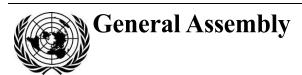
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Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections: election of members of the Human Rights Council

# Note verbale dated 17 July 2023 from the Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

The Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations has the honour to refer to its note dated 22 April 2021, in which it announced Brazil's candidature to the Human Rights Council for the term 2024–2026 and has the honour to transmit herewith the voluntary pledges and commitments of the Government of Brazil to the promotion and protection of human rights, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/251 (see annex).

The Permanent Mission of Brazil would be grateful if the present note verbale and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 116 (c) of the provisional agenda.

\* A/78/150.





# Annex to the note verbale dated 17 July 2023 from the Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

### Candidature of Brazil to the Human Rights Council, 2024–2026

## Voluntary pledges and commitments pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/251

#### Introduction

- 1. With great honour and a sense of responsibility, Brazil presents its candidature to the Human Rights Council for the term 2024–2026. Brazil is committed to promoting and protecting the highest standards of human rights. Its candidacy reflects the absolute centrality of human rights in the country's international position as a democratic and pluralistic nation, founded on the guarantee of dignity and rights for all
- 2. Brazil has made significant contributions to the Council. In the Council's 17-year history, Brazil has served five terms. It believes that the international human rights system can be strengthened through the effective promotion and protection of all human rights for all, without discrimination, based on the principles of universality, indivisibility, impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity, as well as constructive dialogue and international cooperation.
- 3. If elected, Brazil intends to deepen its contribution to the effectiveness of the Council and strengthen the Council's role in preventing and addressing the structural causes of serious human rights violations, using all the tools available to it, especially dialogue and cooperation. Brazil wants to maintain a high degree of interaction with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and its unrestricted support for the universal periodic review mechanism. It will also honour its standing invitation to the special procedures mandate holders, extended since 2001, which is proof of its commitment to seriously address its own challenges, in order to build a freer, more just and solidary Brazil and world.

#### Past, present and future: human rights in Brazil

- 4. Brazil's commitment to democracy, the rule of law, human rights and sustainable development is unwavering. Preserving democracy, respecting human rights, ensuring the rule of law and promoting sustainable development are fundamental principles of its Federal Constitution. Its history and evolution as a nation were forged by struggles for rights, equality and democracy. Recent attacks on democracy in many parts of the world serve as a warning and reinforce the country's commitment to strengthening democratic values and promoting dignity for present and future generations.
- 5. Brazil's Federal Constitution paves the way, by establishing human dignity and citizenship as the foundations of the Republic (article 1); the well-being of all, without discrimination, as one of its objectives (article 3); and the prevalence of human rights and the repudiation of racism as principles of Brazilian foreign policy (article 4). In addition to the wide range of fundamental rights and guarantees established in the constitutional text (articles 5–7), the international human rights treaties ratified by Brazil are granted the status of supra-legal norms or constitutional amendments (article 5, paras. 2 and 3).
- 6. In order to implement these constitutional and international commitments, Brazil has a wide range of institutions in legal, political and social spheres. At the federal level, new ministries have been created for implementing human rights

policies. In addition to the Ministry of Human Rights and Citizenship, since January 2023, Brazil has also created the Ministry of Women, the Ministry of Racial Equality and the Ministry of Indigenous Peoples. With an unprecedented structure and expanded authority, these ministries are responsible for making human rights the axis of all public policies, which means looking first to people in vulnerable situations and giving a voice and place to those who, for historical reasons, have seen their rights denied or restricted. In this sense, priority is given to women, Black people, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, LGBTQIA+ people, children, adolescents, older persons, people in situations of homelessness, human rights defenders, victims and witnesses under threat, and other groups whose vulnerable situation requires special attention from the State.

- 7. With renewed determination, Brazil is committed to seriously addressing its human rights challenges, which implies acting in the three dimensions of time: past, present and future, as intertwined and inseparable.
- 8. Brazil begins with the struggle for memory, truth and justice, related not only to violations that occurred during the military regime but also to the sad history of slavery and its consequences.
- 9. The country emphasizes its commitment to democracy, social participation and the struggle of groups victimized by injustices and oppression, by supporting the effective realization of economic, social and cultural rights; combating torture and structural violence problems; fighting racism, racial discrimination and LGBTQIA+ phobia; combating hunger and poverty, as well as all forms of gender-based inequality, discrimination and violence; addressing violence against youth and child labour; resuming the prominent role that the country has already played in the field of child vaccination and providing protection to children and adolescents who were orphaned as a result of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic; supporting the struggle of human rights defenders, especially environmentalists; and adopting effective measures to prevent and combat forced labour or slavery-like conditions, including through the establishment of human rights due diligence processes for businesses.
- 10. Looking forward, Brazil reaffirms the right to development as a human right and remains committed to recognizing the interrelationship between human rights and climate change.
- 11. This effort will involve the participation of the whole society. The formulation, implementation and evaluation of public policies will benefit from active popular participation, from civil society and non-governmental organizations to councils and specific mechanisms at various levels of government, and the support of social participation and diversity advisors, a position recently created in all ministries of the federal Government.

