

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



*Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office
and other International Organizations in Geneva
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Mr. President,

Brazil welcomes the delegation of the Dominican Republic to the second cycle of the UPR and commends the country for the presentation of its national report.

We note with satisfaction that, in line with the recommendations received during the first cycle of the UPR, the Dominican Republic has acceded to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. Brazil also congratulates the Dominican Republic for the reduction of fatalities from domestic violence, within the framework of the "National Gender Equity Plan".

Brazil takes note with appreciation of the successful implementation of the Programme "Progresando con solidaridad", pivotal point of the Social Protection Network for the eradication of poverty through income transfer to the country's poorest families.

SECOND SECRETARY ROBERTO SALOME

The ruling of the Dominican Republic Constitutional Court that affected retroactively the right to nationality of thousands of persons, most of them of Haitian descent, particularly children, is a matter that merits attention. Brazil acknowledges, with satisfaction, the reactivation of the Dominican Republic and Haiti Joint Commission, whose activities provide a positive framework to address the issue. Brazil also regards the recent promulgation, by the Dominican Republic, of a Presidential Decree that suspends the deportation of Haitian migrants as a positive step in that direction.

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

- 1) To effectively follow up the guidelines adopted by the Dominican Republic-Haiti Joint Commission on concrete measures to safeguard the fundamental rights of people of Haitian origin.
- 2) To seek the technical advice of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to identify, prevent and reduce statelessness, and protect stateless persons, as well as to address the statelessness situation by acceding, as early as possible, to the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

I thank you, Mr. President.