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Intervention by Brazil

Brazil welcomes the delegation of Mexico to the second cycle of the Universal Periodic Review.

We commend the Government of Mexico for the broad and transparent process of consultations which led to the presentation of its national report.

Brazil welcomes some important legal and institutional developments with regard to the promotion and protection of human rights in Mexico undertaken since the last review.

The 2011 legal reform which granted constitutional level to international human rights treaties is noteworthy. We were also pleased to learn about the measures adopted to ensure that crimes and violations against human rights defenders and journalists are effectively investigated and that those responsible are punished.

In the area of economic, social and cultural rights, Brazil acknowledges the efforts to promote the right to health and to fight poverty, especially through the People's Health Insurance Scheme and the National Crusade against Hunger.

A matter of concern, however, is the fact that military courts still have jurisdiction to try cases of human rights violations committed by military personnel. Brazil recommends the revision of the relevant legal provisions to ensure that all offences committed against human rights by military forces are submitted to civil courts.

As a follow-up to the recommendation presented by Brazil in the first cycle, we would like to ask the Mexican delegation whether there have been further endeavors at national and local levels to approve legislation to combat discriminatory practices against women and indigenous peoples.

Finally, we recommend the adoption of a comprehensive program to fight violence and discrimination against women, with special attention to indigenous women.