

*Représentation permanente de la Belgique auprès des Nations Unies et auprès des institutions spécialisées à Genève*

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| **WG UPR 27 – Brazil**  ***Intervention of Belgium***  5th of May 2017 |

Mr. President,

Belgium welcomes the delegation of Brazil and wishes to congratulate Brazil with the adoption of its first National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security.

We hope that this Plan will contribute to the general improvement of women’s rights in Brazil and that further progress can be achieved in the prevention of gender based violence and in the area of access to the health care system, in particular to sexual and reproductive health services.

In this regard, we would like to formulate the following recommendations:

**R1.** To put effective measures in place in order to increase the number of women at all levels of decision making processes.

**R2.** To extend the “Program Women Living Without Violence”, with a particular attention to women and girls living in the country side and women and girls of Afro-Brazilian descent.

Furthermore, Belgium attaches great importance to the fight against impunity. We therefore recommend:

**R3.** To ensure that the deaths of human rights defenders are promptly and thoroughly investigated, and that those found to be responsible are brought to justice.

I thank you, Mr. President