



**MISSION PERMANENTE DU BRESIL AUPRES DE L'OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES  
ET DES AUTRES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES A GENEVE**

*Chemin Camille-Vidart 15, 1202 Genève*

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The Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and has the honor to refer to the Letter of the Special Procedures Branch, dated 6 July 2022, concerning the news release by the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, and the Chair of the Working Group on People of African Descent.

In line with Article 13(a) of the Code of Conduct and paragraph 50 of the Manual of Operations of the Special Procedures of the HRC, the Permanent Mission of Brazil in Geneva would like to forward the attached comments of the Government of Brazil regarding the events mentioned by the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, and the Chair of the Working Group on People of African Descent. These comments should be incorporated to the news release, which will published today.

The Permanent Mission of Brazil in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2022.

*To the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)  
Special Procedures Branch  
Chief*

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## **ANNEX**

### **COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BRAZIL REGARDING LETTER OF THE SPECIAL PROCEDURES BRANCH (07/06/2022)**

As a country with one of the largest populations of people of African descent, Brazil is firmly committed to combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and to pursuing racial justice and equality.

The Brazilian Constitution determines the equality of all, defining racism as a crime that is not susceptible to bail or statute of limitations.

In June 2021, Brazil launched a new set of initiatives to protect the rights of people of African descent, including human rights education of law enforcement officers, programs to protect young victims of violence, and measures to increase the oversight of police officers.

With regard to the events mentioned by the OHCHR, the Brazilian State deeply regrets the loss of lives during the police operation in Vila Cruzeiro and the death of Mr. Genivaldo de Jesus Santos. The competent authorities are monitoring the investigation of these events to guarantee that it is carried out in an independent and impartial way.

The Ministry of Justice and Public Security and the Public Prosecutor's Office of the State of Rio de Janeiro opened a criminal proceeding to determine the facts regarding the deaths in Vila Cruzeiro, requiring information from the police authorities involved in the events, including the names of the police officers responsible for the deaths.

With regards to the death of Mr. Genivaldo de Jesus dos Santos, the Federal Highway Police issued a statement emphasizing that the approach of the police officers in this case is against the internal guidelines of the institution, and that those involved in the death of Mr. Santos are undergoing disciplinary proceedings, having been released from their duties.

The case is also being monitored by the Public Prosecutor's Office, which opened a criminal proceeding being conducted with secrecy, to preserve investigations.