

Brazil welcomes the Iraqi delegation to the UPR and praises the government's commitment to overcome the pressing challenges affecting human rights in the country, in the midst of grave threats to its peace and security.

In confronting those threats, human rights should not be set aside or treated lightly. While those threats are grave and manifold, fighting them requires Iraqis to stand united for what they believe should be a fair, equal, peaceful and promising future for all.

A truthful and consistent effort to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, irrespectively of who they are or of what their faith is, and yet with a particular focus on the most vulnerable and disadvantaged, can pave the way for a more peaceful and promising future. In this connection, Brazil welcomes the willingness shown by the Iraqi government to cooperate with international organizations.

Our recommendations have a wide, crosscutting approach. We wish to recommend that Iraq adopt and implement, through an inclusive and participatory process, national policies for:

(i) the promotion and protection of children's rights, with a particular focus on the right to an adequate standard of living and the right not to be subjected to any form of discrimination, exploitation or violence; and

(ii) the protection of women, including women human rights defenders, against any form of discrimination or violence, committed either in public or at the domestic level.

Thank you.