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STATEMENT BY BRAZIL

Mr. President,

Allow me first to congratulate you for your excellent work. The [compilation] before us is an important step forward in the review process.

We would also like to acknowledge the contribution and the hard work of all facilitators and coordinator.

The review process has come to a decisive moment. All stakeholders must work now towards the objective of striking the proper balance within the universe of proposals put forth so far.

But while we must strive to seek a political balance for the outcome, as we did in 2006; it is important to look at all issues pertaining to the mandate of the Council with a constructive and open spirit. As referred to by the Ambassador of Mexico this morning “if it is not perfect, why not improve it?” We believe it is our duty to ~~try and~~ do our best for the promotion + protection of ^{human} rights worldwide.

From the outset of this review, Brazil has been open to discuss all issues addressed by resolution 60/251 of the General Assembly and to resolution 5/1 of the Human Rights Council.

We engaged in consultations based on our commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights worldwide and will continue to do so in the upcoming weeks.

Mr. President,

Consultations have shown the widespread recognition for the contribution of the UPR to the working culture in the Council. This lesson should inspire us in other areas.

The text on the UPR presented to us reflects several Brazilian proposals. We would like to highlight in particular the need to make the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical assistance fully operational and to enhance the role of the Office in the area of cooperation.

~~We would also like to point out to the participation of National Human Rights Institutions with "A" status. This measure will encourage states to reinforce national institutions in order to comply with the Paris Principles.~~

The increased time for interactive dialogues in the UPR working group sessions will contribute to a more universal participation in the mechanism. Hopefully this measure will solve problems related to the list of speakers.

Mr. President,

The text on special procedures is a good basis for negotiations. It rightly reaffirms that cooperation is a two-way street.

States must cooperate and assist special procedures in their task. The consolidation of information on requests for visits and responses from states will improve the level of transparency and engagement with mandate holders.

Mandate holders are in a privileged position to promote technical assistance with States and other stakeholders.

It is equally important to guarantee adequate and equitable funding and resources to all special procedures. Full transparency will contribute to build confidence among all stakeholders.

Mr. President,

The Advisory Committee must be strengthened. The selection process for its members is to be improved in order to guarantee adequate expertise in the Council's think-tank.

With regard to the complaint procedures, enhanced efficiency and transparency depend on better synergy between the Working Group on Communications and the Working Group on Situations.

This is the Council's entrance door for victims and as such it must be able to respond properly to their concerns.

On the Agenda and the Programme of work, the proposed scenarios offer a proper balance between the reduction of the number of sessions and the enhancement of the work and functioning of the Council.

Brazil recognizes the need to improve interactive dialogues with mandate holders.

We must be able to tell the international community that any matter requiring the attention of the Council will be adequately and timely addressed.

Mr. President,

Brazil has been directly involved in the negotiations on “Methods of work and Rules of Procedure”. In the course of extensive consultations in the past 3 months, all stakeholders have demonstrated that there is willingness to improve the work and functioning of the Council in this area.

We understand that the contribution of the facilitation on this cluster is a factual and truthful reflection of the discussions so far. We therefore wouldn't like to see anything therein discarded or left out. On controversial issues, Brazil is confident that it is possible to achieve concrete results in areas such as urgent situations.

A path that could be further explored is the search for these elements within the IBP.

Brazil would like to extend its support for some proposals aiming at enhancing the participation of LDCs and SIDS in the work and functioning of the Council.

We trust that your wisdom, commitment and tireless efforts will continue to guide us towards a successful outcome in this review process. You can continue to count on Brazil's constructive engagement in this task.

Thank you, Mr. President.