



**PERMANENT MISSION OF BRAZIL TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA**
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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 – Special Procedures Branch – and, in addition to Brazil’s Note Verbal n. 325, dated 10 July 2023, has the honor to transmit herewith additional information of the Government of Brazil in response to the Note Verbale AL BRA 2/2023, dated 9 May 2023.

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, July 21 2023



SUBMISSION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BRAZIL

The Secretariat of Social Assistance and Human Rights of Mato Grosso do Sul, with reference to the Note Verbale AL BRA 2/2023, would like to convey some information on the work carried out by the State of Mato Grosso do Sul in the structuring of campaigns and projects, in framing public policies, as well as in creating Commissions and enhancing the qualification of professionals, in order to guarantee the rights of Indigenous Peoples, as enshrined in Brazil's Federal Constitution, and to uphold the legal security of these rights and the territories pertaining to Indigenous Peoples.

In addition to the protection measures adopted, clarification is also provided on the murder of Ms. Estela Vera. The Secretariat for Justice and Public Security of the State of Mato Grosso do Sul (SEJUSP/MS, by its acronym in Portuguese) informed that the police inquiry N. 01/2023 (records n. 0800098-88.2023.8.12.0016) on the case was established and resulted in the identification of the perpetrator of the crime [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was arrested and indicted, under the terms of the criminal law in force in the country, according to the information below contained in the report presented by the Civil Police Station of Japorã, in the State of Mato Grosso do Sul:

"The teenager [REDACTED] of Estela Vera] immediately recognized the individual carrying a firearm [REDACTED] That was the reason why he ran towards [REDACTED] and heard a shot fired in his direction".

[...]

"At the time, the press published some news about the crime, which raised the possibility that the murder might have been perpetrated by tenants of Indigenous lands or motivated by religious intolerance. The reports said that [REDACTED]

[...]

“All possible lines of investigation were explored, but no evidence was found of the victim's disagreements with Indigenous land tenants or religious conflicts, as had been reported”.

[...]

“The investigation pointed out that the initial line of suspicion, indicating [REDACTED] [REDACTED] as the perpetrator of the crime in the context of domestic violence, was considered the correct one.”

Although the reported crime does not have any correlation with Mrs. Estela Vera's religious practice, as concluded by the police inquiry, the State of Mato Grosso do Sul asserts that it condemns any act of violence against the freedom of conscience and belief of Indigenous Peoples. The State of Mato Grosso do Sul reiterates its commitment, when receiving reports through official channels, to investigating any acts committed by third parties that may involve potential aggression to the free exercise of religious worship, places of worship, and their liturgies.