

# **Brazil**

**Human Rights Council  
4<sup>th</sup> Session**

**Special Event on the Convention of the Rights of  
Persons with Disabilities**

**Speaking points by HE Ambassador Sergio Abreu e  
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(Deputy Permanent Representative of Brazil)**

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I will address two issues. First, Brazilian contribution to the negotiation process, resulting in the approval of the Convention. Second the Human Rights Council's (HRC) role to build a more effective Convention.

- **Brazil contribution**

- 1) Brazil attributes utmost relevance to the Convention on the Right of People with Disabilities. At the opening of the signatory process, we'll be represented by our Special Secretariat for Human Rights, in New York, on March 30<sup>th</sup>.
- 2) We have always had a pro-active role in 8 negotiating rounds of the *ad hoc* group that produced the text of the Convention
- 3) We have been active both at the governmental and non-governmental levels. Social movements of people with disabilities in Brazil are indeed very organised, active and influential. Their views, demands and expectations are heard by the Government
- 4) According to the Center for International Rehabilitation, Brazil is considered one of three most inclusive countries in the Americas in terms of the legislation and the application of public policies in favour of people with disabilities.

### **How could the CHR be more effective in supporting the Convention?**

We foresee the Council acting in three fronts:

- 1) Promotion: it should be wide and focused on others UN agencies. Agencies such as UNICEF, UNESCO, FAO, ILO and WHO should play a leading role. Their projects and programmes should take into consideration the recommendations put forward by the Convention and contribute to their implementation.
- 2) International Cooperation: it should encompass providing technical and financial support for seminars and capacity-building activities. It is estimated that 2/3 of the countries have no comprehensive legal provision for assuring the rights of the

people with disabilities. Capacity-building activities may help in the internalisation of norms.

- 3) Monitoring: the Convention has an in-built monitoring mechanism, as defined in the Optional Protocol. In that sense, the creation of an extra-Convention monitoring mechanism, by the Council, would require further analysis and discussions. The Council should be a provider of strong support to the activities of the Committee. For instance considering the country reports and the charges against countries.

Thank you, Mr President.