

**United Nations Human Rights Council**

**26th Session of the UPR Working Group**

**Geneva, 3th November 2016**

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**German national statement**

**Timor-Leste**

Mr. President,

Germany welcomes the delegation of Timor-Leste to the UPR and thanks for the national report.

We commend Timor-Leste on the progress made, in particular with regard to the rights of persons with disabilities. We welcome the adoption of a national policy and the drafting of a National Action Plan on Persons with Disabilities. Nevertheless, Germany regrets that Timor-Leste has not yet ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Germany is concerned that violence against women in Timor-Leste remains wide spread and that domestic laws still do not fully align with CEDAW. We appreciate the drafting of a new National Action Plan on Gender-Based Violence and hope that it draws on lessons from the evaluation of the previous one.

During the 2012 UPR Timor-Leste committed to prevent human rights violations by security forces. However, we are deeply concerned about reports of torture, excessive use of force, mistreatments, demolition of property and arbitrary arrests by military and police forces, especially during police and military operations against the Maubere Revolutionary Council in 2015.

Germany offers the following recommendations to Timor-Leste:

1. Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities without further delay.
2. Effectively implement laws concerning sexual and gender-based violence by providing the human, financial and institutional resources necessary and assure conformity of domestic laws, policies and practices with Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
3. Take effective measures to prevent human rights violations by the military and security forces, such as further training and establishing more transparent mechanisms for investigating violations.

Thank you, Mr. President.