



República Democrática de Timor-Leste  
**PARLAMENTO  
NACIONAL**  
Rua de Formosa, s/n° Dili Timor-Leste  
tel+670 333 9866 | fax +670 332 3884

**Speech by H.E. Mrs. Maria Fernanda Lay  
President of the National Parliament of Timor-Leste**

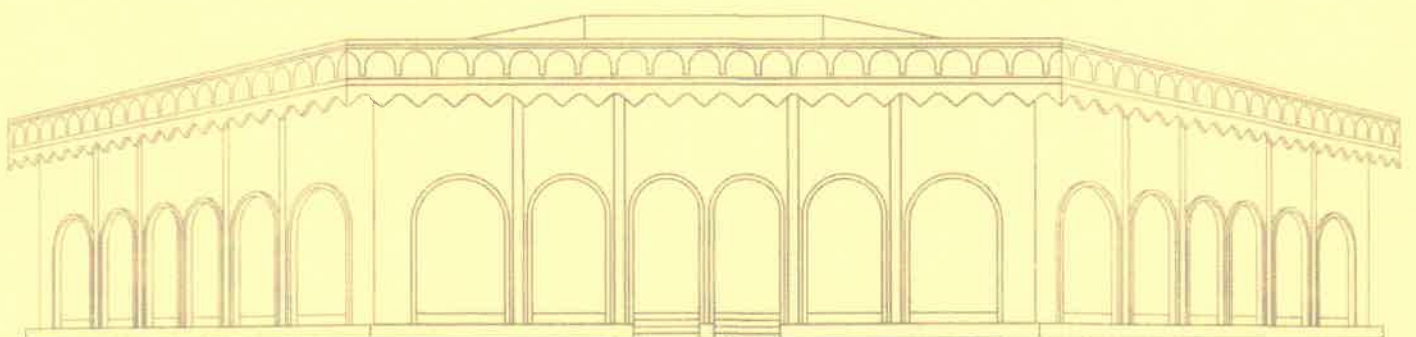
**Closing of the g7+ Ministerial Meeting  
12 April 2025**

H.E Prime Minister of Timor-Leste, Maun Bo'ot Kayrala Xanana  
Gusmão

H.E Kenyeh Barlay, Minister of Planning and Economic  
Development of Sierra Leone and Chair of G7+

H.E Mrs. Elisabeth, Assistant Secretary General of Peacebuilding  
Support Office

Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen





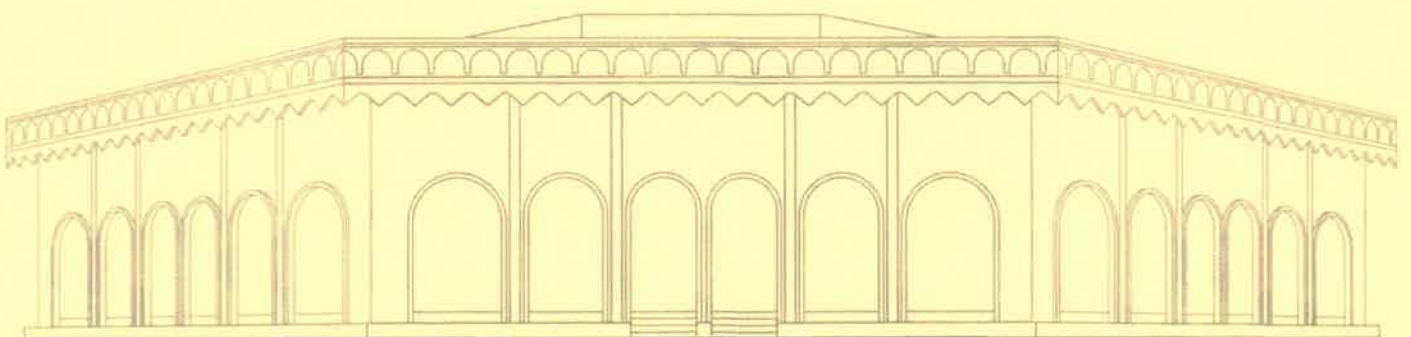
República Democrática de Timor-Leste  
**PARLAMENTO  
NACIONAL**  
Rua de Formosa, s/n Dili Timor-Leste  
tel+670 333 9866 | fax +670 332 3884

Dear friends,

I am truly honoured to address you as we conclude this 6th Ministerial Meeting of the G7+ and celebrate its 15th anniversary.