### Brazil and the international human rights system

12. In the international arena, Brazil's commitment to the promotion of human rights dates to the very foundation of the United Nations. Brazil, represented by Bertha Lutz, along with other Latin American partners, was responsible for the inclusion of women in the Charter of the United Nations. It also played a significant role in the negotiation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Brazil played a prominent role in the working group that drafted the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1989 and led efforts that resulted in the approval of the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children in 2009. It played an important role in the negotiation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the International Conference on Human Rights held in Vienna, in 1993. In 2002, Brazil became one of the 24 countries that have ratified the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989

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- (No. 169) of the International Labour Organization. Our participation in the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in 2001 encouraged the creation of legislation and public policies to combat racism and racial discrimination. The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol were incorporated into Brazilian law in 2008, by constitutional amendment.
- 13. At the regional level, Brazil has expanded its engagement with the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. In August 2022, at the invitation of the Brazilian Government, the country hosted, in Brasília, the 150th regular session of the Inter-American Court, whose mandatory jurisdiction Brazil has recognized since 1998.
- 14. Brazil also supports the strengthening of multilateralism and advocates for an effective, legitimate and impartial Human Rights Council. In addition to being a founding member of the Council, Brazil takes part in several core groups for the resolutions adopted by the body on various topics, such as the human right to health, respect for the right to privacy, the incompatibility between democracy and racism, and the promotion of technical cooperation in human rights, among others.
- 15. Therefore, Brazil's candidature for the Council reflects the absolute centrality of human rights in its Constitution, as well as its political commitment as a democratic and pluralistic country to guaranteeing dignity and rights for all.

#### **Voluntary commitments**

- 16. Under international human rights mechanisms, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Strengthening and improving the international human rights system and the Human Rights Council in a comprehensive and integral manner, based on its founding principles (contained in General Assembly resolution 60/251);
- (b) Engaging in discussions to promote greater effectiveness and efficiency in the work of the Council, including in negotiations on the possible elevation of the body's status;
- (c) Prioritizing a preventive and cooperative approach in the Council, favouring dialogue and international cooperation, technical assistance and capacity-building instead of instrumentalization, polarization and selectivity;
- (d) Supporting the universal periodic review mechanism, special procedures and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;
- (e) Supporting treaty bodies and maintaining the commitment to submit timely periodic reports, participate constructively in their reviews with a high-level delegation and monitor and implement their recommendations.
- 17. Under international human rights treaties, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Advancing the ratification process of international human rights instruments subject to recommendations accepted by Brazil under the universal periodic review, including the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the conventions of the International Labour Organization;
- (b) Accelerating internal procedures to ratify the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, also known as the Escazú Agreement, signed by Brazil in 2018;

- (c) Striving to advance the ratification process of international human rights instruments, including the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons, the Inter-American Convention against All Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.
- 18. With regard to civil and political rights, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) In the context of increasing threats to democracy in Brazil and the world, combating all forms of violence associated with hate speech and extremism and promoting an environment conducive to the full exercise of freedom of expression;
- (b) Continuing to present, support and co-sponsor draft resolutions related to civil and political rights, such as the right to privacy in the digital age, human rights on the Internet, respect for freedom of expression and opinion and the protection of journalists, among others;
- (c) Promoting initiatives that encourage greater participation of Black people, women, Indigenous Peoples, LGBTQIA+ individuals and other marginalized groups in decision-making functions and processes;
- (d) Supporting initiatives and resolutions to prevent and combat torture within international human rights forums and mechanisms;
  - (e) Advancing online protection of the same rights protected offline;
- (f) Supporting resolutions dedicated to promoting and protecting freedom of religion or belief, in the light of the rich diversity of traditions, beliefs, religions and cultures that exist in Brazil;
- (g) Advancing the establishment of mechanisms to combat political violence motivated by gender and race against populations historically excluded from positions of power;
- (h) Promoting actions to prevent and address the dissemination of fake news and human rights violations perpetrated using robots and artificial intelligence tools;
- (i) Supporting and co-sponsoring initiatives to combat all forms of violence, prejudice, discrimination and intolerance.
- 19. With regard to the rights of women and girls, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Supporting initiatives and resolutions dedicated to promoting gender equality, in particular, in ensuring equal pay and strengthening the active participation of women in all power and decision-making bodies, as well as in renewing the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences;
- (b) Promoting, defending and supporting policies that comprehensively address all forms of discrimination based on race and gender, aiming to improve the living conditions and integration of Black girls and women in Brazil and around the world:
- (c) Redoubling international efforts aimed at combating all forms of violence against women and girls, with emphasis on the prevention and fight against feminicide and political violence, as well as the protection of women in vulnerable situations;
- (d) Applying a cross-cutting and intersectional approach to gender equality in all initiatives within the Council;
- (e) Promoting and protecting women's rights, including through actions related to promoting the right to health and sexual and reproductive rights;

