



**PERMANENT MISSION OF BRAZIL TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA**

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N. 209/2025

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 joint communication AL BRA 1/2025 by the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children; the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities; the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance; the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences and the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls.

The Permanent Mission of Brazil in Geneva would like to forward the attached inputs of the Government of Brazil regarding the aforementioned letter.

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, May 2nd 2025

*To the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
(OHCHR);*

Special Procedures Branch

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FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL

UNITED NATIONS

AL BRA 1/2025

SÔNIA MARIA DE JESUS CASE

STATE REPORT

April 2025

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I – INTRODUCTION

According to the Allegation Letter (AL BRA 1/2025) sent by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Sônia Maria de Jesus, a black woman with disabilities and in a situation of socioeconomic vulnerability, was subjected to conditions of domestic servitude for over 40 years.

Born on December 23, 1973, Sônia was taken away from her mother during her childhood, around 1981/1982, under the justification of protecting her from domestic violence. At the time, Sônia's mother, fearing for her daughter's safety, temporarily consented for the child to be taken in by psychologist [REDACTED]. The agreement between them was that once the situation of violence ceased, Sônia would return to her maternal home. However, this return never occurred. Instead, the child began living at the psychologist's residence, performing domestic tasks without any remuneration or recognition of labor rights. Around 1982/1983, [REDACTED] transferred Sônia to the home of her daughter, [REDACTED] who at the time lived with her husband, [REDACTED] in the city of Blumenau, Santa Catarina. This change of state is said to have occurred without the knowledge or consent of Sônia's mother.

The OHCHR communication reports that Sônia was deprived of access to education, adequate health care, or any form of autonomy. She lived for decades in conditions akin to slavery, performing domestic services without salary, registration, or freedom. Her first identification document was only issued when she was 48 years old. Today, at 51 years old, Sônia Maria de Jesus presents multiple disabilities: bilateral deafness, loss of vision in her left eye, cognitive/intellectual disability, and is illiterate both in Portuguese and Brazilian Sign Language (LIBRAS).

In 2023, an anonymous complaint led to the action of the Mobile Inspection Group of the Ministry of Labor, which carried out a rescue operation and removed Sônia from the residence where she lived. Despite this, in September of the same year, a decision by the Superior Court of Justice authorized Sônia to reunite with members of the investigated family, resulting in her return to the house of the alleged exploiters. The Federal Public Defender's Office filed a habeas corpus to prevent this return, but the measure was denied.

In this regard, the OHCHR requested the following information about the case:

1. Please provide any additional information and/or comment(s) you may have on the above-mentioned allegations.

2. Please provide details, and where available the results, of any investigations, prosecution or criminal charges, and other inquiries carried out in relation to the allegations.
3. Please provide information on whether Ms. Sônia Maria de Jesus had procedural accommodations, including individualized assistance, during the investigation and judicial proceedings as per the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
4. Please provide information on the measures being taken to ensure compliance with the State's obligation of due diligence to prevent trafficking in persons, including, in particular, domestic workers, and to ensure early identification and effective access to protection, and access to effective remedies, including to compensation. Further, please provide information on how these measures are accessible for and include persons with disabilities.
5. Please provide information about steps that have been taken to protect those particularly vulnerable to trafficking and contemporary forms of slavery, such as Afro-descendants, women, and persons with disabilities.
6. Please provide information on legislative or policy reforms, if any, that are being considered or implemented to strengthen the protection of domestic workers and individuals at risk of forced labor and trafficking, particularly Afro-descendant women and persons with disabilities.
7. Please provide information about steps that have been taken to ensure the due diligence obligation not only in relation to preventing trafficking, but also to 'preventing violence against women' under CEDAW and its General Recommendations, especially 19 and 35.
8. Please indicate what measures are taken to ensure that the human rights of Ms. Sônia Maria de Jesus are being protected and fulfilled and what guarantees of nonrecurrence have been put in place to avoid further revictimization, in particular as a result of the decision to return her to the alleged perpetrators.
9. Please indicate what measures have been taken to ensure that judicial and administrative decisions in cases of contemporary forms of slavery and trafficking in persons comply with international human rights standards.

On this occasion, the Brazilian State respectfully presents to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) a report containing information about the case of Sônia Maria de Jesus.

