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**Human Rights Council  
20<sup>th</sup> Session  
Universal Periodic Review  
Republic of Madagascar**

Mr. President,

Brazil welcomes the delegation of Madagascar to the second cycle of the UPR.

We praise the political commitment and ongoing efforts of the Government of Madagascar to promote reconciliation, consolidation of democratic institutions and respect for human rights. The approval, in 2010, of the new Constitution which ensures a higher status for Madagascar's international obligations vis-à-vis domestic laws is noteworthy, as well as the signing of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families. No less impressive is the establishment of national commissions

dedicated to the protection of children and to the promotion of human rights.

There is, however, room for improvement. The full attainment of the goals related to political reconciliation and the full respect for the right to political participation across the domestic political spectrum should remain top priorities.

Brazil wishes to make the following two recommendations to Madagascar:

- (i) Step up efforts directed at fighting discrimination based on gender, particularly in order to end discriminatory treatment affecting children born to a foreign father married to a Malagasy woman;
- (ii) Continue to promote and protect the rights of vulnerable groups, especially through the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

I thank you, Mr. President.