



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

Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
21th Session

KIRIBATI

Mr. President,

Timor-Leste warmly welcomes the members of the Delegation of Kiribati and thanks them for their participation to the 21st session of the UPR Working Group.

Timor-Leste notes with appreciation the withdrawal of all reservations to the Convention of the Rights of the Child as well and the adoption of the Education Act 2013 affirming the right of every child to education and prohibiting discrimination against children with disabilities in respect of school enrolment.

However, Timor-Leste remains concerned with the high percentage of children that do not attend primary school, in particular with the fact that pregnant girls are not allowed to attend school. We therefore recommend Kiribati to enshrine the right to education in its Constitution and to allow pregnant girls to pursue their education in schools of their choice.

Finally, we take this opportunity to recommend the ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, social and Cultural Rights, and its Optional Protocols and the establishment of a national institution for human rights in accordance with the Paris Principles, seeking international technical cooperation if necessary.

I thank you Mr. President.

Ambassador Marciano DA SILVA