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**Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
14th session
JAPAN
31 October 2012**

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Madam President,

Brazil warmly welcomes the distinguished Japanese delegation to the UPR and thanks Japan for the presentation of its national report.

Japan has shown remarkable resilience following one of the worst disasters in recent history and continues to make headways towards the realization of human rights in the country.

In particular, significant developments have been made in Japan in the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities. We have taken note with

interest of the measures put forward by the Japanese Government to ensure accessibility in public places. In this connection, we would encourage Japan to consider ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Japan should also pursue its policies towards gender equality and women's empowerment and adopt concrete measures to improve the participation of Japanese women in politics, in political parties and in decision-making bodies. On this subject, we reiterate our recommendation to Japan to consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

We are aware that Japan took recent steps in the fight against child pornography, including in the promotion of safer use of internet by children. However, the mere possession of child pornographic materials is not considered a crime in Japan, even though the production and distribution were typified in 1999. Therefore, Brazil also recommends that Japan considers reviewing its legislation with a view to criminalize the possession of such materials.

Thank you.