**Draft Statement by the Republic of Korea**

**The 40th Session of the UPR Working Group Review of Timor-Leste**

**(Thursday, 27 January 2022)**

Thank you, Mr. President.

The Republic of Korea commends Timor-Leste for the progress achieved since its last review, especially in improving basic living standards, including its health and education systems, and extending a standing invitation to all Special Procedures mandate holders. Further, we congratulate Timor-Leste’s achievements in promoting and protecting the human rights of its people, including its legislative efforts to enact the *Child Protection Law* and the improvement in women’s representation in political and public life. Also, we welcome the government’s efforts to provide an enabling environment for its Ombudsman for Human Rights and Justice (PDHJ), and other human rights NGOs to engage in independent activities.

In a constructive spirit, we would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Effectively implement the newly established national action plans by strengthening advocacy for raising awareness and ensuring the access thereof by the most vulnerable populations, including those residing in rural areas;
2. Prioritize the human rights of persons with disabilities and expedite the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

We wish Timor-Leste a successful review. I thank you.

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