

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

Universal Period Review

Iraq

11 November 2019

Mr. President,

Timor-Leste welcomes the delegation of Iraq and thanks them for the participation in this 3rd cycle of the UPR, as well as the presentation made by H.E. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

We commend the Government of Iraq for enacting the labour law of 2015, which enshrined equality between the sexes as we encourage the government to take further steps on the subject. We also welcome the Iraqi Government’s efforts to ensure freedom of movement in all areas, through its national mine action and security authorities. Timor-Leste further welcomes the adoption by Iraq of national strategies in the areas of poverty reduction, reproductive health, food security and in particular, the national strategy to combat violence against women and to build capacity among women in Kurdistan Region.

While noting with the appreciation the efforts made by Iraq, we recommend:

* That Iraq sets up a zero-tolerance policy towards gender-based crimes committed in the name of “honour”
* That Iraq continues giving due consideration to national reconciliation and transitional justice processes
* That Iraq ratifies the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

Timor-Leste wishes Iraq a successful completion of this third review.

I thank you, Mr. President.