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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF TIMOR-LESTE TO  
THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
IN GENEVA

13th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review  
Consideration of the National Report of Brazil  
25 May 2011

*Statement by Ambassador Joaquim da Fonseca*

Thank You Mdm President.

Timor-Leste warmly welcomes the Brazilian delegation, lead by H.E. Ms. Maria do Rosário Nunes, the Minister of Human Rights.

Timor-Leste congratulate Brazil for its unequivocal commitment to the protection and promotion of human rights in its territory. We reiterate our appreciation for the openness of Brazil to the UPR process, evident in the level of sincerity that permeates the report of Brazil in this second cycle.

Without a doubt, the progressive realization of economic, social and cultural rights is a strong development in Brazil in recent years. We are pleased with the recent development of an integrated and multisectoral measure - Brazil without Poverty - to combat extreme poverty.

Madam President,

The National Report of Brazil recognizes the existence of threats against human rights defenders. Timor-Leste believes that the adoption of measures for the protection of the physical integrity and the life of human rights defenders must be coordinated with measures to strengthen the independence and transparency of the judiciary. A judicial system that ensures accountability for all, regardless of their social status or economic condition, is, in practice, one of the best mechanisms for real protection of human rights defenders. Timor-Leste recommends that Brazil considers the development of a comprehensive policy to address the problem of human rights violations against its defenders founded on strategies for strengthening the independence of the judiciary and increasing the awareness of the population and public authorities of the important role of these defenders.

Thank you