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INTERVENTION BY BRAZIL
ON THE DRAFT DECISION
ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP ON THE
REVIEW OF MANDATES
(L.2/Rev.1)
(After the vote)

Mr. Chairman,

As a country that has put forward standing invitation to all special procedures, Brazil attaches great importance to those mechanisms and thinks that they have made important contributions to the protection and promotion of human rights.

In the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Review of Mandates, Brazil has reiterated the need to maintain the independence and the technical competence of the mandate holders.

For this reason, we think that the mandate holders should be asked to fully participate and contribute with suggestions to the Working Group.

One of the suggestions made by the mandate holders – the manual of special procedures – is a good basis for the discussions of the Working Group on the

Review of Mandate with a view to establishing transparent and general rules to all special procedures. We think that the final manual of special procedures will certainly contribute to give more transparency and predictability to the system.

However, Brazil also thinks that the Working Group must take into consideration the elaboration of a code of conducts for special procedures, which will also help to give more transparency and predictability to the system. A well defined code of conduct will contribute to promoter better relations between States and mandate holders and, therefore, will be a great encouragement to States to put forward standing invitation to special procedures.

Nevertheless, I would like to make a very important remark: Brazil only supports the elaboration of a code of conduct for special procedures under the understanding that the code of conduct will by no means put into risk the independence of the mandate holders.

We think that a code of conduct is not incompatible with the independence of mandate holders. On the contrary, they may help mandate holders to better work with the governments of the countries they visit.

Brazil will participate in the discussion of the Working Group for the elaboration of the code of conduct with this firm belief.

Thank you.