

ENGLISH VERSION – CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



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Madam President,

Brazil welcomes the Indian delegation to the UPR.

Brazil appreciates India's commitment to Human Rights. In the domestic sphere, we welcome recent developments on the matter, such as the Right to Education Act and the ruling of the Delhi High Court, pointing to the criminalization of homosexual relations as a violation of fundamental rights.

In the international sphere, we would like to highlight the recently announced standing invitation to Special Procedures.

In relation to women's rights, we welcome the Protection of Women against Sexual Harassment at Workplace Bill, and congratulate India for introducing a Constitutional amendment to ensure women's participation in Parliament.

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Although we recognize that there is legal and constitutional framework to address individual cases of violations within India, Brazil would like to recommend the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW Convention.

Regarding the elimination of torture, we welcome that the Supreme Court of India has laid exacting standards on this issue. Brazil recommends that India ratify the Convention against Torture, as well as its Optional Protocol.

We recognize the efforts made by India in ensuring and implementing human rights in country with more than 1 billion people and remarkable cultural, ethnic, religious diversity.

Thank you.