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Universal Periodic Review – 18<sup>th</sup> Cycle - Comoros

31 January 2014

Brazil would like to welcome the delegation of Comoros to the second cycle of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). We commend the Comorian delegation for the comprehensive national report presented.

We would like to praise Comoros for enhancing the organizational structure of its 'Human Rights Delegation', which plays a very important role in the implementation of human rights policies in the country, as well as in the enforcement of international and regional human rights conventions and treaties to which Comoros is a party.

Brazil also appreciates the successful national elections held in 2010, an important step to the consolidation of democracy and towards institutional strengthening.

Although progress has been made, Comoros could yet take important steps, particularly with regards to sexual orientation and the rights of women. Brazil would, therefore, like to make the following recommendations:

(i) that Comoros take steps to avoid discrimination and violation of the human rights of the LGBT population;

(ii) that substantial advances be sought on the realization of the rights of women, particularly towards increasing their share in decision-making positions and in politics.

Finally, Brazil regrets that Comoros has not yet ratified neither the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights nor the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, a recommendation made by our country in the last UPR cycle.