**Universal Periodic Review**

**3rd cycle**

**Review of Belarus**

**Statement from Brazil**

Madam President,

Brazil welcomes Belarus to the UPR and makes the following two recommendations, in a spirit of constructive dialogue:

(1) to adopt a comprehensive law criminalizing all forms of violence against women, particularly domestic and sexual violence;

(2) to ensure that poverty or disability are not used as justifications for removing children from parental care.

We remain deeply concerned with the current overall state of civil and political rights, particularly continued reports of violence and repression against peaceful demonstrators since the presidential elections.

We urge the Government to respect the fundamental rights of its citizens, especially the rights of peaceful assembly and security of person. We also call on all sides to engage in a constructive dialogue that meets the legitimate democratic aspirations of the Belarussian people.

I thank you