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Universal Periodic Review – 22<sup>th</sup> Cycle – Honduras

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Brazil welcomes Honduras to the second cycle of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and commends the presentation of their comprehensive national report. We welcome the important advances which took place in the country since its last review.

In the spirit of solidarity and cooperation, Brazil recommends that Honduras:

- 1) guarantee the effective implementation of the bill on the protection of human rights defenders, journalists, social communicators and justice officials, including appropriate financing;
- 2) strengthen its national institutions in charge of the promotion and protection of human rights, with a view to fostering access to justice, particularly for the most vulnerable groups, such as women, older persons, children, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, people of African descent and the LGBTI community.

Brazil commends Honduras for carrying out a comprehensive reform of the legislation covering the rights of children, families and women. We praise in particular the amendments to the Code on Children and Adolescents and the Family Code, which provide for better access to justice for such individuals and strengthen the child protection systems and the juvenile justice system.

We also welcome the steps already taken by the Honduran authorities to reduce violence against women, such as the amendment of the Criminal Code to incorporate the crime of "femicide", punishable with 30 to 40 years of imprisonment when motivated by hatred and disdain for women.

Thank you.