



**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  
25<sup>th</sup> Session

**SAMOA**

Mr. President,

Timor-Leste warmly welcomes the members of the Delegation of Samoa and congratulates them for their participation at the 25<sup>th</sup> session of the UPR Working Group.

Timor-Leste notes with appreciation the constitutional amendment introducing a quota for women representatives in the Legislative Assembly as well as the broadening of the Ombudsman's functions with regard to promoting and protecting human rights.

My delegation commends Samoa for the establishment of a Family Court and for enacting the new Crimes Act 2013 outlining penalties for sexual offences.

While acknowledging the progresses made by the Government of Samoa, Timor-Leste takes this opportunity to make the following recommendations:

- That Samoa considers establishing an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles;
- That Samoa considers ratifying, as soon as possible, fundamental international human rights instruments such as the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

I thank you Mr. President.