

## **Addendum to the 8th and 9th national report of Brazil to the CEDAW – 2024.**

### **I. Geral**

1. The Brazilian government presents this addendum, considering the change in management in the presidency of the federative republic of Brazil starting in 2023 and the renewed firm commitment to human rights, especially in promoting gender equality and ensuring women's rights in the country. The creation of the first Ministry for Women (MM) in Brazil is a clear indication of the relevance of this agenda for the current government, which has taken on the challenge of restructuring and rebuilding policies aimed at women and girls in line with the international human rights treaties signed by the Brazilian state.
2. There were notable and significant setbacks in both domestic and foreign policies related to fulfilling the obligations outlined in CEDAW by the previous administration. This occurred not only through discourse by the highest Brazilian authorities, with practices of symbolic and political violence against women, but especially through disinvestment in public policies and mechanisms aimed at this purpose.
3. As an example, the funds allocated to finance public policies for women during the administration of former President Dilma Rousseff, in 2015, amounted to 236 million Brazilian reais. However, in 2022, the budget forecast dropped to 23 million Brazilian reais, representing a reduction of 90%.
4. Misogyny, gender stereotypes, and various forms of discrimination were propagated during the previous administration, particularly affecting certain groups of women, specifically black and indigenous women, given Brazil's deeply entrenched social, racial and ethnic inequalities. The crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in Brazil exacerbated its effects on this population.
5. The prohibition of the use of "gender" concept, its distortion into the unscientific concept of "gender ideology", the annihilation of transversality and intersectionality strategies, and the emptying of women's movement participation spaces have impacted the Brazilian government's capacity to coordinate and articulate policies to implement Sustainable Development Goal 5 of the UN's 2030 Agenda.
6. On January 17th, as a demonstration of our commitment to gender equality and women's rights, we announced our withdrawal from the Geneva Consensus Declaration on Women's Health and Strengthening of the Family.
7. The current Brazilian government recognizes women's rights as universal human rights, upholding its historical role in championing the principle of equality between men and women in the United Nations Charter, embraced by Bertha Lutz, and in the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action, approved with strong support of Brazilian women's movements and state representatives.
8. Additionally, Brazil emphasizes the importance of recognizing the diversity of black, disabled, elderly, LBTQIA+, quilombola, traditional communities, indigenous, water, rural, forest, migrant, refugee, and urban women, and the need to address the multiple barriers they face in achieving their human rights. In this sense, Brazil is engaged in a foreign policy that consider intersectional feminist and antiracist perspective, recognizing with women's diversity and the need to fight against poverty and inequalities as a priority. For this, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MRE) created a high-level representative for gender issues.

9. We strongly recognize and defend the commitments agreed upon in the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994) and the Platform for Action of the IV UN Women's Conference (Beijing, 1995). We acknowledge the principle of non-retrogression on the enjoyment of the rights of women.
10. In January 2024, as the Pro Tempore Presidency of the G20, the MM inaugurated the G20 Women's Empowerment Working Group setting the agenda on three priority areas: gender equality, confronting misogyny and violence, and climate justice. The government sought to centralize the debate on equality and autonomy, addressing the gendered division of labour as a basis perpetuating inequality. The best jobs and salaries are allocated to men, while domestic and caregiving responsibilities fall disproportionately on women. In this sense, Brazil promotes discussions on care policies, highlighting the need to reduce the burden on women from caregiving tasks by providing free public services and equipment. In addressing misogyny and violence, the MM prioritizes acknowledging that despite feminist advancements in recent decades, violence against women continues at alarming rates. Another key point is the need to emphasize the discussion of intersectionality, recognizing the different levels of exposure to violence among white, black, and indigenous women, based on unequal power mechanisms to confront them. Regarding climate justice, the MM has sought to position women as protagonists in all territorial policies and actions aimed at mitigating the worsening climate crisis and its consequences on peoples and territories. This is understood as women-led development.
11. Also, the government has addressed the challenge of women's underrepresentation in global power and decision-making spaces on climate justice, violence confrontation, and equality, autonomy, and the job market.

