

Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva

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Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review Report by Finland Geneva, May 23, 2012

Madam President,

Brazil welcomes the delegation of Finland to the UPR. Finland has a high Human Development Index and its population enjoys a welfare system provided by the State. Finland is Party to most international human rights instruments.

Despite such remarkable record, the country is not immune to human rights challenges. Reports indicate a high incidence of violence against women. The likelihood that a woman falls victim to domestic violence in Finland is more than double the EU average. In this regard, Brazil recommends Finland to prevent the re-victimization in cases of violence in intimate partnership and to bring perpetrators to justice.

Another challenge is the negative perception towards immigrants, which should not be aggravated because of the financial crisis. Brazil recommends Finland to take concrete measures to reduce the resort to detention of migrants solely for immigration purposes.

On a positive note, Brazil highlights the establishment of the Human Rights Centre. We value the enhancement of the dialogue between the government and the civil society.

Finally, Brazil commends Finland for its efforts, in the UN, to promote preventive diplomacy and the peaceful settlement of disputes.

Thank you.