This meeting has once again shown us the power of working together, reminded us of our collective strength and demonstrated that when nations unite with determination, vision and purpose, they can achieve remarkable things.

Let's go back for a moment, fifteen years ago, G7+ started in Timor-Leste with a bold vision: countries emerging from conflict are stronger when they speak with one voice.





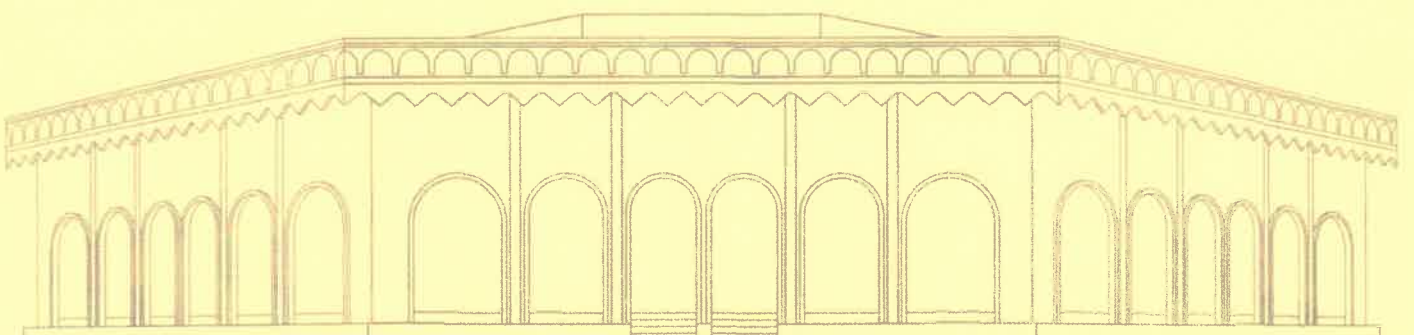
República Democrática de Timor-Leste  
**PARLAMENTO  
NACIONAL**  
Rua de Formosa, s/nº Díli Timor-Leste  
tel+670 333 9866 | fax +670 332 3884

That idea grew into a movement that has reshaped the way the world engages with conflict-affected states.

And today we all stand not just as survivors, but as architects of our own future, led by our own nations and our own leaders.

Indeed, the G7+'s journey is impressive: it started small but now reaches many parts of the world.

Milestones such as the European Hub in Lisbon (2018) and the New York office (last year) show that our shared vision now resonates around the world, strengthening our influence in global policymaking.





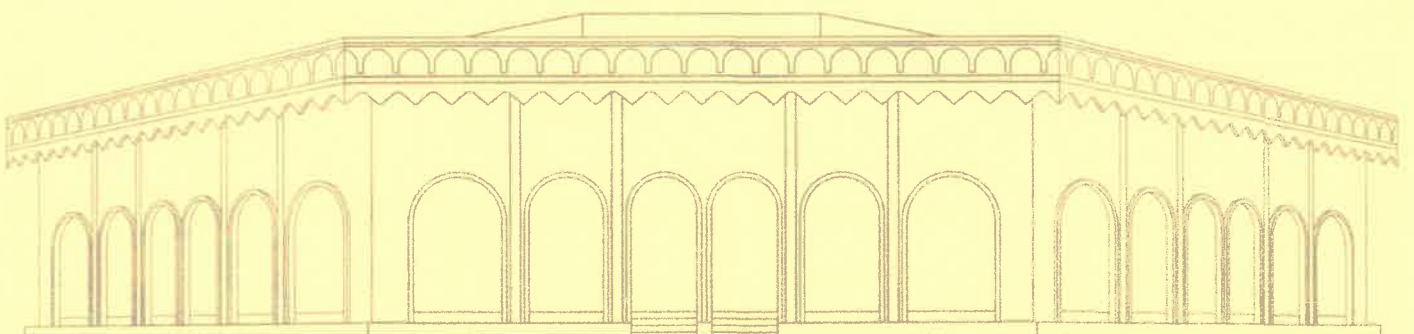
República Democrática de Timor-Leste  
**PARLAMENTO  
NACIONAL**  
Rua de Formosa, s/nº Díli Timor-Leste  
tel+670 333 9866 | fax +670 332 3884

