

**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF TIMOR-LESTE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA**

Universal Periodic Review

Congo (Republic of)

30 January 2024

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Check against delivery!

Thank you, President/ Vice-President,

Timor-Leste commends the progress made by Congo on human rights since its last UPR.

My delegation praises the government of Congo's efforts to protect and promote the rights of children through building schools and incorporating children's rights into national development plans.

We applaud Congo’s advances in election transparency, police modernization, and the “Police +” Program, with its significant focus on law enforcement efficacy and torture prevention.

In a constructive spirit, Timor-Leste recommends that Congo:

* Enhance endeavors to ensure the enrolment and retention of girls in school,
* Accelerate efforts to prevent and eliminate female genital mutilation, and
* Consider amending the law to allow Congolese women to transfer their nationality to their spouses on an equal basis with men.

We wish Congo a successful review.

Thank you.