**Universal Periodic Review 22 – Timor-Leste**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

Thank you Mr. President,

The Netherlands thanks Timor-Leste for its comprehensive report. We welcome efforts undertaken by Timor-Leste to implement previously accepted UPR recommendations, incl. the implementation of a human rights training programme for police.

However, the Netherlands recommends Timor-Leste:

1. Firstly, to conduct immediate, impartial and exhaustive investigations into all allegations of excessive use of force, ill-treatment and arbitrary arrests by all law enforcement agencies, and strengthen accountability mechanisms,
2. Secondly, to step up efforts to reduce maternal mortality, by expanding coverage and quality of health-care services, goods and facilities focusing on maternal health care.

The Netherlands regret that reports of excessive use of force, ill-treatment and arbitrary arrest by police and military continue to be regular as noted by the Ombudsman[[1]](#footnote-1). Information on the investigations into these allegations and their outcomes is insufficiently available.

The Netherlands is worried about the fact that the maternal mortality rate remains one of the highest in the region, often because health facilities are not well equipped or too far away. We therefore welcome the draft 2016 – 2019 Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care Plan of Action. In this context, we also note that health facilities can also play an important role in ensuring that family planning services are available.

Thank you, Mr. President.

1. Compilation of UN information, A/HRC/WG.6/26/TLS/2, P. 6, <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G16/184/71/PDF/G1618471.pdf?OpenElement> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)