II – STATE RESPONSE

II.2 – On the processes and investigations carried out regarding the allegations

The Regional Labor Prosecutor's Office of the 12th Region received an anonymous report stating that Ms. Sônia Maria de Jesus had been living in a regime of domestic labor exploitation for decades at the residence of the couple [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Given the seriousness of the facts, **Civil Inquiry No. 001055.2022.12.000/3** was initiated by the Public Labor Prosecutor's Office (MPT). From the initial investigations, the MPT found that the worker's registration in the Individual Taxpayer Registry (CPF) only occurred in 2021, at the age of 48. It was also observed that her Work and Social Security Card (CTPS) had never been registered.

On **January 13, 2023**, the MPT heard people who had worked for [REDACTED] at different times, all of whom confirmed that Ms. Sônia provided services at the residence and reported possible intellectual, psychological, physical, and patrimonial neglect, being a person with disabilities, illiterate, and without autonomy.

Given the testimonies collected that confirmed the anonymous report received of a typical case of domestic labor in conditions analogous to slavery, the MPT considered there were sufficient elements to support the granting of a search and seizure warrant at the home of the investigated parties. It then issued a letter to the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office (MPF) to prompt action from the Superior Court of Justice (STJ).

The MPF received the documentation and filed the **precautionary action AJCRIM/STJ/CFS No. 400/2023**. On **May 7, 2023**, the STJ partially granted the requested measures, in a decision issued by Minister Mauro Campbell Marques, recognizing strong indications of Ms. Sônia's submission to forced labor. The request was processed before the STJ due to the prerogative of function, considering that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]¹

Following the granting of the measure, an operation was scheduled for its execution with the participation of the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MTE), the Federal Police (PF), the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office (MPF), the Federal Public Defender's Office (DPU), and the Labor Prosecutor's Office (MPT).

On the morning of **June 6, 2023**, the members of the operation went to the family's address. There they found [REDACTED] Maria de Jesus, and other employees. At the end of the inspection, the Labor Prosecutor's Office (MPT) and Labor Auditors requested the appearance of Ms. Sônia and the three

¹ In accordance with Article 105, I, "a" of the Federal Constitution of 1988: Article 105. **The Superior Court of Justice has the competence to: I - process and judge, originally:** a) in common crimes, the Governors of the States and the Federal District, and, in these and in those of responsibility, **the appellate judges of the State Courts of Justice and of the Federal District**, the members of the State Courts of Accounts and of the Federal District, the Regional Federal Courts, the Regional Electoral Courts and the Labor Courts, the members of the Councils or Courts of Accounts of the Municipalities, and the members of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office who officiate before courts.

formalized employees found at the residence before the Regional Labor Prosecutor's Office of the 12th Region. The appearance of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was also requested for a hearing at 5:00 p.m. on the same day.

After hearing the employees' testimonies, the team offered the investigated parties the opportunity to speak, ensuring their right to remain silent. In general, the investigated parties denied that Sônia Maria de Jesus had provided formal services, claiming that she was treated "as if she were part of the family." They reported that "little Sônia" was taken from a daycare center in São Paulo — where the mother of the investigated worked as a psychologist — when she was about 8 or 9 years old. Later, when the couple's first daughter was born, Sônia, who was already about 12 or 13 years old, began living with the family in Blumenau/SC, the city where they lived before the investigated was appointed [REDACTED]

After the on-site inspection, subsequent instructional acts were carried out in the records of **Civil Inquiry No. 001055.2022.12.000/3** by the Public Labor Prosecutor's Office.

At the end of **June 6, 2023**, the team deemed it prudent to hear other witnesses before communicating the decision regarding Sônia's rescue. For this reason, they authorized her return to the residence of the investigated parties, notifying them for a new hearing, which was held on **June 9, 2023**.

In the meantime, the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office (MPF) heard other workers who had provided services over the years to the [REDACTED] family, who corroborated the daily practice of domestic activities performed by Sônia without any remuneration. Additionally, during the investigation, the MPT located, through a database, the siblings of Sônia Maria de Jesus. They clarified that Sônia is the eldest sister and that, at the time, her mother, [REDACTED], was facing a situation of domestic violence committed by her then partner. Given this reality, she agreed to temporarily entrust the care of her eldest daughter to [REDACTED], the mother of the investigated. At that time, [REDACTED] worked as a psychologist at the daycare attended by "little Sônia." According to Sônia's siblings, she was taken from her mother through fraud, under the promise that she could return to the family, which never materialized.