Over the past few days, we have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the core G7+ values of national ownership, transparency and mutual accountability. Each Member State has shared valuable lessons, helping us all to move forward on the path from fragility to resilience.

Dear friends,

I would like to highlight some key messages that emerged from the discussions over the past two days:

- Reaffirm its relevance in addressing global challenges that disproportionately affects Its member
- Strengthen its internal solidarity and peace learning
- Enhances its advocacy and policy influence in the evolving global context.





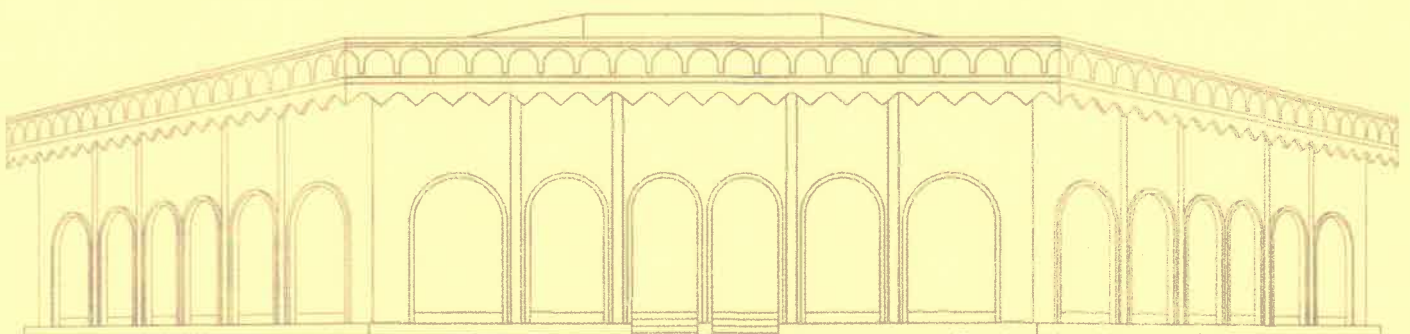
República Democrática de Timor-Leste  
**PARLAMENTO  
NACIONAL**  
Rua de Formosa, s/nº Díli Timor-Leste  
tel+670 333 9866 | fax +670 332 3884

I would also like to acknowledge another important initiative: the g7+ Parliamentary Group.

Its meetings alongside the Inter-Parliamentary Union demonstrate an important dimension of our work - mobilising crucial support from lawmakers in each country.

This work must continue.

As we celebrate these achievements, we must also address emerging challenges that can undermine our progress, so let us reaffirm our goals and convictions:







República Democrática de Timor-Leste  
**PARLAMENTO  
NACIONAL**  
Rua de Formosa, s/nº Díli Timor-Leste  
tel +670 333 9866 | fax +670 332 3884

