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ENGLISH VERSION – CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



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**Human Rights Council
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Tonga**

Brazil welcomes the delegation of Tonga to the second cycle of the UPR.

We appreciate the profound constitutional and political reforms which led to the first democratic elections of Tonga in 2010, as well as the Government's freedom of information policy adopted in 2012, in order to guarantee greater transparency and accountability as part of Tonga's ongoing democratic reform process.

Brazil welcomes the submission to public consultation of a Bill to address domestic violence and violence against women. My delegation firmly believes that the adoption of this Bill would constitute an important step towards further protection of human rights in Tonga.

Furthermore Brazil welcomes the efforts made in Tonga which may lead to the accession of the country as member of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and, in this

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respect, recommends that Tonga completes its procedure to accede to the Convention.

To conclude, we would like to inquire Tonga about the possibility of reviewing the legal age of majority, in order to equalize the situation of nobles and citizens in this respect.

Thank you