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- (f) Seeking to increase women's participation in Brazilian delegations, as well as in all bodies of the Council and the United Nations;
- (g) Supporting, co-sponsoring and organizing events, seminars, joint declarations and resolutions for the promotion of gender equality in the Council.
- 20. With regard to the rights of Indigenous Peoples, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Promoting and supporting initiatives that strengthen the necessary conditions for the effective guarantee of Indigenous Peoples' rights, including processes of land demarcation, territorial and environmental management, and effective mechanisms for consultation and participation, fully respecting the rights of Indigenous Peoples and in accordance with the Brazilian Federal Constitution;
- (b) Strengthening and increasing engagement on the topic in the Council and promoting events such as discussions and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned, ensuring the participation and leadership of Indigenous and native peoples from various parts of the world;
- (c) Supporting resolutions and initiatives on Indigenous Peoples' rights and the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- (d) Increasing engagement in discussions on the participation of Indigenous Peoples in the Council;
- (e) Supporting initiatives that recognize the role played by Indigenous Peoples in protecting the environment and biodiversity and in combating illegal or predatory exploitation of their lands.
- 21. With regard to racial equality and the fight against racism, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Prioritizing initiatives to combat structural racism and police violence, both nationally and internationally;
- (b) Ensuring the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, both nationally and internationally;
- (c) Contributing to and promoting actions for the effective implementation of the programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015–2024);
- (d) Proposing and supporting initiatives, resolutions and events of the Human Rights Council dedicated to combating all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;
- (e) Supporting the renewal of the mandates of the special rapporteurs and experts and promoting the visits of special procedures dedicated to the topic;
- (f) Actively participating in the negotiation of the United Nations declaration on the promotion and full respect of the human rights of people of African descent;
- (g) Supporting the work of the follow-up mechanisms of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and of the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent;
- (h) Promoting the exchange of experiences and cooperation with other countries in the hemisphere to further the implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination and Related Forms of Intolerance.

- 22. With regard to the rights of children, adolescents and youth, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Supporting and participating in initiatives, resolutions and events dedicated to promoting and protecting the rights of children and adolescents in the Council, ensuring the best interests of children;
- (b) Actively contributing to the activities of the core group for the draft resolutions on the rights of the child, led by the Latin American and Caribbean Group and the European Union;
- (c) Giving absolute priority to the rights of children, adolescents and youth, including in the digital sphere, through public policies and budget resources compatible with this recognition;
- (d) Supporting initiatives aimed at combating violence and the sexual exploitation of children and adolescents;
- (e) Promoting comprehensive initiatives to promote food and nutrition security and the comprehensive health of children and adolescents, especially to reduce malnutrition and infant mortality;
- (f) Supporting and participating in initiatives and strategies aimed at eradicating child labour and promoting decent work for youth;
- (g) Supporting strategies that increase real opportunities for the full, effective and constructive participation of young people in Brazilian society and at the international level, including within the United Nations;
- (h) Promoting the application of a cross-cutting and intersectional approach to public policies dedicated to children, adolescents and youth;
- (i) Increasing the participation of Brazilian children, adolescents and youth in relevant events, including official delegations, in the Council and other United Nations bodies, as well as supporting efforts to increase this representation among other delegations;
- (j) Supporting measures aimed at ensuring effective access to education for Black children, adolescents and youth, as well as their retention, throughout the education cycle, including in higher education;
- (k) Promoting and supporting initiatives aimed at reducing lethal violence and the social vulnerabilities suffered by Black youth, as well as confronting structural racism.
- 23. With regard to the rights of older persons, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Advancing proposals at the international level for the protection and promotion of the rights of older persons, recognizing "multiple ways of ageing" and their contribution to society, valuing care practices and work and considering the different circumstances that can affect the guarantee of rights for this group;
- (b) Promoting initiatives to combat all forms of discrimination and violence against the elderly, supporting their autonomy and full and effective participation in economic, political and social life, as well as the implementation of cross-cutting, intersectoral and local policies for healthy ageing;
- (c) Presenting and supporting initiatives and resolutions pertaining to this topic and participating in the Group of Friends of Older Persons, including with regard to renewing the term of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons;

