

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

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

**Universal Periodic Review**

**28th Session**

**Ghana**

Mr. President,

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

Brazil takes note with appreciation of the development of the Discrimination Reporting System by Ghana’s Commission on Human Rights. In this regard, Brazil recommends the Government of Ghana to step up efforts to combat discrimination and violence by adopting measures to raise awareness among the population and public officials of the negative effects of public stigmatization on any grounds, including against individuals on the basis of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

While welcoming the moratorium on death penalty, Brazil also recommends that Ghana continue to take the necessary steps to achieve its total abolishment.

We commend the openness of the Government of Ghana in cooperating with the Humans Rights Council and its special procedures. We note, with appreciation, Ghana’s ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading treatment or Punishment, and of three Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

We congratulate Ghana for the continuous efforts to combat torture, to address prison overcrowding, to promote the rights of women and girls and to provide universal basic education and access to health care. Brazil welcomes initiatives such as End Child Marriage, Justice for All and the Heart to Heart Campaign, aimed at reducing discrimination against persons living with HIV.

Finally, Brazil commends Ghana’s commitment to continue to strengthen institutions responsible for the promotion and protection of human rights.

I thank you.