**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

40th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

***Review of Timor-Leste***

27 January 2022

Mr. President,

Bulgaria welcomes the delegation of Timor-Leste. We appreciate the comprehensive presentation of the national report.

Bulgaria acknowledges the continuous efforts of the Government of Timor-Leste to build and rehabilitate schools, as an important step towards the creation of a good education system. We encourage you to continue providing training to teachers through the *National Institute of Training of Teachers and Education Professionals*.

We also recognize the added value of the economic measures taken to alleviate the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the labour support programmes and the ‘food basket’ programme. Given the current situation, further implementation and update of *the National Action Plan to Eradicate Hunger and Malnutrition* may be needed.

The Republic of Bulgaria would like to make the following recommendations to the Government of Timor-Leste:

1. Keep up its efforts to increase women’s participation at the national, regional and local level;
2. Sustain the course of reforms towards the ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

We wish the Delegation of Timor-Leste a successful review!

Thank you.