

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

Universal Periodic Review

Samoa

2 November 2021

Madam President,

Timor-Leste congratulates the esteemed delegation of Samoa for the presentation of their national report.

My delegation welcomes the progress made in the ratification and accession to human rights treaties and appreciates the establishment of ‘Sadata’ as the national mechanism for reporting and follow-up the implementation of its human rights obligations on Sustainable Development Goals in 2016.

Additionally, being small island developing states Timor-Leste and Samoa are the most vulnerable ones to climate change and natural hazards. Therefore, my government commends Samoa for the adoption of the Samoa Climate Change Policy 2020 and the Samoa 2040 policy document.

While recognizing the achievements, Timor-Leste seizes this opportunity to recommend Samoa:

1. To develop comprehensive legislation and strengthen community-based programmes aim to preventing and tackling domestic violence, child abuse, sexual exploitation and neglect, and to address gender-based violence.
2. To improve its policy and implementation in ensuring that all citizens, in particular the elderly, women, children and people with disabilities, in rural areas have the access to essential health services.

I thank you Madam President.

Speaking time: ...................