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Universal Periodic Review – 22th Cycle – Jamaica

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Brazil welcomes the delegation of Jamaica to the second cycle of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). Brazil notes with appreciation the steps taken by the Jamaican authorities, since its last review, in order to promote and protect human rights in the country.

Nevertheless, we believe that more attention should be given to the realization of the rights of women and children, LGBTI individuals and people living with HIV and AIDS.

Thus, we recommend that Jamaica:

- 1) take all necessary measures to protect women and children from violence, particularly sexual abuse and exploitation, including through the adoption of awareness raising programs, as well as by means of sexual education policies;
- 2) prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, sexual orientation and gender identity. Such measures would be of great importance to the fight against homophobia as well as for the progress in combating HIV and AIDS in the country.

Brazil welcomes the implementation of Jamaica's National Policy for Gender Equality, of 2011, as well as the designation of gender focal points in key Government ministries. We praise the country for the adoption of legislative measures aimed at eliminating discrimination against women, including the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms (2011), the Sexual Offences Act (2011) and the Child Pornography Prevention Act (2010).

We also commend Jamaica's efforts to put into effect sustainable social security policies, including through the implementation of the National Development Plan "Vision 2030 Jamaica". We highlight the importance of universal coverage of such policies, as well as the priority which should be given to the most vulnerable groups in the country.

Thank you.