On **June 9, 2023**, the rescue of Sônia Maria de Jesus was formalized. After the rescue, Ms. Sônia Maria de Jesus was welcomed at the Shelter for Women in Situations of Violence, a public shelter in the municipality of Florianópolis, where she began receiving dental, medical, psychological, and assistance treatment, in addition to

completing the vaccination circuit and starting the educational process, with insertion into the deaf community (Association of the Deaf of Greater Florianópolis) for literacy in Brazilian Sign Language – LIBRAS. It is noteworthy that the rescue was carried out in accordance with Ordinance 3484/2021, which establishes the National Flow of Assistance to Victims of Work Analogous to Slavery and provides for referral to social assistance agencies for specialized and systematic care.

On **July 12, 2023**, a **Public Civil Action (0000649-93.2023.5.12.0035)** was filed in the Labor Court to seek the financial liability of the entire [REDACTED] family, as well as to impose obligations to act, refrain from actions, and provide compensation for individual and collective moral damages. The case is still under judgment in the Labor Court.

However, on **August 27, 2023**, there was a decision by the Superior Court of Justice (STJ) authorizing the investigated parties' access to Sônia. According to the deliberation, a 48-hour period was established for the reunion, on the grounds that Ms. Sônia Maria de Jesus had the conditions to decide, freely and consciously, if she wished to meet with the couple and subsequently return to the family's residence. In this context, Sônia Maria de Jesus left the shelter and was taken back to the house by the family.

Against this decision, on **September 5, 2023**, the **Federal Public Defender's Office filed a Habeas Corpus before the Supreme Federal Court (STF)**, arguing that there was no express, clear, and unequivocal manifestation of Ms. Sônia's intention to return, and that she was intimidated and psychologically pressured during the meeting, which was attended by a delegation of about twenty people, including members of the [REDACTED] family, family employees, and ten lawyers. However, Minister André Mendonça of the STF decided, on **September 7, 2023**, to uphold the ruling. The case has been ready for judgment since the submission of an opinion by the Attorney General's Office on **November 6, 2023**, which recommended the release of Sônia Maria de Jesus. According to more recent information, Minister André Mendonça requested a new position from the STJ on the grounds of not having obtained sufficient elements to support his decision. Therefore, the case remains pending judgment.

On **October 23, 2023**, the couple [REDACTED] were indicted by the Attorney General's Office for the crime of reducing people to conditions analogous to slavery. Due to the imposition of judicial secrecy, details of the case's progress are not known.

Meanwhile, on **June 21, 2023**, after the event that culminated in the rescue of Sônia Maria de Jesus, the [REDACTED] family filed an **Action for Recognition of Socio-Affective Filial Relationship (5009867-04.2023.8.24.0091/SC)**, which is pending in the Judiciary of Santa Catarina (2nd Family Court of Florianópolis), aiming for the socio-affective adoption of Sônia. In this proceeding, the MPT and the DPU submitted a request for the application of the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the suspension of the case. On June 26, 2023, the investigated parties proposed an amendment to the initial claims, requesting several expert examinations of Ms. Sônia Maria de Jesus. On **July 7, 2023**, the MPT and the DPU filed **Interlocutory Appeal No. 5040281-64.2023.8.24.0000** against the decision issued in case No. 5009867-04.2023.8.24.0091 by the Judge of the 2nd Family Court of Florianópolis, which ordered such examinations, considered invasive and re-victimizing by the DPU and MPT. However, the MPT and the DPU were excluded from the case on August 11, 2023, which led them to file a request for measures before the National Justice Council (CNJ).

