

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a negative impact on the education system in many countries. In Brazil, more than 650,000 children aged up to 5 years old have dropped out of school in the past 3 years and the number of 6 and 7 year olds who cannot read or write at the right age has increased by 66%. The pandemic has also highlighted the inequalities that hinder the effective guarantee of the right to education.

The Brazilian government is committed to overcoming these inequalities. Successful state and local initiatives to guarantee the human right to education serve as a parameter and inspiration to guide actions by the federal government. Among these actions is the professional advancement and training of teachers, in line with goals set by SDG 4. Brazil supports UNESCO's role to lead debates on SDG 4, as well as other funds, agencies and programs of the UN system, like UNICEF.

Brazil is committed to promoting the sexual and reproductive health of its population, in accordance with our domestic legislation, with special attention to the rights of women and girls. The effective guarantee of their rights gained prominence in the Brazilian government with the creation of the Ministry of Women. We aim to ensure the promotion of the rights of women and girls in all their diversity, recognizing that women can be affected by multiple and aggravated forms of inequality and discrimination, depending on their social condition, race, ethnicity, nationality, immigration status, sexual orientation or gender identity, age and physical condition, among other factors.

The Brazilian government is committed to giving expression to our international commitments to guarantee women's rights, including the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Platform of Action of the International Conference on Women, and the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development for Latin America and the Caribbean. These instruments help us to fulfil the commitments assumed under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including SDG 5.6, which sets the target to ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health.

Brazil is committed to fighting sexual and gender-based violence, which goes far beyond the criminal responsibility of the perpetrators. Not only must we expand access to justice for women, but also to enhance our institutional, social and health care services overall. To fulfil the task, we reactivated the (Living without Violence) "Mulher: Viver sem Violência" program, which will expand the number of (Brazilian Women Houses) "Casas da Mulher Brasileira", restructure the Women's Assistance Call Center, humanize services for victims of sexual violence and strengthen actions to combat femicide.

The recent measures announced by the Brazilian government are in line with domestic legislation and with commitments assumed at the international level, with a view to guaranteeing the right to education and the promotion of gender equality in Brazil.

Thank you.