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- (d) Promoting actions to support the implementation of the programme of activities for the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021–2030), declared by the General Assembly;
- (e) Supporting the negotiation of a legally binding instrument on the rights of older persons within the United Nations.
- 24. With regard to the rights of persons with disabilities, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Advancing initiatives, resolutions and events aimed at persons with disabilities, in line with the legal framework and national policy on the subject;
- (b) Ensuring the leadership, inclusion and full participation of persons with disabilities in the formulation and implementation of initiatives of the Council and other United Nations activities:
- (c) Supporting the application of a cross-cutting and intersectional perspective on the rights of persons with disabilities in all topics addressed by the Council:
- (d) Promoting campaigns against ableism, both nationally and within multilateral organizations;
- (e) Promoting the implementation of a unified disability assessment system, from a biopsychosocial perspective, and supporting technical cooperation initiatives and capacity-building aimed at achieving this goal.
- 25. With regard to the rights of LGBTQIA+ people, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Supporting and promoting initiatives at the international level to protect and promote the rights of LGBTQIA+ people, in line with national priorities in this regard;
- (b) Joining the Group of Friends of the mandate of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in Geneva, as well as the Equal Rights Coalition;
- (c) Proposing and supporting initiatives within the core group for the resolution on combating violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, including with regard to renewing the mandate of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, as well as in similar initiatives undertaken with other bodies of the United Nations and the Organization of American States;
- (d) Supporting the activities of the Independent Expert on the subject and promoting a possible visit to Brazil.
- 26. With regard to the rights of migrants, refugees and stateless persons, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Supporting and promoting initiatives at the international level to protect and promote the rights of migrant, refugee and stateless populations, in line with national priorities;
- (b) Supporting initiatives to combat all forms of violence, prejudice, discrimination and intolerance;
- (c) Promoting the principles and guidelines set out in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees;

- (d) Fostering a cross-cutting and intersectional approach to the rights of migrants and internally displaced persons within the Council.
- 27. With regard to the right to development, voluntary commitments comprise supporting debates and initiatives related to the right to development, including with regard to reflections on the drafting of a legally binding document on the subject, as well as in the framework of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 28. With regard to economic, social and cultural rights, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Promoting the equitable realization of economic, social and cultural rights, particularly those related to inclusion and social justice and the fight against hunger and poverty, as well as the guarantee of human rights to education, health, food and adequate housing;
- (b) Continuing to present, support and co-sponsor draft resolutions regarding economic, social and cultural rights, such as the right to adequate housing, and regarding technical cooperation in human rights;
- (c) Supporting initiatives and resolutions related to promoting the human right to decent work, especially with regard to the prevention and combating of child and forced labour;
- (d) Promoting the right to adequate food, bearing in mind the need to overcome food and nutritional insecurity around the word;
- (e) Mobilizing government at all levels (federal, state and local), as well as Brazilian society, to confront hunger and all forms of malnutrition through public policies and initiatives that promote the right to adequate and healthy food, with special attention given to the most vulnerable groups and people.
- 29. With regard to the right to health, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Promoting international initiatives to promote and protect the human right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, based on science, dialogue with civil society and collaborative work, in line with the principles that inform Brazil's Unified Health System;
- (b) Promoting the strengthening of health care for Indigenous Peoples, the health of the Black population and the fight against structural racism in access to health:
- (c) In the context of the post-COVID-19 recovery, continuing to present and support draft resolutions aimed at strengthening the treatment of topics such as access to vaccines and medicines as a component of the human right to health, human rights and mental health, and the reduction of stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS;
- (d) Cooperating with the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and jointly defining possible dates for a visit to Brazil.
- 30. With regard to sports and human rights, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Supporting the improvement of international best practices and promoting the prevention and fight against racism and any form of discrimination in different sports modalities, especially in major sporting events;
- (b) Encouraging sports programmes aimed at communities living in unfavourable conditions or occupying the outskirts of urban centres, whether in schools or community facilities created for this purpose;

