**Brazil`s comments on the Draft General Comment on Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), on the right to life**

Paragraph 13

Brazil considers that weapons of mass destruction, nuclear weapons chief among them, are incompatible with the right to life. Nuclear weapons are, by their very nature, abhorrent to the principle of humanity and to the dictates of the public conscience.

Furthermore, as International Court of Justice Judge Cançado Trindade eloquently puts it, in light of its lingering effects on the human health and the environment ‘the use of nuclear weapons violates the right to life (and the right to health) of “not only people currently living, but also of the unborn, of those to be born, of subsequent generations”’\*.

In this context, security doctrines which are based upon the threat of ending life on earth have no place on a rules-based international order and should be shunned.

The International Court of Justice already stated, in its 1996 Advisory Opinion, that the use and threat of use of nuclear weapons are generally contrary to international law. The illegality of these weapons has been further reinforced by the adoption, on 7th of July, of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, with the support of two thirds of the United Nations membership.

In light of the above, Brazil supports retaining all language in square brackets on paragraph 13 of the current draft of General Commentary 36.

\* CANÇADO TRINDADE, “Obligations Concerning Negotiations Relating to Cessation of the Nuclear Arms Race and to Nuclear Disarmament (Marshall Islands v. India)”, Dissenting Opinion