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ENGLISH VERSION – CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



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Nicaragua**

Mr. President,

Brazil welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Nicaragua to the second cycle of the UPR and thanks it for the presentation of its national report.

We note with satisfaction the commitment of Nicaragua towards the reduction of poverty and inequality through the adoption of the “National Human Development Plan 2013-2017”.

In this regard, Brazil takes note with appreciation of the decrease in general poverty rates from 48.3% to 42.5% of the population, between 2005 and 2009, and the decline in extreme poverty from 17.2% to 8.2%, of the population between 2005 and 2011.

We also commend Nicaragua for the implementation, in 2012, of the “Comprehensive Act against Violence towards Women” and for the reform of the Criminal Code that typified, for the first time, femicide and other forms of violence against women as a criminal offense. Nevertheless, the approval of amendments in September 2013 has weakened the protection of victims from abusers.

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

- 1) To ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (OP-CEDAW);
- 2) To implement, as early as possible, a witness protection programme for women victims of all forms of violence.

Thank you.