

BRAZIL'S STATEMENT – High-level segment

(Delivered by Mr. Beto Vasconcelos, National Justice Secretary)

"Thank you very much, Mr. President – Madam President,

The Government of Brazil would like to thank the Government of Qatar for the warm welcome in Doha and for the outstanding work with the Secretariat in preparation for this Congress.

Brazil is honored to have hosted the previous meeting of this Congress, in Salvador. We are confident that Doha will also be a catalyst for important advancements.

Mr. President, Madam President,

In a time when the international community heads towards the approval of the Sustainable Development Goals for the post-2015 agenda, we note with satisfaction that this Congress acknowledges the mutually reinforcing relationship between sustainable development and the rule of Law. Brazil considers that efficient strategies for countering crime should have preventive policies as central elements, especially those that promote social and economic development, respect for human rights and access to Justice.

Public policies aimed at eradicating poverty, improving education and health, empowering women and combating all forms of discrimination are essential for crime prevention. For such policies to be effective, they must be elaborated and implemented with the participation of civil society.

Mr. President, Madam President,

The fight against transnational organized crime is a priority for the Brazilian Government. For this reason, we reiterate our commitment to the implementation of the Palermo Convention and its Protocols. Brazil approved, in 2013, the Organized Crime Act.

Brazil also has endeavored to restrain the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, establishing a national system for the registration of firearms and reinforcing border controls.

Brazil has established a National Policy for countering trafficking in persons with a focus on the prevention and the repression of the crime and on providing attention to its victims.

Regarding the smuggling of migrants, our challenge has become more complex, as Brazil is now, at the same time, a point of origin and of destination. This has only reinforced our conviction that the people who are victims of this crime cannot be treated as criminals, but rather need to receive protection and assistance.

In this context, Mr. President, Madam President, Brazil considers it essential to establish a mechanism for the review of the implementation of the UNTOC. We call upon all member states to strengthen their efforts and to have a flexible and cooperative spirit towards that goal.

Mr. President, Madam President,

Brazil is strongly committed to preventing and combating corruption. The Brazilian Government has implemented, in the last years, important measures, such as the creation of the Office of the Comptroller General, the approval of the Information Access Act, the new legislation on money laundering, the corporate anti-corruption law, among others. The improvement of the coordination among the different public institutions, through the National Strategy against Corruption, was also an essential part of these efforts.

The strengthening of prevention and law-enforcement measures has brought to surface some serious cases of corruption. This outcome demonstrates that the measures taken in the country are going in the right direction and also that our institutions are fulfilling their control role in an independent and autonomous manner.

In this context, with the purpose of reinforcing such actions, President Dilma Rousseff announced last month new additional measures to counter corruption and impunity, including the criminalization of illegal campaign financing and the facilitating of the recovery and forfeiture of assets derived from corruption. Such measures were debated and recommended in part by international fora like this one.

Much has been done to fight corruption in Brazil. But we are aware that we have to do more. According to our President, we consider that (and I quote) "the countering of corruption and impunity must be seen as a

policy of the Brazilian state, relentless and continuous, and not as a particular moment in the history of our country" (end of quote).

Mr. President, Madam President,

The fight against transnational organized crime and corruption depends on international cooperation and mutual legal assistance. Regarding this issue, Brazil has made active use of the mechanisms established in the UNTOC and UNCAC.

Brazil reaffirms the need to develop international cooperation, not only in criminal matters, but also in civil and administrative proceedings against corruption. We also highlight the importance of enhancing the international network of Central Authorities, of improving international cooperation proceedings, and also of the value of international police and prosecutor networks.

Mr. President, Madam President,

We take this opportunity to express our understanding that it would have been important to include in this Congress' Declaration a call for a moratorium on the application of the death penalty, with a view to its abolition. We look forward to further discussing this issue.

Mr. President, Madam President,

Cybercrime deserves special attention. Authorities from every country face complex challenges in investigating and obtaining evidence in digital environments in which traditional international cooperation proceedings are quite often limited. It is essential to develop a truly global legal framework to combat cybercrimes, focusing on tools for international cooperation and with the adequate attention to the necessary balance between repressive measures and respect for Human Rights, especially the right to privacy. In our domestic law, this balance is ensured by the Internet Regulatory Framework, which will be complemented by the Personal Data Framework, currently being discussed.

Brazil welcomes with great satisfaction the conclusion of the review of the minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners. We are confident that the results of this process will be approved in the next session of the CCPCJ. We consider it one of the most significant outcomes of the Salvador Declaration.

Mr. President, Madam President,

Brazil is pleased to reaffirm its support to the Doha Declaration. This comprehensive and balanced document will serve as an important guideline for the work to be accomplished by the international community.

Thank you very much."