

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

Universal Periodic Review

Philippines

14 November 2022

Thank you, President/ Vice-President,

Timor-Leste commends the progress made by the Philippines on human rights since its last UPR, including the signature of the Strategic Plan to prevent and respond to grave child rights violations in situations of armed conflict between the UN and the Philippines Armed Forces and the release of the Philippines’ National Police Child Protection Policy.

Timor-Leste recommends that the Philippines:

* Implement confidence-building measures to foster trust with civil society organizations and facilitate their engagement with State institutions mandated to respond to human rights concerns.
* Continue to strengthen the independence of the judiciary and the capacity of the judicial system.
* Maintain the abolition of the death penalty and refrain from reintroducing it.
* Strengthen efforts to enact a comprehensive anti-discrimination law that protects all persons from all forms of discrimination.
* Ensure that the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly are respected and protected.

We wish the Philippines a successful review.

Thank you.