



**Intervention of Slovenia
Review of Timor-Leste
26th Session of UPR Working Group
Geneva, 3 November 2016**

Mr. President,

Slovenia welcomes the delegation of Timor-Leste to the UPR Working Group and thanks them for their presentation today.

We welcome the information provided by the Government on its efforts to ensure gender equality, address the issue of domestic violence and access to quality education. In this respect we note the adoption of the Law Against Domestic Violence and National Action Plan for Gender-Based Violence as well as the adoption of the National Education Strategic Plan.

However, we regret that after accepting the recommendation to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in the first cycle Timor-Leste has not yet ratified it. Therefore, we would like to reiterate our **recommendation** from the previous cycle for Timor-Leste to ratify the CRPD.

We note that Timor-Leste received visits from special procedures mandate holders in the past, however, we regret that it has not yet issued a standing invitation to the special procedures. Furthermore, we note with concern the reports about the high school dropout rate among girls between primary and secondary levels that is attributed also to the lack of adequate sanitation in schools.

We would like to make the following additional **recommendations** to the Government of Timor-Leste:

- to adopt specific gender equality legislation in line with the provisions of CEDAW, including by defining discrimination against women in accordance with Article 1 of CEDAW;
- to adopt concrete measures and programmes to effectively address the causes for high school dropout rates among girls such as early pregnancy, gender-based violence and the lack of adequate sanitation in schools and to ensure their implementation, including by providing the necessary funding.

Thank you.
