

***Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva***

**Universal Periodic Review Working Group - 35th Session**

ARMENIA

**(23/1/2020 – afternoon)**

Mr. President,

Brazil welcomes the delegation of Armenia to the third cycle of the UPR and would like to make the following two recommendations:

(i) to consider developing a comprehensive policy to combat discrimination against persons with disabilities and promote their access to public services, public facilities and the labour market.

(ii) to strengthen efforts to curb all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence, in law and practice, including by ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention).

2. Brazil takes note with appreciation of the successful electoral process that took place in Armenia in 2018, and commends the country`s initiatives to combat corruption.

3. We applaud the recent signature of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty and encourage the country to expedite its ratification.

4. Finally, Brazil encourages Armenia to continue its efforts to raise awareness of the international human rights instruments of which the country is a part, by launching human rights education programs targeted at the general public and national institutions, including law enforcement sectors.

We wish Armenia a very successful review.

 (202 words)

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