



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

Chemin Louis-Dunant 15 -1202

Geneva- Switzerland

Phone: (+41) (0)22 332 50 00 / Fax: (+41) (0)22 910 07 51

Universal Periodic Review
Report by Poland
Geneva, May 30, 2012

**INTERVENTION
BRAZIL**

May I welcome the delegation of Poland to the UPR and congratulate for the presentation of its national report and for the submission of a mid-term assessment regarding the follow-up to the recommendations of its first review.

In 2008, Brazil expressed concern about acts of discrimination in Poland. It is particularly worrisome that a high prevalence of discriminatory attitudes and violence against a large variety of ethnic, national and religious groups is still reported by the UNHCR, CERD and the Human Rights Committee. Brazil recommends that Poland adopts strong anti-discrimination policies and addresses hate crimes by ensuring that such incidents are thoroughly investigated.

Brazil congratulates Poland on the new law on equal treatment, which entered into force in January 2011, prohibiting sexual orientation discrimination in employment. Nonetheless, we are still concerned with the safety of LGBT people, who constantly report fear of persecution and have been recently deprived of their right to freedom of expression with the recent bans on parades. Brazil recommends the adoption of policies that safeguard the rights of LGBT people and fight discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Finally, we would like to refer to challenges in the protection of women against discrimination and violence. Special attention should be given to the high percentage of dismissals of domestic violence cases at the prosecution level. We welcome the adoption of the amended Counteracting Domestic and invite the establishment of a national institution for the advancement of gender equality and for the promotion of strategies to protect women and girls against all forms of violence.