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**Statement by the Delegation of Nepal at the interactive dialogue with the Delegation of Timor-Leste during the 26th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, 3 November 2016**

Mr. President,

My delegation extends warm welcome to the delegation of Timor-Leste, and congratulates them for their comprehensive national report on the progress made in the promotion and protection of human rights. The culture of broad-based consultations among stakeholders in the implementation and reporting of human rights issues is encouraging.

We appreciate that various legislative, procedural and institutional measures taken by Timor-Leste for implementation of the pledges and recommendations made during the first UPR are bearing positive results. Obviously, the Government of Timor-Leste is putting sincere efforts in fulfilling its human rights commitments despite the socio-economic constraints and multiple development challenges. We particularly note the progress made in preparing and submitting the initial and periodic reports to various human rights treaty bodies. We take note that Timor-Leste has established a National Action Plan for Persons with Disabilities, 2014-2018, and is in the process of developing a National Action Plan on Human Rights, and an Action Plan on Children’s Rights. We also commend the efforts of the Government in combating discrimination and violence against women, and promoting gender equality for better enjoyment of human rights by all population.

While appreciating constructive engagement of Timor-Leste with the UN agencies and partner countries in the promotion and protection of human rights, we express our full sympathy to the call of technical and financial support from the wider international community in the implementation of its human rights obligations.

My delegation wishes the delegation of Timor-Leste all success in its current review, and makes the following recommendations:

1. Continue investing in women’s empowerment and promoting their participation in all aspects of the State machinery.
2. Give continuity to strengthening of national human rights institutions and mechanisms.

I thank you.