## **II. Impact of the pandemic on women's rights and gender equality**

12. In Brazil, the combination of a government that drastically reduced investment in public policies for women, promoted a discourse of political and symbolic violence against women, along with the irresponsible management of the pandemic, was devastating for women's lives and aggravated by social inequalities such as class, ethnicity, race, territory, among others.
13. The research "Visible and Invisible: Women's Victimization in Brazil" indicated that during the pandemic, 24.4% of Brazilian women aged 16 and above reported experiencing some form of violence or aggression in the last 12 months.
14. As highlighted in the transition government's report, for domestic workers, the pandemic represented an increased risk to their health, a decrease in income, and loss of rights. They were the first to be infected and impacted by COVID-19, in Brazil, with the first death being a domestic worker in Rio de Janeiro. Up until 2016, the formalization of labor and social security rights for domestic workers was on the rise, driven by the Federal Government's efforts to ensure the implementation of Constitutional Amendment No. 72. Starting from 2017, with the adoption of fiscal austerity measures by the then federal government, such as the pension and labor reforms, the formalization of domestic workers began to decline. After the pandemic, the situation worsened, amplified by the rapid growth of the category of day laborers - a more precarious version.
15. In May 2023, the WHO declared that COVID-19 is now a stabilized and ongoing health issue, no longer constituting a public health emergency of international concern. However, Brazilians still face the consequences and grief of more than 700,000 deaths the virus caused, attributed not only to the previous administration's lack of efforts in a national campaign against the virus and misinformation but also to its continuous attempts to downplay the importance of health measures and vaccination.

16. The Lula government is focusing on actions and programs aimed at addressing some of the problems highlighted by the pandemic, affecting especially women: the working conditions of healthcare professionals; ensuring and providing public equipment and services for shared caregiving; valuing domestic work, primarily carried out by black women; high levels of domestic violence; lack of support for families in lower classes; and tackling poverty and hunger.

### **III. Visibility of the Convention**

17. In May 2023, President Lula sanctioned Law 14,583, which supports the dissemination, by public institutions, of fundamental rights and human rights, especially those concerning women, children, adolescents, and the elderly. The Law specifically mentions the CEDAW and the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women as milestones for spreading human rights values throughout the administrative body of the Federal Government.
18. In addition to that, Brazil has adhered to the Santiago Commitment (CRM/CEPAL), that aims to respond to COVID-19 crises with gender-sensitive lenses, and the Panama Declaration (CIM/OAS), which aims at building bridges towards a new social and economic pact managed by women. All these international documents are considered strategic tools for Brazil to coordinate and promote public policies ensuring the rights of women.

### **IV. Constitutional and legislative framework**

19. In only one year, President's Lula enacted a series of laws and legal framework to advance women's rights.
20. One of the priorities of the government is reduce the gender pay inequality and to achieve this, he presented the Equal Pay Law between women and men (Law 14.611/2023), which was approved by the Congress in 2023. This Law defines criteria for equal wages and remuneration between men and women for performing equal or equivalent work. It introduced significant innovations: the transparency report and the possibility of fines for companies that fail to comply with the legislation. Also, internationally, in 2023, the MM and the Ministry of Labour and Employment have joined the Equal Pay International Coalition (EPIC), along with the ILO, UN Women, and the OECD.
21. On March 8, 2023, President Lula approved the Decree 11.430/2023, which mandates the inclusion of a 8% quota for the workforce composed of women who are victims of domestic violence, including trans women and travestis, in contracts between companies and the federal public administration.
22. In the same day, Lula sent to Congress approval the Ratification of ILO Convention 156 and 190, which address workers with caregiving responsibilities and tackling workplace harassment, respectively.
23. Decree No. 11,460 of March 30, 2023, established, within the scope of the MM and the Ministry of Social Development and Assistance, Family, and Combating Hunger, the Interministerial Working Group for the development of a National Care Policy and a National Care Plan.
24. Law 14,550/2023 that amends the Maria da Penha Law with the objective of ensuring the proper application of urgent protective measures and reaffirming the premise that the cause or motivation of acts of violence and the condition of the aggressor or the victim do not exclude the application of the Law.

