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Mr President,

New Zealand warmly welcomes the delegation from Timor-Leste and notes encouraging progress since the last UPR.   New Zealand is committed to continuing our support to Timor-Leste in the areas of peace and security, education and economic development.

Access to education for all has nearly been achieved in Timor-Leste.  This is a significant milestone. We **recommend** that Timor-Leste increases its investment in education so that future generations are better able to engage in the social and economic development of the country and to further take steps to eradicate corporal punishment in schools.

Timor-Leste recognises that violence against women and children is unacceptably high. This is a significant issue for New Zealand to address at home as well. New Zealand **recommends** that Timor-Leste make urgent strides towards decreasing domestic violence by ensuring that laws, policies and practices in relation to domestic violence are in line with Timor-Leste’s obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, and ensuring law enforcement officials are provided with training to implement these laws.

We **commend** the Government of Timor-Leste for adopting a National Policy for the inclusion and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities in May 2012. We **recommend** that Timor-Leste finalises its ratification of the Convention on the rights of Persons with Disabilities, and actively address the needs of persons with disabilities especially in remote areas of the country.

Finally, New Zealand considers that the people of Timor-Leste have shown incredible strength and resilience since independence to move forward. New Zealand **acknowledges** Timor-Leste’s efforts to date in implementing the recommendations of the Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation in East Timor (CAVR) and Commission of Truth and Friendship (CTF). New Zealand **recommends** Timor-Leste continue to give priority to implementing the CAVR and CTF recommendations regarding victims' rights to justice, truth and reparations.

Thank you, Mr President.