



PALAIS DES NATIONS – 1211, GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND

17 July 2023

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to the fourth cycle review of Brazil by the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group at its 41st session in November 2022. The constructive engagement between your Government, my Office, and the UPR mechanism is warmly welcome. As the final outcome report on the review of Brazil was recently adopted by the Human Rights Council at its 52nd session, I have also taken note of the efforts of your Government to implement specific recommendations since the previous review.

A matrix of thematically clustered recommendations, starting with those supported by your Government, is available at OHCHR's website (<https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/br-index>), and should be considered as part of this letter. The matrix indicates the recommending State and links each recommendation to relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In annex, I have also attached my Office's observations in light of the outcome of the fourth cycle of the UPR. In line with previous practice, I will be sending similar observations to all Member States once their fourth cycle UPR outcome is adopted by the Human Rights Council, with a view to follow-up action in close cooperation with national entities and other stakeholders.

I take this opportunity to draw your attention to the support available through the Voluntary Fund for UPR Implementation, which may be activated at the request and with the consent of a concerned State, along with tools such as the "[UPR practical guidance](#)" and the "[UN good practices](#)" repository on how the UPR process supports sustainable development, with a view to facilitating efforts to implement UPR recommendations in line with the SDGs.

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Volker Türk

His Excellency
Mr. Mauro Vieira
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Brazil



Observations in light of the outcome of the fourth cycle of the Universal Periodic Review

Brazil's acceptance of the overwhelming majority of the recommendations formulated in this fourth cycle is welcome. Several relevant developments over the last cycle, such as the enactment in 2019 of legislation addressing the issue of missing persons, as well as the creation of a national registry to unify different channels to denounce disappearances are noted with appreciation. The launching of the Parliamentary Observatory on the Universal Periodic Review and its engagement in thematic discussions on the recommendations from the previous cycle with the participation of civil society is also noteworthy.

The ratification of the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination and Related Forms of Intolerance in 2021 is welcome, as well as Brazil's cooperation with the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council. Brazil's return to the Global Pact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration is noted with appreciation. In this context, Brazil is encouraged to undertake further efforts to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

During the review of Brazil, a concern was raised regarding the need to ensure an enabling environment for civil society organizations, human rights defenders, and journalists to operate safely and to be protected from intimidation, violence and reprisals, with a particular focus on environmental human rights defenders, Indigenous Peoples and representatives of rural and traditional communities. The need to investigate threats, attacks and killings was reiterated during the review, as was the importance of ending deforestation, protecting the environment, and resuming the stalled processes of demarcation of indigenous land without further delay. Important concerns were expressed during the review regarding the need to effectively combat discrimination and systemic racism in law enforcement, justice and penitentiary systems, in particular against people of African descent and LGBTIQ+ persons.

The review also stressed the need to reinforce social services, health and education to combat inequality and poverty, as well as to continue strengthening the legal framework to combat gender-based violence and to protect and provide justice and remedy to the victims. Brazil is encouraged to promote gender equality and the participation of women in all spheres of society, including in politics, which were raised as a priority.

Brazil is further encouraged to develop an implementation plan in follow up to the UPR outcome, in close consultation and cooperation with all stakeholders, in particular the Congress, the judiciary, the national human rights institution, local and regional governments, and civil society organizations. The matrix may be of use in the development of such an implementation plan. The Government is encouraged to



explicitly link each UPR recommendation to corresponding recommendations of other international or regional human rights mechanisms and to the relevant SDG and its targets. This will, in turn, facilitate the creation of synergies between UPR implementation and SDG related actions and reporting within the context of the Voluntary National Review (VNR).

It is also suggested that the Government establish a national mechanism for reporting and follow-up, with the aim of ensuring a coordinated effective approach to reporting to international human rights mechanisms, and to implementing the recommendations, in line with the guidance provided by OHCHR following regional consultations and the High Commissioner's report to the Human Rights Council ([A/HRC/50/64](#)).

Further, an important measure that could positively contribute to follow-up action is voluntary mid-term UPR reporting. All Member States are encouraged to submit a voluntary mid-term UPR report some two years after the adoption of the UPR outcome. In this regard, the Government of Brazil is encouraged to continue with the practice of submitting a mid-term report on follow-up to the fourth cycle UPR recommendations by 2025, detailing both implementation efforts as well as challenges to implementation, including the possible need for technical or capacity-building assistance.

OHCHR
17 July 2023