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Human Rights Council  
Universal Periodic Review  
Report by Switzerland  
Geneva, October 29, 2012

**INTERVENTION BY BRAZIL**

Madam President,

Brazil welcomes the delegation of Switzerland to the UPR and thanks Switzerland for its national report.

Brazil welcomes the important steps taken by Switzerland in the field of human rights. In particular, we congratulate Switzerland for the ratification of the OP-CEDAW and of the OP-CAT.

We have followed with satisfaction the efforts made to promote gender equality. It is noteworthy that in 2010 and 2011 women held the majority of seats in the Federal Council. We are concerned, however, with the lack of provisions on the criminal code addressing specifically violence against women and the lack of effective measures to protect women (especially undocumented) from becoming victims of human trafficking.

Brazil puts forward two recommendations :

- (i) to adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation;
- (ii) to continue to take the necessary steps to prevent incidents of acts of violence with racist and xenophobic reasons by security agents against foreigners, immigrants and asylum seekers and to bring to justice the perpetrators of such acts.

I thank you, Madam President.

*Secretaria Melina Maia*