PERMANENT MISSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF TIMOR-LESTE TO THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK

STATEMENT BY

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First Committee of the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly 2021

“Disarmament and International Security”.

General Debate

06 October 2021

New York, United States of America

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Mr. Chairman,

I thank you for having given me the floor.

At the outset, I would also like to join with other delegations in expressing my sincerest congratulations to you on your election as the Chair of the First Committee for the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. We are convinced that, given your proficiency and experience, the work of the Committee will bring the best achievable outcome.

Timor-Leste aligns itself with the Statement of Indonesian delegation on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement Groups.

Mr. Chairman,

As we know, the world is still facing an international security crisis with the conflict of arms, nuclear proliferation weapon, terrorist attacks and small arms trafficking. As a small country and a post conflict nation, Timor-Leste is of the view that the arms race and use of weapons will never bring peace and justice in the world. As described in our Constitution, we defend international security through the establishment of friendly relations and cooperation with other states and the promotion of peace and reconciliation in the nation building process.

Mr. Chairman,

Timor-Leste welcomes the initiative of world leaders to find common solutions to reduce the number of nuclear weapons, prevent their use and moreover, to bring to a conclusion the existence of nuclear arms.

We are all looking for a world that is safer, secure and serves as a safe haven and for that to happen it should be a world that is free of all kind of weapons of mass destruction, in order to preserve the existence of humanity and the generations to come.
Mr. Chairman,

As a member of signatories of the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (UNTPNW), Timor-Leste also joined other delegations on the commemoration of International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons. The day is important to be celebrated annually as an important opportunity of enhancing public awareness and lessons about the affectation of nuclear weapons for human life and renewing progress made for the necessary of its total elimination. It is reminded that the treaty is an important international humanitarian norm for our common security, protection of human life and peace in the world wide. Thus, the day is important as to summon up the new international efforts towards achieving the common goal of total elimination of a nuclear weapon world freedom.

We commend the recent entry into force, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) in January 2021. This is an extraordinary achievement and a step towards the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons. Timor-Leste is a signatory to the TPNW and is currently working on the fulfillment of the internal procedures for the ratification of the TPNW to support the universal ratification of this Treaty, which will deliver a clear message that nuclear weapons are categorically unacceptable and incompatible with the existing international legal order relating to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

Mr. Chairman,

As a member of signatories of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction since 2013, Timor-Leste realizes the effort of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) on the effective operation procedures and the implementation of the provisions of this Convention.

Mr. Chairman,

As a nascent country, Timor-Leste continues in promoting international legal instruments and the United Nations resolutions, especially on international security and disarmament. Timor-Leste considers the importance of international security for the safety of human life and the peace in the
world wide. The happiness of the people is the peace and security. Thus, Timor-Leste firmly believes that without peace and security, we are not being capable to implement the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

As a founder of the group of g7+, Timor-Leste also continues promoting peace building and states building with other member states of g7+, as an essential pledge for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, particularly the cross-cutting of the SDG16. In this respect, Timor-Leste has successfully organized the SDG16+ Showcase in 2019, with aimed on promoted and shared experiences with the world as a democratic country.

Since 2013, Timor-Leste began implementation of its Strategic Development Plan and accelerated on its paths of development and state-building under the proverb “goodbye conflict and welcome development”. As the same with the motto of g7+, in which there is no peace without development and there is no development without peace.

Mr. Chairman,

To conclude, Timor-Leste believes that multilateralism plays a crucial role more than ever at this time, as the world is faced with increased threats and numerous challenges. Therefore, it should be remaining as a priority of the United Nations for further promoting and ensuring the peace, development, regional and international wholeness.

Our delegation looks forward to working closely with the experts of this committee on this issue.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.