



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 (WG-UPR)
22nd Session

PANAMA

Thank you Mr. President,

Timor-Leste welcomes H.E. _____
and his delegation, and commends them for the comprehensive report presented today.

The commitment of Panama during its last review was clear and we commend them for it.

My delegation also commends Panama for its efforts in promoting women's rights by introducing amendments to the Criminal Code that criminalize femicide and punish violence against women. Nevertheless the numbers of such crimes remain high, therefore we recommend its Government to strengthen the on-going efforts in this matter.

Timor-Leste wishes to commend Panama for its special unit of the National Police to investigate sexual offenses as well as the several programmes with the participation of civil society, namely the "Safe Neighbourhoods" program, as highlighted in its National Report.

Timor-Leste would like to offer a final recommendation: that is to increase efforts and resources to reduce the gap between indigenous peoples and other Panamanians in terms of access to education, health and economic development.

We wish Panama a successful UPR.

I thank you, Mr. President.

Check Against Delivery

Sebastiana Barros