Thus, on **October 30, 2023**, Request for Measures No. 0007057-93.2023.2.00.0000 was filed before the National Justice Council (CNJ), considering the events that occurred in the records of Action 5009867-04.2023.8.24.0091 (action for recognition of maternity and paternity filed by [REDACTED]), on the grounds of alleged institutional violence and re-victimization against Sônia Maria de Jesus. On **April 7, 2024**, a decision was issued on the Request for Measures, ordering its suspension for 60 days to await the outcome of investigations into the crime of reducing people to conditions analogous to slavery, which are ongoing before the STJ under **Inquiry No. 1629/DF and Criminal Search and Seizure Request No. 65/DF**. The inquiry and the request are processed in the STJ due to the prerogative of function. It is reported that Minister Mauro Campbell Marques, who was responsible for the case before the STJ, took office as National Inspector of Justice at the National Council of Justice (CNJ), as of September 3, 2024, and the reassignment of the case to a new rapporteur at the STJ remains pending.

Finally, in the context of administrative procedures, the Santa Catarina Court of Justice informs that **Disciplinary Complaint RD No. 0003767-70.2023.2.00.0000** is pending before the National Council of Justice, initiated to investigate potential functional violations allegedly committed by [REDACTED]. All proceedings are subject to judicial secrecy.

The Ministry of Labor and Employment (MTE), through its Department of Labor Inspection and Supervision, informs that it has exhausted all possible measures and the exercise of its administrative police power, given the existence of a court decision that authorized the "reverse rescue" of Sônia.

The Labor Prosecutor's Office, through the Special Support Group, is monitoring the progress of judicial proceedings that are pending before the National Council of Justice and the Santa Catarina Court of Justice.

II.3 - Procedural accommodations, including individualized assistance, during investigation and judicial proceedings

According to information from the MTE, the rescue of Sônia Maria de Jesus was carried out in accordance with Ordinance 3484/2021, which establishes the National Flow of Assistance to Victims of Work Analogous to Slavery. According to the ordinance, the rescued worker is, during the inspection, referred to social assistance agencies to receive specialized and systematic care. Thus, the worker receives priority treatment by accessing federal government income distribution programs such as Bolsa Família, without prejudice to other social assistance programs.

In Sônia's case, during the labor inspection operation, the Labor Inspection team, together with other partner agencies, carried out the necessary investigations and referred her for shelter and psychosocial support. Additionally, the employers were held accountable for regularizing the employment contract and paying all labor rights that had been previously denied to the worker, among other measures related to the consequences of the rescue. Accordingly, the stages outlined in the national flow of assistance to victims of slave labor were followed.

However, the Public Labor Prosecutor's Office reported situations where Ms. Sônia Maria de Jesus was not attended to by a multidisciplinary team during the judicial proceedings. For example, the STJ decision that authorized the reunion with the [REDACTED] family did not provide for the presence of a multidisciplinary team to support Sônia during the event, which would have ensured a plan for her to make decisions independently and at her own pace.

In light of this, the National Secretary for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (SNDPD) informed that it has remained active since becoming aware of the case, aiming to articulate local partners in the city of Florianópolis-Santa Catarina, as well as other

national and international partners, to ensure the rights of Ms. Sônia Maria de Jesus, as well as those of her biological siblings.

Among the initiatives carried out in the case of Sônia Maria de Jesus, it is noteworthy the visit by the head of the SNDPD, Anna Paula Feminella, and the then Minister of Human Rights and Citizenship (MDHC), Sílvio Almeida, to Sônia, who was staying in a shelter for women victims of violence in the city of Florianópolis. The visit took place after the rescue operation authorized by the STJ rapporteur minister. On that occasion, the SNDPD established coordination with various local partners involved in the rescue and shelter process, who began providing essential care to Ms. Sônia Maria de Jesus, such as medical and psychological assistance and education in Brazilian Sign Language (LIBRAS).

Additionally, the National Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CONADE), the highest advisory body of the Ministry of Human Rights and Citizenship for the agenda of persons with disabilities, issued an opinion denouncing the case and demanding measures from public agencies, with an emphasis on the Judiciary, for expedited judgment. This opinion was unanimously approved on **September 21, 2023**. The SNDPD also participated in important spaces for debate and mobilization, such as the hearing in the Senate Human Rights Commission on slave labor in the domestic environment, held on **May 6, 2024**; the Peaceful Act in Defense of the Freedom of Sônia Maria de Jesus, held in front of the STF in Brasília on **July 16, 2024**; and the public hearing held by the Committee on Participatory Legislation of the Chamber of Deputies, at the initiative of Congresswoman Sâmia Bomfim, on August 27, 2024. The secretariat also joined the International Campaign "Sônia Livre" launched by institutions and activists, participating in the launch activities on **June 6, 2024**.

