

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

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Human Rights Council
UPR Israel

UPR Israel 29:10.2013

Intervention by Brazil

Mr. President,

May I welcome the Israeli delegation to the second cycle of the Universal Periodic Review.

Brazil warmly welcomes the decision of the Israeli government to participate in the UPR exercise.

Brazil acknowledges some important progress to the realization of human rights in Israel achieved in recent years.

We were pleased to learn about the adoption of comprehensive legislation to fight human trafficking, sexual exploitation and forced labor and of legal decisions in favor of the rights of LGBT persons.

The continuing settlement activities and settler violence against civilians in Palestine remain, nonetheless, matters of utmost concern and are worthy of condemnation.

Brazil also considers that Israel should re-examine its policy towards African immigrants, according to the concerns recently expressed by the Supreme Court of Israel about the need to fully respect their rights to freedom and dignity. Israel should ensure that any future legislation and policy concerning immigrants is in line with international standards and withholds the importance of respecting the principle of non-refoulement.

The situation of prisoners under 'administrative detention' is also unacceptable.

In the spirit of constructive engagement and cooperation prevalent in the UPR, Brazil wishes to make the following recommendations to the Government of Israel:

(i)to cooperate with the human rights system by accepting to receive the missions of the Human Rights Council as established by its resolutions;

(ii)to refrain from all settlement activities in occupied territories;

- (iii) to accept and implement the International Court of Justice Advisory Opinion on the Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;
- (iv) to effectively protect the Palestinian population in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, against any form of discrimination which impairs the equitable access to basic services or natural resources, including water and land, or else the equal enjoyment of fundamental rights and freedoms, particularly the right to equal protection before the law.

I thank you, Mr President."