**Universal Periodic Review**

**3rd cycle**

**Review of Iraq**

**Statement from Brazil**

Madam Vice-President,

Brazil welcomes the delegation of Iraq and, a constructive spirit, recommends:

(1) to strengthen efforts to fight sexual violence against women and girls, including by changing provisions that protect offenders if they marry their victims;

(2) to further promote tolerance and intercultural dialogue, with a view to protecting its diversity of languages, religions, ethnicities and cultures.

We congratulate Iraq for progress, despite significant challenges, particularly terrorism. We commend efforts to identify the victims of Daesh and encourage additional steps towards assisting them. Brazil also commends measures to demine and rehabilitate schools, hospitals and other structures.

We encourage redoubled efforts to protect human rights while countering terrorism, including the right to a fair trial. Relatives – or perceived relatives – of Daesh fighters, especially children, should be protected from discrimination or retribution.

We wish Iraq a successful review.

I thank you