



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

Statement on the Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (WG-UPR)
18th Session

Vanuatu

Mr. President,

Timor-Leste welcomes the member of the Delegation of Vanuatu to the UPR 18th session.

Timor-leste takes note of the positive steps undertaken by the Government of Vanuatu with regards to the promotion and protection of human rights and its efforts to implement most of the accepted recommendations during the last review.

Furthermore, Timor-Leste would like to express its appreciation for the frankness of Vanuatu national report, which clearly underlines constraints and challenges which prevent the full implementation of human rights policies and which stresses the need to identify and address key priorities.

Speaking from a LDC perspective, Timor-leste fully understands that lack of resources, both human and financial, represents one of the major challenges to be addressed. In this regard, Timor-Leste recommend to continuously seeking international support in terms of technical and financial assistance in order to increase capacity-building and to develop programmes and policies aimed at promoting the enjoyment of human rights to all citizens in key areas, such as health and education.

With regard to education, we note with appreciation the ongoing implementation of the "Universal Primary Education Policy" (UPE), which provides free education and right to access to education for Class 1-6. However, we are concerned that the Government of Vanuatu has not yet formulated a compulsory education policy, and, in this regard, we recommend providing primary education accessible to all by making education compulsory at the primary level.

Timor-Leste also recommends:

-to allocate more resources to the education sector;