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ENGLISH VERSION – CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



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**Human Rights Council  
23<sup>rd</sup> Session  
Universal Periodic Review  
Geórgia**

Mr. President,

Brazil welcomes the delegation of Georgia to the second cycle of the Universal Periodic Review.

We commend Georgia for its important progress since its first review. Brazil acknowledges, in particular, the accession of Georgia to important core international human rights instruments, such as the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Brazil also welcomes the adoption of the National Human Rights Strategy 2014-2020 and the National Human Rights Action Plan 2014-2015 by Georgia.

In spite of the latest achievements, additional measures could be envisioned to promote and protect human rights in the country. Brazil is concerned about reports on the lack of access to family planning services by women and adolescent girls in Georgia.

While welcoming the adoption of the anti-discrimination law last year, we believe that public education campaigns, as well as training of police officers, prosecutors and judges on SOGI issues may contribute to the implementation of the law.

We would also like to encourage Georgia to continue on its path to further promote the rights of the child; to foster a culture of tolerance and cooperation among different political, ethnic and religious groups; and to strengthen policies to ensure the rights of IDPs.

Brazil wishes to recommend that Georgia:

1) ensure universal access to quality reproductive and sexual health services, including contraception services, especially to women in rural areas and those living with HIV/AIDS; and

2) support public education campaigns to combat hate speech, discrimination and violence related to sexual orientation and gender identity, as well as social stigmatization of LGBT persons.

Thank you.