

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

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

**Universal Periodic Review**

**35th Session**

**Sweden**

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Mr. President,

Brazil welcomes the delegation of Sweden to the UPR and, in a spirit of cooperation and constructive dialogue, would like to make the following two recommendations:

1) Take further steps to promote religious tolerance and protect religious minorities, as well as to combat all forms of violence and discrimination based on religion or belief, including by effectively implementing and enforcing existing legislation;

2) Establish a dedicated statelessness determination procedure to identify stateless persons within the territory and facilitate their protection, particularly regarding stateless children.

We take the opportunity to congratulate Sweden for the decision to incorporate into Swedish law the Convention on the Rights of the Child and encourages the country to ratify its Third Optional Protocol on a communications procedure. Concerning refugee and migrant children, we recall that it is crucial that asylum and migration policies take into account the best interest of the child.

We welcome the adoption in 2016 of the national plan to combat racism, similar forms of hostility and hate crime, in line with the recommendation made by Brazil in the last UPR. We encourage Sweden to review its legislation to enforce the prohibition of discrimination associated with ethnicity.

We also welcome the adoption of a ten-year national strategy to prevent and combat men’s violence against women. Brazil further commends the Swedish government for the efforts to produce guidance on accessibility in the context of urban planning, as well as the policies to enable persons with disabilities to obtain and retain jobs.