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- (c) Proposing, within the Council, a follow-up on the resolution on sport, healthy lifestyles and the right to health, with a view to drawing greater attention to the positive contribution of promoting physical activities to the health and well-being of all.
- 31. With regard to the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Supporting the full recognition of the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, on an equitable and non-discriminatory basis;
- (b) Integrating the treatment of human rights into the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, by taking advantage of synergies between multilateral bodies:
- (c) Supporting the approach that discussions on the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment are based on the three pillars of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental) and international cooperation, in line with relevant multilateral instruments:
- (d) Supporting the effective implementation of international agreements and conventions on the environment as relevant instruments that can also promote the realization of human rights;
- (e) Supporting initiatives aimed at combating the illegal or predatory exploitation of nature, as well as the impacts on human rights resulting from such processes.
- 32. With regard to human rights defenders, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Strengthening the national programme for the protection of human rights defenders, communicators and environmentalists by reinstating its Deliberative Council, composed of representatives of public agencies and civil society, with a focus on gender parity;
- (b) Promoting the establishment of a national policy for the protection of human rights defenders, communicators and environmentalists and strengthen the related programme through normative measures;
- (c) Monitoring, with special attention, the situation of environmentalists, Indigenous Peoples and Quilombola defenders and designing measures for their protection;
- (d) Supporting dialogue with special procedures and international mechanisms and hosting a possible visit by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders.
- 33. With regard to businesses and human rights, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Actively participating in the negotiation of a legally binding instrument on business and human rights;
- (b) Participating in and promoting events, forums and debates on business and human rights, ensuring the full participation of civil society organizations, unions and the private sector;
  - (c) Supporting debates and initiatives related to the respect for due diligence.
- 34. With regard to international cooperation, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Prioritizing initiatives for cooperation, technical assistance and dialogue between countries in the Council, based on its founding principles (contained in General Assembly resolution 60/251);

- (b) Favouring the non-selective monitoring of country situations, based on international cooperation, national capacity-building and constructive dialogue with the country concerned;
- (c) Supporting and proposing initiatives within the core group for the resolution on technical cooperation in human rights, of which Brazil is a member.
- 35. With regard to combating forced labour, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Developing the third National Plan for the Eradication of Slave Labour, with a gender and race perspective;
- (b) Strengthening the implementation of the national programme of assistance for victims of forced labour:
- (c) Contributing to discussions on strategies to confront and eradicate domestic forced labour.
- 36. With regard to memory, truth and justice, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Strengthening national policies and institutional mechanisms dedicated to ensuring the human right to memory, truth, justice and reparation, as well as guarantees of non-recurrence, by learning from successful international experiences;
- (b) Supporting the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence and organizing a possible visit to Brazil;
- (c) Supporting and proposing initiatives, resolutions and events dedicated to promoting the human right to memory, truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence within the United Nations, the Organization of American States and the Southern Common Market;
- (d) Supporting the expansion of the agenda related to the human right to memory, truth, justice and reparation, with a view to incorporating racial and gender dimensions, as well as those related to the situation of people in rural areas and Indigenous Peoples;
- (e) Monitoring and providing support for initiatives to search for and identify victims of forced disappearance, including through international cooperation initiatives.
- 37. With regard to combating torture and serious human rights violations, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Developing and ensuring the effective implementation of the second Federal Pact to Prevent and Combat Torture;
- (b) Developing and promoting the creation and establishment of state mechanisms and committees to prevent and combat torture;
- (c) Improving existing legislation in States that have implemented State committees and mechanisms in accordance with the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
- (d) Supporting the improvement of international mechanisms and organizations dedicated to preventing and combating torture.
- 38. With regard to protection of threatened victims and witnesses, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Supporting and promoting mechanisms to guarantee the rights of victims of crimes and the protection of threatened victims and witnesses;

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- (b) Strengthening specialized protection programmes for threatened victims and witnesses;
- (c) Expanding access to, strengthening and improving the federal programme for assistance to threatened victims and witnesses;
- (d) Promoting the development of regulatory frameworks to ensure secure access to public policies for threatened victims and witnesses, thereby contributing to the full guarantee of their rights.
- 39. With regard to engagement with civil society, voluntary commitments comprise:
- (a) Organizing events, promoting regular contact and establishing dialogue and consultation with representatives of civil society, with a view to strengthening national councils and the National System of Social Participation;
- (b) Supporting the activities of the National Council for Human Rights and of other relevant national collegiate bodies for the monitoring, evaluation, formulation and follow-up of measures dedicated to the promotion and protection of human rights;
- (c) Reviewing initiatives that favour the establishment of a national human rights institution, in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles).