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

15<sup>th</sup> Session of the HRC's Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review  
Review of the National Report of Romania

Statement by  
Ambassador Joaquim da Fonseca

Thank you Mr. President,

Timor-Leste welcomes the delegation of Romania to the 15<sup>th</sup> session of the UPR and expresses its appreciation to the efforts made by the Romania to improve the human rights situation in the country.

Since the review of the 1<sup>st</sup> cycle, Romania has taken various measures to implement the accepted recommendations. In particular, we welcome the formulation of the Government Strategy for the Inclusion of Romanian Belonging to Roma Minority. Indeed, such a long term and multidisciplinary strategy, with adequate commitment of resources, is required to ensure the inclusion of groups which have been socially excluded for a long period of time.

Furthermore, we note that Romania has taken legislative and administrative measures to improve the prisons conditions and to strengthen the oversight mechanism for its penitentiary institutions, with NGOs granted access to conduct prison monitoring. We encourage Romania to continue these efforts to ensure humane treatment of its citizens deprived of their liberty.

The national report of Romania highlights existing challenges for children from poor household and remote areas to access quality education. Stakeholders' information suggests that these challenges may be attributed to the delay in the implementation of the provision of law on education, which guarantees the allocation of 6% of GDP to education.

Timor-Leste wishes to offer the following recommendations:

1. Ensure adequate financial resources, both from the national budget as well as through regional and international cooperation, for the implementation of the Strategy for the Inclusion of Romanian Belonging to Roma Minority;
2. Allocate adequate financial resources for education in the State Budget as provided for by the Law on Education 2011.