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

*Chemin Louis Dunant, 15 – 1202 – Genève*

**Human Rights Council – 27th session of the UPR Working Group**

Mr. Chair,

Brazil welcomes the Delegation of Finland to the UPR and the presentation of its National Report.

Finland enjoys high levels of human development and champions many commendable initiatives to protect and promote human rights. However, there are still significant challenges in the field of human rights.

The reports published for the current exercise indicate that cases of racism and islamophobia are increasing in Finland. Brazil would like to recommend the adoption of a long-term and comprehensive framework to tackle discrimination, racism and xenophobia, focusing both on prevention and on combating human rights violations.

Brazil also notes that the Finnish Criminal Code continues to define rape according to the degree of violence of the perpetrator. In this regard, Brazil recommends that the appropriate legislation is amended in order to to ensure that the definition of rape covers all cases of non-consensual sexual acts.

Brazil appreciates the progress made to promote human rights as a cross-cutting issue, mainstreaming it in decision-making and legislative processes as well as in policy considerations. We highlight the Non-discrimination Act and the designation of the Parliamentary Ombudsman as the national preventive mechanism against torture.

Finally, Brazil commends Finland for its efforts to implement the recommendations from the UPR 2nd cycle, especially regarding the ratification of human rights treaties.

I thank you.