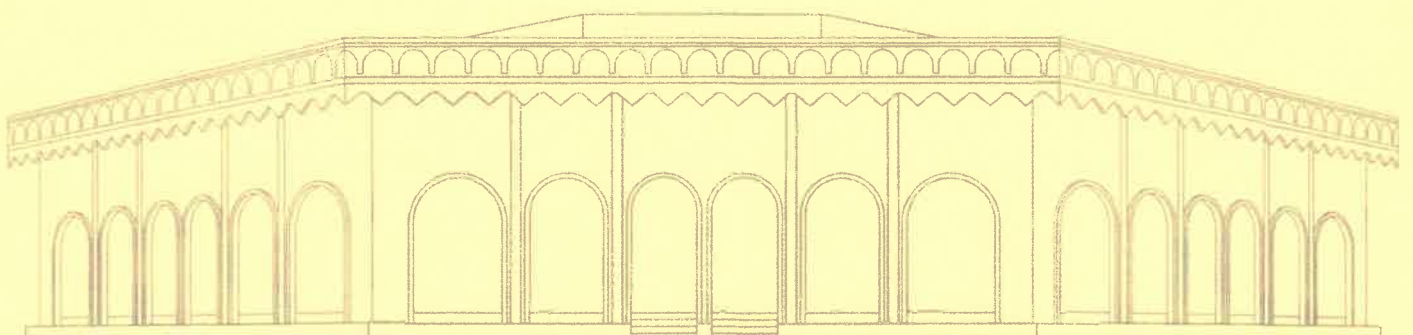
We are not seeking charity; we seek genuine partnerships.

I believe all countries futures are connected, and true strength comes from helping each other grow.

Dear Friends,

As we express our sincere gratitude to the outgoing Chair for their significant contributions and dedicated leadership, we also warmly welcome and congratulate the incoming Chair of the g7+.

We are confident that under your guidance, the g7+ will continue to flourish as a beacon of hope for conflict-affected states.



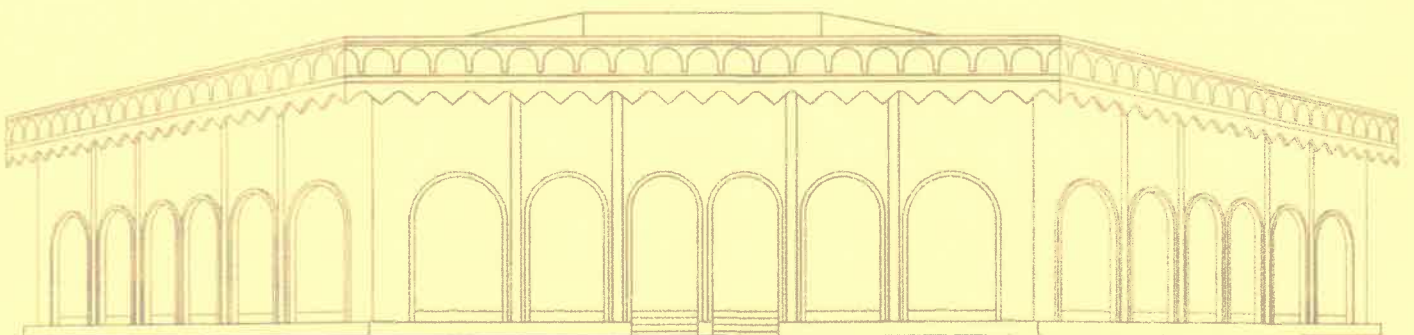


República Democrática de Timor-Leste  
**PARLAMENTO  
NACIONAL**  
Rua de Formosa.s/n'Dili Timor-Leste  
tel+670 333 9866 | fax +670 332 3884

To all member states, I would like to gently encourage you to consider our outcome document as a call to action, and for those yet to ratify the g7+ Charter, I kindly ask you to make it a priority. Ratification is far more than a formality—it is a powerful affirmation of your commitment.

The G7+ represents more than just an organisation. It is a tribute to the power of unity in adversity, a platform where fragile states command a unified voice, and a symbol of hope for those transforming fragility into resilience.

As we depart, we carry with us more than formal declarations. We depart with a renewed spirit of solidarity that transcends borders and cultures, united by our vision of a world where no nation is left behind.





República Democrática de Timor-Leste  
**PARLAMENTO  
NACIONAL**  
Rua de Formosa, s/nº Díli Timor-Leste  
tel+670 333 9866 | fax +670 332 3884

Dear Friends, to conclude,

My father used to say: "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."

The G7+ has chosen to go far—together.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude and wish you all safe travels back to your homes.

Thank you very much

Obrigado.

