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## Statement by the Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office in the review of Uzbekistan, during the 44th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

## (Geneva, 8 November 2023)

Mr. President,

Brazil welcomes the delegation of Uzbekistan to the fourth cycle of the UPR.

We welcome the Uzbek Constitutional reform of April 2023 which abolished the death penalty, introduced civil and political rights, as well as declared the welfare State so to strengthen social rights on the ground.

While expressing concern over reports of gender-based violence, including femicides, Brazil commends Uzbekistan`s efforts and commitment in order to criminalize domestic violence.

With a spirit of constructive dialogue, Brazil recommends Uzbekistan:

(i) to ratify the Optional Protocol of the Convention against Torture and establish a national preventive mechanism;

(ii) to ADOPT comprehensive legislation prohibiting all forms of discrimination, including sexual orientation and gender identity, in addition to proscribing criminalization of consensual same-sex relationships.

I thank you.