



**Permanent Mission of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste  
to  
The United Nations**

**Statement by**

**Fonseca dos Santos Pereira  
Second Secretary**

**CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF BAMBOO AND RATTAN (INBAR)  
APPLICATION FOR OBSERVER STATUS AT THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**General Assembly of Sixth Committee  
72<sup>nd</sup> Session of the UN General Assembly**

**New York, 9 October 2017**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman

As this is our first intervention, my delegation congratulates you on your election as Chairman and also congratulates the members of the bureau for their election.

It is my honor to as a co-sponsor, in favor of the application by the International Network of Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR) for Observer Status at the United Nations General Assembly.

Mr Chairman

The International Network of Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR) is an inter-governmental organization established in Beijing, China in November 1997. INBAR has dedicated to providing sustainable solutions to the challenges of future development through the use of bamboo and rattan.

Over the two past decades INBAR has grown steadily in both membership and international influence. INBAR has 42 member States, mainly from Global South. Beside its headquarter in Beijing, INBAR also has regional offices in India, Ghana, Ethiopia and Ecuador. INBAR plays a unique role in supporting its members to find and demonstrate innovative ways of using bamboo and rattan to protect environments and biodiversity, and alleviate poverty. INBAR connects a global network of partners from the government, private, and not-for profit sectors to define and implement a global agenda for sustainable development with bamboo and rattan.

Mr. Chairman

Since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, INBAR has aligned its priorities to the implementation of the Agenda. Therefore, achieving observer status at the United Nations General Assembly will provide INBAR the opportunity further align its work with the 2030 Agenda and contribute to the development of further partnerships to meet global challenges.

Mr. Chairman

Timor-Leste is currently undergoing a domestic process to become a full member of INBAR. Our efforts to join INBAR is based on the potential of developing the Bamboo and Rattan industries as part of our economic development.

As such my delegation believes in INBAR's work to promote the economic potential of these resources to fight poverty and social exclusion, especially when transformed in high quality products of increased value and as such welcomes and supports INBAR's application for observer status.

I thank you for your attention.