25. Law 14.713/2023 establishes that the risk of domestic or family violence is grounds to prevent the exercise of shared custody and imposes on the judge the duty to investigate situations of domestic or family violence involving the couple or their children in advance.
26. Law 14.628/2023 establishes the Food Acquisition Program (PAA) and the Solidarity Kitchen Program, with the goal of promoting access to food, food security, and economic and social inclusion. Both programs prioritize women as a group to access their benefits.
27. Law 14.614/2023 amends Law 14.597 (General Sports Law) to ensure that pregnant or postpartum athletes, under the Athlete Scholarship, receive respect for maternity and the rights protecting them.
28. Provisional Measure No. 1.164/2023 reinstated the Bolsa Família Program, aiming to combat hunger through direct income transfers to beneficiary families, contribute to breaking the cycle of poverty across generations, and promote the development and social protection of families, especially those headed by women. The program also prioritizes families led by women.
29. Law 14.538/2023 ensures patients the replacement of breast prostheses used in breast reconstruction or symmetrization of the contralateral breast whenever complications or adverse effects arise, as well as psychological and specialized multidisciplinary support.
30. Law 14.540/2023 was signed by President Lula, establishing the Program for the Prevention and Combating of Sexual Harassment and other Crimes against Sexual Dignity and Sexual Violence within the public administration.
31. The Decree 11.431/2023 reinstated the “Woman Living Without Violence Program”, established with the aim of integrating and expanding existing public services for women experiencing violence. This is achieved through the coordination of specialized assistance in the fields of health, public security, justice, social assistance network, and the promotion of financial autonomy, resuming the Brazilian Women's Houses and the women's victim support centres.
32. Decree 11.640/2023 establishes the National Pact for the Prevention of Femicides that aims to prevent all forms of discrimination, misogyny, and gender-based violence against women through intersectoral government actions, with intersectional gender perspective.
33. Law 14.541/2023 ensures the creation and uninterrupted operation of Specialized Women's Assistance Police Stations.
34. Law 14674/2023 provides for the payment of rental assistance to women victims of domestic violence.
35. Law No. 14,717/2023 establishes a special pension for children and dependents, minors orphaned due to the crime of femicide, whose family's monthly per capita income is equal to or less than 1/4 (one-quarter) of the minimum wage.
36. Law No. 14,786/2023 creates the "No Means No" protocol to be implemented in nightclubs and bars, in musical performances held in enclosed spaces and at shows with the sale of alcoholic beverages, to promote the protection of women and to prevent and address embarrassment and violence against them.
37. Decree 11.432/2023 regulates Law 14.214, which establishes the Program for Protection and Promotion of Menstrual Health that ensures free provision of sanitary pads and other basic menstrual health care, aiming at promoting menstrual dignity.
38. On September, 2023, the MM worked towards the approval of the Regional Declaration on the Eradication of Gender Stereotypes in Public Spaces Resulting in Symbolic and Political Violence Against Women Due to Gender and it was

elected vice-president of the Follow-up Mechanism of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women - Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI).

39. In various forums, the MM has advocated for the repeal of Law No. 12,318/2010, concerning the unscientific concept of Parental Alienation. Also, the National Council for Women's Rights, a consultative and deliberative body composed of government and civil society members, approved Recommendation No. 1 on September 12, 2023, addressed to the National Congress, calling for the repeal of this Law.

## **V. National machinery for the advancement of women**

40. As highlighted earlier, President Lula created the MM in January 2023, and the ministry's budget was reinforced after the approval of Constitutional Amendment Bill 32/22. The amendment, known as the Transition PEC, allowed the new government to increase the budget spending cap by R\$ 145 billion to finance expenses such as Bolsa Família, Auxílio Gás, Farmácia Popular, and other public policies. Part of this amount (R\$ 250 million) was directed to the MM.
41. The Ministry has three main secretariats: the National Secretariat for Institutional Articulation, Thematic Actions, and Political Participation; the National Secretariat for Combating Violence against Women; and the Secretariat for Economic Autonomy and Care Policy.
42. The MM's basic and immediate goals at the time were the restructuring of Women's Assistance Hotline – “Dial 180”, the construction of new units of the Casa da Mulher Brasileira, and the approval of the equal pay project. Additionally, the Ministry has been making efforts to develop cross-cutting work with other ministries and create efficient public policies.

