



**19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council**  
**Statement on behalf of the National Human Rights Institution of Timor-Leste on the**  
**outcome of the Universal Periodic Review of Timor-Leste**  
**16 March 2012**

Distinguished Members of the Human Rights Council, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The A status accredited National Human Rights Institution of Timor-Leste, the *Provedoria* for Human Rights and Justice, would like to welcome the opportunity to speak at the adoption of the outcome of the UPR of Timor-Leste by the Human Rights Council Plenary.

The UPR was an important and challenging process for all actors involved in Timor-Leste. We would like to congratulate the Government for its participation and for the quality of its report. We would also like to thank all the State representatives who met the *Provedoria* and civil society in Geneva and in Timor-Leste.

A total of 125 recommendations were put forward to Timor-Leste concerning issues that need to be urgently tackled by. We recognise the challenges that the State faces in developing our young nation and address the numerous needs of a population who lived for so many years under occupation of foreign forces.

Despite, we regret that Timor-Leste continues to delay addressing the serious human rights violations that occurred in the country between 1975 and 1999. Contrary to the State's position that social peace would be put at risk by looking into this issue, we believe that reconciliation, national unity and lasting peace cannot exist without truth, justice and rule of law.

The real challenge of the UPR comes with the implementation of its results. Words, reports and commitments that are not translated into action are of no use. We urge Timor-Leste to be faithful to its promises. The *Provedoria*, together with civil society, is ready to support the State and will do all in its capacity to make the UPR process as successful as it can be. We hope the State of Timor-Leste, through its representatives, will do the same.

Thank you.