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

Statement by Ms. Sebastiana Barros, First Secretary

On the occasion of the Review of the National Report of Cape Verde

At the 16th Session of the Universal Periodic Review

23 April 2013

Thank you Mr. President,

Timor-Leste extends a warm welcome to the distinguished delegation of Cape Verde and thanks them for their informative report provided and their participation to the 16th session of the UPR.

Timor-Leste wishes to congratulate the Government of Cape Verde for the progress made in the field of human rights, since the presentation of 1st UPR. Timor-Leste welcomes, in particular, the ratification of the Optional Protocol of CEDAW, the Convention on the Rights of Person with Disabilities and the Rome Statute, as well as the reform process in the justice sector and the adoption of a significant legislation to ensure the autonomy and independence of the judiciary system. These steps reflect genuine commitment and provide a solid basis for strengthening the implementation of the human rights in the country.

We notes that Cape Verde recognizes the existing challenges in particular the high dropout rates in the secondary school as stated in the paragraph 68 of the national report and we therefore encourage Cape Verde to adopt appropriate measure and ensure that every child can enjoy their rights to education.

We call on the international community to continue support the Government of Cape Verde in its endeavours, particularly in the implementation of the recommendation of the UPR working group.

I thank you.