**Main professional activities**

Assistant Attorney General at the CC, responsible for civil and political rights issues

Director (1978-2003), Comparative Law Office, national institution for Human Rights (HR) promotion and dissemination and international legal cooperation, working to achieve conformity of national legislation with international treaties and implementation processes; coordinating HR advocacy initiatives on discrimination and racism; coordinating training initiatives on HR and international cooperation for the judiciary and legal professions

Participation in international standard-setting processes, including on protection of minorities rights and human rights in criminal justice and criminal judicial cooperation

Cooperation with legislative reform commissions and participation in bilateral and multilateral processes on legal and judicial cooperation and assistance

**Educational background**

Law degree (1971-1976), by the Faculdade de Direito da Universidade de Lisboa (Faculty of Law — Lisbon University)

**Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned**

Head (2003-2006), Bureau for International, European and Legal Cooperation, coordinating legal cooperation with UN, Council of Europe, EU, *i.a*., and international judicial cooperation, *e.g.* creation of judicial networks (European, Ibero American and Lusophone)

Coordination of a major Portuguese legal and human rights periodical (BDDC)

Editor of several advocacy materials (UN) to raise awareness of existing human rights standards and remedies (http://direitoshumanos.gddc.pt/6/VIPAG6.htm)

Involvement in the automation of legal and judicial information systems and of a human rights portal for the judiciary and legal professions (http://direitoshumanos.gddc.pt/)

Member of the Consultative Council of European Prosecutors (2014 onwards)

Member of the Board of the Portuguese National Committee for Unicef (2001 onwards)

List of most recent publications in the field:

Childhood and Youth Bulletin (Infância e Juventude) (2005) – Direito à participação das crianças: um conto à procura dos seus autores (on child participation).

BMJ nº 302 (1981) – La prévention criminelle – conclusions du 5ème Congrès de l’ONU sur la prévention criminelle et le traitement de délinquants : le cas portugais.

Ministry of Justice Bulletin (BMJ) nº 295 (1980) – Le pacte international sur les DESC.