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***Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva***

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Brazil welcomes the delegation of Antigua and Barbuda to the second cycle of the UPR and thanks it for the presentation of its report.

We take note with appreciation of the ratification of the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and encourage the Government to take concrete steps with a view to ratifying its Optional Protocol.

We also appreciate that Antigua and Barbuda has “de facto” abolished the death penalty, which has not been applied since 1991. We take this opportunity to encourage the formal abolition of the capital punishment.

Brazil is concerned about the situation of victims of domestic violence in the country and encourages initiatives to prevent and eliminate violence and discrimination against women and girls.

In a constructive and collaborative spirit, Brazil wishes to recommend that Antigua and Barbuda:

1. Ratify the American Convention on Human Rights and accept the jurisdiction of the Interamerican Court of Human Rights.
2. Take concrete measures with a view to decriminalizing consensual same-sex relations and abolishing any discriminatory legislation against LGBTI persons, even if such laws are not applied in practice.