The case also received wide visibility during the 5th National Conference on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, held on **July 14-17, 2024**, being widely cited throughout the debates and especially during the closing ceremony, which was attended by the President of the Republic, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. During the event, a motion of repudiation regarding the situation faced by Sônia was approved by acclamation.

On January 22, 2025, the SNDPD participated in a meeting with the head of the MDHC, Minister Macaé Evaristo, and her team, along with representatives of the Pastoral Land Commission, to discuss the case. The meeting also included the presence of Sônia's biological sister, Marta de Jesus, who reported difficulties in visiting her sister.

Finally, on **April 27, 2025**, Minister of Human Rights and Citizenship (MDHC) Macaé Evaristo made a statement about the case through the MDHC's official media channels. In her remarks, she recalled that in 2013, legislation was approved guaranteeing labor rights to all domestic workers, but emphasized that this agenda remains a challenge, as exemplified by the case of Sônia Maria de Jesus and other workers who have been rescued from conditions analogous to slavery. The Minister reiterated her commitment to the case, aiming to reverse the court decision that allowed Sônia to return to the home of the individuals under investigation, as well as to ensure the reestablishment of her bond with her biological family.

II.4 - State measures of due diligence to prevent human trafficking

According to information from the General Coordination for the Eradication of Slave Labor of the MDHC, the protection of people particularly vulnerable to human trafficking and forms of slavery, such as Afro-descendants, women, and people with disabilities, is structured under the framework of the National Policy for the Eradication of Slave Labor, which is in place since 1995. The formulation of the concept of slave labor was consolidated in 2003 and is provided for in Article 149 of the Brazilian Penal Code, which defines its forms as: forced labor, exhausting workdays, degrading conditions, and debt bondage. In addressing labor analogous to slavery, the National Commission for the Eradication of Slave Labor (CONATRAE), the National Plan for the Eradication of Slave Labor (PNETE), and the Special Mobile Inspection Group for specific action in rural areas are also highlighted.

Within the MDHC, various initiatives have been implemented with the aim of preventing human trafficking and eradicating contemporary forms of labor analogous to slavery. Among these actions, Brazil's accession in 2025 as a pioneer country of Alliance 8.7 — a global initiative linked to the UN's 2030 Agenda that aims to accelerate international efforts to eliminate child labor, forced labor, human trafficking, and other forms of modern slavery — stands out. This accession resulted from articulations with the International Labor Organization (ILO), the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MTE), the MDHC, and the Ministry of Social Development and Assistance, Family and Fight Against Hunger (MDS), which met in June 2024 to define national strategies aimed at reducing these problems, reinforcing Brazil's leadership role in this scenario.

Another important pillar of this policy is the work of the National Commission for the Eradication of Slave Labor (CONATRAE), a collegiate body created in 2003 and regulated by Decree No. 9.887/2019, coordinated by the MDHC through the National Secretariat for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights. With the support of the General Coordination for the Eradication of Slave Labor, the commission is responsible for coordinating, evaluating, and monitoring the implementation of actions provided for in the National Plan for the Eradication of Slave Labor, as well as monitoring legislative proposals and promoting studies and research on the topic.

In this context, the National Policy for Combating Slave Labor is currently anchored in the II National Plan for the Eradication of Slave Labor (PNETE), from 2008, structured in strategic axes such as general actions, repression, prevention, reintegration, training, and economic repression. However, recognizing the need for updating in the face of new configurations of contemporary slavery in Brazil — especially regarding the intersections of race, gender, class, and migration — the MDHC and CONATRAE began the process of developing the III PNETE. With the support of the ILO and active participation of representatives from the justice system, civil society, and federated entities, this new plan is being elaborated in a participatory manner, involving workshops, public consultations, and bilateral dialogues. The new document, whose completion is expected by **June 2025**, seeks to consolidate an intersectional and territorialized approach, focusing on vulnerable populations such as indigenous peoples, traditional communities, international migrants, women, and the black population.

