

***Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office***

***and other International Organizations in Geneva***

**Universal Periodic Review**

**23rd Session**

**Lebanon**

*(unabridged version)*

Mr. President,

Brazil thanks the delegation of Lebanon for the presentation of its national report and for its willingness to constructively engage with the UPR mechanism. Such approach, despite the intense political and security concerns Lebanon has had to cope with in the last four years, deserves our acknowledgement.

While understanding that domestic and international circumstances have had an impact on its ability to fully implement recommendations accepted as part of the UPR, Brazil encourages Lebanon to continue to muster the will, and the international community to support the capacities required for the effective implementation of those commitments.

Brazil would appreciate to receive further clarification on the follow-up on recommendations which were noted, while not being formally rejected by Lebanon.

As part of the recommendations that Lebanon did accept, Brazil appreciates the presentation to the Parliament of a draft bill on the rights of domestic workers. Also commendable is the decision to refer ILO Convention 189 and Recommendation 201 to the Council of Ministers, with a view to their subsequent referral to the Parliament.

Brazil also appreciates the fact that a draft bill establishing an independent national human rights institution, also comprising, as required by OP-CAT, a national mechanism on the prevention of torture, is currently under consideration by Parliament.

We expect Lebanon to also move swiftly toward the ratification of the ICPPED and the CRPD, and the withdrawal of reservations to CEDAW, as it has previously committed to do.

Brazil notes with appreciation the decision of Lebanon to extend a permanent invitation to all special procedures, followed by the visit of two of them to the country. As a positive outcome, it would be important that Lebanon strengthens its national capacity to follow up on the implementation of recommendations, in dialogue and with the support required from the international human rights system.

Brazil recommends that Lebanon initiates national consultations, involving all relevant bodies and representatives from civil society organizations, including human rights defenders, in order to adopt and implement national systems:

(i) to further prevent and fight against torture and all forms of ill treatment, in line with recommendations submitted by the Committee against Torture and the obligation to establish a national preventative mechanism, as contained in OP-CAT;

(ii) to further eliminate discrimination against women, and to combat all forms of gender based violence.

Thank you.