**National Statement by Mr. Afaq Ahmad during the 3rd UPR Review of Timor-Leste**

**40th UPR Session**

**27 January 2022**

**Mr. President,**

We welcome and thank the delegation of Timor-Leste for a comprehensive presentation of its 3rd UPR report.

We commend Timor-Leste’s efforts in implementing recommendations of second UPR cycle and harmonizing national legislation with its international human rights obligations despite resource constraints.

We acknowledge efforts aimed at promoting women empowerment, countering gender-based violence, protecting rights of persons with disabilities and promoting welfare of children through developing national action plans. Similarly, efforts to promote social security, eradicate hunger and malnutrition and improve people’s living standards are encouraging.

We recommend Timor-Leste to:

1. Sustain efforts aimed at strengthening national human rights framework.
2. Continue its cooperation with the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures.
3. Continue making efforts towards ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

I thank you.