

## Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office in Geneva Chemin Louis Dunant, 15 – 1202 - Genève

Universal Periodic Review – 18th Cycle – Viet Nam

5 February 2014

Brazil welcomes and congratulates the delegation of Viet Nam for their comprehensive report to the second cycle of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

Brazil notes with appreciation the social development the country has experienced, in particular the reduction of extreme poverty and the elimination of hunger. Our delegation is also pleased to learn about the increasing participation of women in Parliament and in other sectors of the Vietnamese government.

We also appreciate the amendments made to the Vietnamese Land Law, which should improve fairness and transparency in the appropriation and use of land. Such initiative may also contribute to reduce migration towards big cities and urban poverty as a whole.

- There are Progress has been made in several areas, yet, Brazil would like to highlight some specific issues which call for urgent action, such as a comprehensive revision of the list of crimes to which the death penalty is imposed, a recommendation of Brazil in the first UPR cycle which was not carried out. This leads us to recommend:
  - (1) that Vict Nam consider to impose a moratorium on the execution of death penalties while assessing the possibility to adopt the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the Abolition of the Death Penalty;
  - (2) that Viet Nam take the necessary measures to protect freedom of expression and press freedom, including through the internet.