



MINISTÉRIO DA  
SAÚDE

Gabinete  
da Ministra

*Honorable Chair,  
Madame Director-General of the World Health Organization,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.*

Let me start by congratulating the elected President and Vice-Presidents of the 68<sup>th</sup> Session of World Health Assembly. I would also like to thank Madame Director-General for an inspirational deliberation that is a reminder of the health challenges that need to be addressed.

It is a privilege for me to represent Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to deliver this address on the occasion of 68<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly, dedicated to the theme “*Building resilient health systems*”. I truly believe that building a resilient health system requires investment in “social capital, by promoting access to health, education, professional training, information, social justice and culture, as well as by managing and promoting its natural resources in a sustainable manner, so as to ensure quality of living in the present and to protect the needs of future generations”<sup>1</sup>.

On behalf of Government Timor-Leste and as a member state of South East Asia Region, I would like to join other member states to extend our deepest sentiment with the people of Nepal, who were recently hit by a devastating Earthquake.

*Honorable President, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegate, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

Many of my fellow Ministers who addressed this forum before me must have presented our Government policy commitment towards a “*Healthy Timorese citizens living in a healthy Timor-Leste*”.

In order to attain this vision, the Ministry of Health has launched newly revised policy for a “Comprehensive Primary Health Care Services”. An Integrated Community Health Service delivery approach was introduced to bring health services to the communities particularly families living in very remote areas.

As we take pride in achieving remarkable progress in reducing child mortality rates, as a result of improved access to primary health care services. We will continue to focus on improving nutrition and on reducing morbidity and mortality rates due to infectious through the improvement of the quality and coverage of child vaccination against polio, tuberculosis, measles, rubella, diphtheria, pertussis and hepatitis.

---

<sup>1</sup> Parliamentary address by H.E. Dr. Rui Maria Araújo, Prime Minister of Timor-Leste



Palácio das Cinzas  
Rua de Caicoli  
Caixa Postal 374  
Dili, Timor Leste



MINISTÉRIO DA  
SAÚDE

Gabinete  
da Ministra

Nevertheless, challenges remain with the increase of chronic diseases related to non-communicable diseases, mental disorders, injuries, disabilities and ageing. We have undertaken research on Non-communicable diseases risk factor survey using WHO STPES and the data are still in the process of analysis.

*Honorable President, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegate, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

Particularly related to International Health Regulation, Timor-Leste joint with other member states is committed to combat trans-boundary diseases, even we have established focal point in the cross-border, however, Timor-Leste still needs strong technical support from WHO and partners to handle IHR.

As we learned and continue to learn from the Haiti Earthquake, the Ebola hardest-hit countries, and the recent devastation of Nepal Earthquake, it requires a resilient health system commitments at country and global levels. WHO, UN Agencies, Partners and donors can play a crucial role in helping members states in this arena.

*Honorable President, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegate, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

Let me conclude by saying that “All for one and one for all” is the motto for the executive of the Sixth Constitutional Government of Timor-Leste. “We can do better by working together”, is the spirit that should move our society so that we may all make our Nation resilient and able to meet the challenges of today and of tomorrow.

Thank for all your kindly attention.

Geneva, \_\_\_\_, May, 2015,

Minister of Health of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste



Palácio das Cinzas  
Rua de Caicoli  
Caixa Postal 374  
Dili, Timor Leste