

Universal Periodic Review Mechanism
Second Cycle – Belarus
Brazilian Statement

Brazil welcomes the participation of the delegation of Belarus in the second cycle of the universal periodic review mechanism and wishes to make the following recommendations:

1 – to declare a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty and, to that end, to support the work of the parliamentary working group on the death penalty, particularly with a view to amending the criminal code and to adhering to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

2 - to review the cases of detention of individuals found to be deprived of their liberty for reasons which might be associated with the peaceful exercise of human rights and freedoms.

Brazil welcomes the adoption of the 4th National Plan of Action on Gender Equality and encourages Belarus to provide the financial and institutional support necessary to its effective implementation and to enact a legislation on gender equality and against gender-based discrimination, in line with CEDAW.

The recent measures adopted by Belarus to fight domestic violence, particularly the introduction, in January 2014, of a definition of "domestic violence" and "family members" in the Principles of Crime Prevention, are also noteworthy. In this sense, Brazil suggests that Belarus further implements a national system against domestic violence, in dialogue with women's rights organizations and comprising effective mechanisms to address complaints and to provide protection, accountability and redress to victims.

Brazil also appreciates the announcement that Belarus would be ready to accede to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and encourages its ratification.

Thank you.