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CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Brazil warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of South Africa to the UPR. We are thankful for the national report, as well as for the presentation this morning.

Since 1994, South Africa has made significant achievements in the promotion and protection of human rights.

More recently, renewed efforts have been made in combating poverty and social inequalities. Increased resources have been channeled to the implementation of social programs, with an increased number of beneficiaries among the poor.

South Africa should be praised for establishing a new Department on Women, Children and People with Disabilities to promote the realization of their rights.

In this connection, we recommend that South Africa considers the adoption of a specific law for domestic violence, containing both criminal and civil provisions.

We take note with interest of the Comprehensive HIV and Aids Treatment and Prevention Programme.

South Africa is commended for ratifying the Optional Protocol to the CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict.

South Africa has been a leader in promoting non-discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and the rights of LGBT people.

Finally, we reiterate our recommendation to South Africa to consider ratifying the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Thank you.