## **VI. Gender-based violence against women and girls**

43. Lula's government prioritized combating gender-based violence, with initiatives aimed at prevention, victim support, and ensuring justice, truth, and memory rights.
44. The "Women Living Without Violence" program was reinstated to integrate and expand existing public services for women experiencing violence, including specialized health, public security, justice, social assistance, and financial autonomy promotion services. Actions included establishing 40 new Women's One-Stop Centres (“Houses of Brazilian Women – CMBs), with over \$300 million investment, restructuring the "Dial 180" hotline with over \$30 million investment, and continuous awareness campaigns, among others.
45. The CMBs are public facilities where the main specialized and multidisciplinary services for women experiencing violence are concentrated. Brazil concluded the year 2023 with 8 operational centers and 12 under construction.
46. The government resumed investment in expanding the network of assistance for women in situations of violence. In addition to CMBs, it is building Reference Centres that offer multidisciplinary, psychosocial, and legal support. In 2023, 3 Reference Centres were inaugurated, with 16 under construction or in planning, and an additional 4 million reais were invested in 16 existing facilities.
47. A total of 2,576 specialized units for assisting women in situations of violence were mapped and registered in the “Dial 180”, which are accessible to the population through an electronic dashboard.

48. In 2023, the "Dial 180" hotline received 568,608 calls. Out of these, 9,430 were for obtaining information about women's rights. Furthermore, 114,613 resulted in reports, and the rest were referrals. The types of violence most reported in 2023 were: psychological violence (48.10%), physical violence (36.39%), property violence (8.34%), sexual violence (4.21%), confinement (1.48%), moral violence (1.45%), and human trafficking (0.03%). In April 2023, the service via WhatsApp commenced with 6,689 interactions. As part of the 21 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign, the MM also launched a campaign to promote the "Dial 180".
49. In 2023, the Ligue 180 provided training for operators to enhance service quality. Topics included: sexual violence during Carnival; rights of lesbian, bisexual, transgender women, and transgender men; rights and violations of indigenous women; combating the exploitation of girls; political violence; feminicides; and gender, race, and ethnicity training, among others.
50. The National Public Security Program with Citizenship (Pronasci) was relaunched, with the tackling of violence against women included as one of the main action axes. The federal government doubled the minimum percentage of funds transferred from the National Public Security Fund to states and municipalities for this purpose (from 5% to 10%), totalling approximately 100 million reais, strengthening the structure to combat gender crimes.
51. Regarding gender-based political violence, in 2023, an interministerial working group held various public hearings to support the development of a National Policy to Address Political Violence against Women, scheduled to be launched in the first quarter of 2024.
52. In 2023, the MM launched the national campaign "Brazil without violence against women. Brazil with respect". The action is part of the "Purple August Program" - a month dedicated to combating violence against women (VAW). The campaign materials highlight the different forms of violence and the inequalities that women face in their daily lives.
53. President Lula launched the National Pact for the Prevention of Femicide in August 2023, aiming to prevent all forms of discrimination, misogyny, and violence against women through multi-sectoral governmental actions with a gender perspective. The Pact presents a paradigm shift and reference in addressing VAW, focusing on prevention with an intersectional, cross-cutting, and intersectoral approach. The Pact brings together a Management Committee with 10 Ministries, and a national action plan will be published in 2024.
54. The Permanent National Forum for Confronting Violence against Women of the Waters, Fields, and Forests was established, through Ordinance 226 of August 16, 2023, with the aim of proposing, evaluating, and monitoring policies for the prevention and confrontation of VAW in the rural, forest, and aquatic environments.
55. In October 2023, the MM launched the "Brazil Without Misogyny" initiative, a proposal for national mobilization of all Brazilian sectors — governments, companies, civil society, NGOs, social movements, entities, educational institutions, organized fan groups, football teams, religious groups, artists, among others — with the aim of confronting misogyny - hatred and all forms of violence and discrimination against women. In total, more than 100 institutions and companies signed an adherence agreement to contribute to the action.
56. The MM initiated a series of articulations to implement prevention actions and responses to violence against indigenous women in partnership with the Ministry of Indigenous Peoples, such as the implementation of new specialized services such as Indigenous Women's Houses in the 6 Brazilian biomes and definition of protocols for the assistance of indigenous women in situations of violence, with extensive listening and participation

- of the indigenous women's movement, as well as investment in the training of indigenous women leaders for access to rights, defence of human rights, and prevention of violence.
57. Additionally, in 2023, the MM invested approximately 4 million reais in expanding the use of electronic monitoring for the prevention of femicides, and about 4 million reais to support gender violence prevention initiatives from civil society.

