**40th Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review**

**TIMOR-LESTE**

**27 January 2022**

Statement by: Dr. Asim Ahmed

Ambassador | Permanent Representative of Maldives to the United Nations Offices’ in Geneva

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Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives welcomes the high-level delegation from the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to the Third Cycle of the UPR, and thanks them for their presentation today.

The Maldives welcomes the excellent efforts undertaken by the Government of Timor-Leste, in developing and implementing the “National Action Plan on Gender-Based Violence”, National Action Plan on Zero Hunger”, “Action Plan for Women, Peace and Security”, “National Action Plan on the Rights of the Child”, and the “National Action Plan for Disabled Persons”. We also welcome the recent achievements in incorporating the standards set out in the Rome Statute in Timor-Leste’s Penal Code.

The Maldives encourages Timor-Leste to continue its ongoing efforts, and in constructive spirit, would like to present the following two recommendations;

1. To ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and to ensure that the “National Action Plan for Disabled Persons” aligns with the Convention accordingly.

2. Encourage the United Nations and donors to provide assistance for increasing institutional capacity to better implement the ratified international instruments.

We wish Timor-Leste a successful review.

Thank you, Mr. President.