

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

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

**Universal Periodic Review**

**28th Session**

**Gabão**

Mr. President,

Brazil welcomes the delegation of Gabon to the third cycle of the UPR.

While taking note of the new Media Code which entered into force in January 2017, Brazil recommends Gabon continues its efforts to improve legislation to ensure that it is in line with international best practices and standards on freedom of expression.

Brazil also recommends that Gabon take further measures to protect the rights of detainees, above all those on pretrial detention.

We welcome Gabon`s ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

We congratulate Gabon for the continuous efforts to combat trafficking in persons, especially in children, to promote gender equality, to combat epidemics, to fight poverty and to provide universal access to health care and education. Brazil commends initiatives such as the establishment of general guidelines for education and of quotas for women and young people to political elections and access of women to senior civil service posts.

Finally, we commend the inclusive way that the UPR report was prepared and the openness of Gabon in cooperating with the Human Rights Council.

I thank you.