



MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS OF FINLAND

**13th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**Finland's recommendations to Brazil  
25 May 2012**

Madam President,

Finland wishes to thank Brazil for the presentation of its national report. Finland appreciates the commitment of Brazil to the promotion and protection of human rights.

Finland welcomes Brazil's many efforts to promote the rights of LGBT persons and initiatives such as the adoption of the National Plan to Promote LGBT Rights, the holding of National LGBT Conferences and the establishment of the National LGBT Council. Also, the ruling made by the Brazilian Supreme Court concerning the constitutionality of same sex unions has been considered very important.

However, reports of the frequency of homophobic crimes and violence indicate that additional measures are needed in order to ensure the protection of LGBT persons and strengthen the fight against discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

What steps is the Government taking to combat homo- and transphobic crime? What legislative measures does Brazil intend to take to address discrimination against LGBT persons?

**Finland recommends** that Brazil amend its legislation for the legal recognition of same sex couples.

**Finland also recommends** that Brazil take measures to address homo- and transphobic crime, including by establishing a system for recording such crimes.

Thank you.