Among the instruments of inspection and accountability, the Register of Employers caught subjecting workers to conditions analogous to slavery, known as the "Dirty List," stands out. Instituted by Interministerial Ordinance MTE/MDHC/MIR No. 18, of September 13, 2024, this national register is a tool for transparency and control, widely used by companies to assess risks in their production chains. Internationally recognized, including by the UN, the register has become a global reference in combating contemporary slavery, despite its purpose not being public disclosure. On this topic, it is reported that **on April 9, 2024, the name of [REDACTED] the employer cited in the operation that rescued Sônia, was included in the Dirty List.**

The victim assistance policy is also structured through the National Flow of Assistance to Victims of Slave Labor, regulated by Ordinance No. 3.484/2021. Developed within CONATRAE and decentralized to states and municipalities, the flow establishes clear stages — reporting, planning, rescue, and post-rescue —, defining

institutional responsibilities and ensuring specialized, humanized, and systematic care for rescued individuals.

Complementing these actions, the Unemployment Insurance for Rescued Workers guarantees, at the time of rescue, the payment of three monthly installments in the amount of a national minimum wage, as an emergency social protection measure. The benefit is granted by the Labor Inspection, linked to the MTE.

Finally, the Federative Pact for the Eradication of Slave Labor, created in 2017 and updated in 2021, promotes the engagement of states and the Federal District in combating this serious human rights violation, strengthening co-responsibility among federated entities. The initiative encourages local coordination, with the possibility of adherence by mayors and municipal secretaries. To date, all states of the federation, except Amapá, have adhered to the pact.

The MDHC has been committed to various actions to improve strategies for combating and eradicating slave labor, through partnerships, technical cooperation agreements, discussion groups on topics such as slave labor in the domestic environment, monitoring judicial agreements, continuous training on the topic, and other projects.

II.5 –Legislative measures to strengthen the protection of domestic workers and individuals at risk of forced labor and trafficking

A notable example is Bill (PL) 33/51/2024, presented on August 28, 2024, by Congresswoman Carla Ayres, which aims to establish guidelines and actions for the comprehensive care and resocialization of domestic workers rescued from conditions analogous to slavery and human trafficking, ensuring the cessation of domestic violence, family reconnection, the guarantee of full reparation, and the necessary support for the expression of will of workers with disabilities.

The bill aims to build a more adequate protective framework to establish clearer norms regarding the rescue of domestic workers from environments where they are being exploited, specifically regarding post-rescue care and the prevention of strategies such as adoption or recognition of socio-affective parentage.

To contribute to the improvement of the legislative debate on the topic, an interministerial working group was established, in which the SNDPD, linked to the Ministry of Human Rights and Citizenship, participates. As a result of this collective effort, a substitute Bill was drafted with the following summary:

“Provides for principles and measures for the comprehensive care of workers rescued from conditions analogous to slavery, with attention to the particularities of domestic work, and victims of human trafficking, with a view to ensuring the permanent cessation of violence, the full guarantee of rights, the development of autonomy, self-determination, and full resocialization, and the necessary support for people with disabilities, and other provisions (Sônia Maria de Jesus Law).”

The participation of the SNDPD in this group allowed for significant changes to the text, ensuring greater visibility to the issue of the rights of people with disabilities in the context of this important legislative initiative. Among the highlighted contributions, it was proposed to correct a gap present in Law No. 13.146/2015 (Brazilian Inclusion Law), which until then did not explicitly refer to combating labor analogous to slavery. The proposal provides for the explicit inclusion of the principles and measures for assisting victims, as defined in the so-called Sônia Maria de Jesus Law, currently under consideration in the National Congress. According to the latest update, on **April 9, 2025**, the Bill is under review by the Committee on the Defense of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

III – FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

In light of the above, the Brazilian State demonstrates that the inspection bodies applied the existing legislation and protective measures, which led to the rescue of Sônia Maria de Jesus. The regression in Sônia's human rights situation is due to the application of a judicial decision, which is being challenged by the rights protection bodies in these cases, in order to ensure the proper application of the laws.

The Brazilian State makes itself available to the mandate-holders of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to provide any additional clarifications and reaffirms its commitment to providing periodic information on the issue.