**UPR – Timor-Leste – 3 November 2016**

**STATEMENT by BULGARIA**

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

Bulgaria warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Timor-Leste.

My delegation commends the Government of Timor-Leste for its achievements in the area of human rights since the country’s independence in 2002. We note with satisfaction that most of the human rights treaties have been ratified by the country.

Bulgaria expresses the appreciation of the establishment of the National Directive Commission with the main objective to design and draft the Human Rights National Action Plan and the National Action Plan on Children.

At the same time, we are concerned by different manifestations of violence and discriminations against women which affect their social, economic, cultural and political rights. Bulgaria shares the concerns of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and joins his recommendation to the Government of Timor-Leste to finalize the adoption of a National plan of action on gender-based violence and human trafficking. In this regard my delegation appreciates the efforts of the Government to improve the situation of women including through the Dili Declaration „Invest in women and children- invest in Equality“.

Bulgaria recommends Timor-Leste:

1. to issue a standing invitation to special procedure mandate holders

2. to consider ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

We wish Timor-Leste success.

Thank you!