## **VII. Participation in political and public life**

58. The federal government launched the Multi-Year Participatory Plan (PPA) 2024-2027. The initiative aims to promote society's participation through participatory councils, associations, unions, NGOs, or directly, in the debate on the process of formulating public policies. The MM created the booklet 'What Country Do You Want for Women in the Next 4 Years?,' containing general information about the PPA, with exclusive themes for women. The publication focuses on three axes: equality of decision-making power for women; the Women Living Without Violence program, addressing all forms of violence against women; and the political and economic autonomy of women.
59. Between May 31 and June 1, the seminar 'Challenges for parity: gender, race, and elections in Brazil' was held with the aim of expanding the debate on women's political participation and the challenges faced by Black, Indigenous, and other minority women to be part of decision-making bodies. The event was promoted by the National Observatory of Women in Politics (ONMP), in conjunction with the Women's Rights Defense Commission (CMulher) and the Institute of Political Science at the University of Brasília (IPOL-UnB), in the Chamber of Deputies, with representatives from various political parties.
60. The MM and the National Council for Women's Rights launched the Collaborative Map of Women, with the goal of mapping groups, collectives, entities, movements, networks, and organizations working to ensure women's rights. The initiative aims to gather information from these groups to ensure the realization of an inclusive and diversified National Conference on Public Policies for Women, scheduled for 2025.
61. The MM is committed to strengthening and structuring State and Municipal Secretariats through actions such as the organization of the I National Forum of Women's Policy Organizations, which provided a dialogue platform for the Federal Government with state and municipal managers. It is an important mechanism for dialogue and reflection on the implementation and integration of public policies for women, aiming to ensure rights and combat inequalities, discriminations, and all forms of violence.
62. Publication of Call for Proposals No. 01/2023 for the Structuring and Strengthening of Women's Policy Organizations, aiming to promote the strengthening of federative relations through financial support to agencies or entities of the direct public administration, at the state and district levels.
63. Establishment of State Forums of Women's Policy Organizations (OPM). The forums seek to build a direct line of action with municipal OPM managers, serving as a space for coordination and policy definition.

## **VIII. Economic Autonomy and Care Policy**

64. The federal government is working for the first time on the development of a National Care Policy, which aims to provide care to those in need and ensure conditions for reducing the time spent by women on caregiving work. This marks the first time the Brazilian state has taken responsibility for the demand and provision of care. Previously, caregiving was the responsibility of families, treated as a private issue to be resolved by

- women. Currently, women spend 21.3 hours per week on domestic and caregiving work, nearly double the 11.7 hours spent by men.
65. On October 27, 2023, the MM published the call for the 7th Edition of the Gender and Race Equity Program, resuming a program launched in 2005. The Gender and Race Equity Program aims to promote new concepts in people management and organizational culture, aiming to combat dynamics of discrimination and gender and race inequality in the workplace. Additionally, the program seeks to promote gender and race equality concerning formal work relations and leadership positions. The coordination of the program involves the Ministry of Racial Equality, the Ministry of Labor and Employment, UN Women, and the International Labour Organization (ILO).
  66. The MM has encouraged the establishment of public community laundries through partnerships with state and municipal governments as a strategy for public policies aimed at reducing the time spent by women on caregiving tasks. These laundries are public facilities that also feature spaces for training activities on feminist economics and the gendered division of labor.
  67. Furthermore, the Ministry coordinates, in partnership with the Ministry of Labor and Employment, an Interministerial Working Group aimed at developing the National Plan for Gender Pay and Employment Equality between Women and Men. Brazil has developed various interministerial execution public policies to ensure security, food security, food sovereignty, poverty alleviation, and hunger combat. The Program for the Productive and Economic Organization of Rural Women, established by Decree No. 11,452/2023, and the National Citizenship and Well-Being Program, established by Decree 11,641/2023, executed by the Ministry of Agrarian Development and Family Farming, along with the MM, aim to promote the economic autonomy of rural women through productive strengthening, access to rights, access to land, and citizenship.
  68. Additionally, the Interministerial Committee for the Socioeconomic Inclusion of Waste Pickers, established by Decree No. 11,414 of 2023, was created. The Committee aims to coordinate the execution and conduct monitoring, follow-up, and evaluation of the Diogo Sant'Ana Pro-Waste Pickers Program for Popular Recycling. The MM financed and supported the execution of an unprecedented research on the socioeconomic profile and demand qualification of waste pickers.