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FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Letter dated 14 December 1988 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of
Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a statement issued by the Government of Brazil on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (see annex).

I should be grateful if you could arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 38.

(Signed) Alvaro Gurgel de ALENCAR
Ambassador
Acting Permanent Representative of Brazil
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement issued by the Government of Brazil on the occasion of the
fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

On the occasion of the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Brazilian Government wishes to join the other members of the international community in the reaffirmation of its commitment to the principles and values enshrined in that document. In 1948, Brazil participated actively in the process of the elaboration of this invaluable contribution of the United Nations to the spiritual heritage of humanity. Brazil continued strongly to support international co-operation and initiatives to foster respect for the principles and purposes of the Declaration.

The rights and freedoms established in the Declaration are essential for the dignity and happiness of the human being. Respect for its provisions represents an indispensable element in the construction of a more just and free social order, one more conducive to the realization of the yearning of individuals and peoples for development. However, no development is worthy of that name without the concomitant promotion of all human rights - whether of a civil and political nature or of an economic, social and cultural order - or without the consolidation and an ever deeper affirmation of democratic and pluralistic institutions. To secure these goals, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights constitutes an indispensable source of inspiration and guidance.
