Greetings to all atendees of ‘The UN Intersessional Seminar on Youth”.

My Name is Emilly Coelho and I am the Brazilian National Secretary for Youth Affairs.

There are rights, or human goods, as fragile as valuable. We are all universally and by nature free and have certain inalienable rights such as to life, to liberty, to education, to work and income and to the pursuit of happiness, that is, to a reasonable conception of the good life. We are all connected by these rights. The importance of respecting, protecting, and promoting human rights is a principle enshrined in the Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights and confirmed time and again in our work. In this sense, we are currently implementing fraternal programs founded on the inherent dignity of the human person, emphasizing the need to integrate all youth through mechanisms that recognize the universality of human rights from a global perspective. Only from this recognition there will be the possibility of making the youth’s voice heard in a international level, aiming at the establishment of a moral vision for our global community. In another words, this ‘dignity’ is the main pillar of human rights and, consequently, of a well ordered society, namely, a society whose citizens all accept the same conception of universal human rights and care about protecting them.

Human rights mainstreaming for youth has become part of the core work of the National Youth Secretariat.

With our Youth Public Policy Innovation Award we are documenting good practices and lessons learned on mainstreaming human rights for youth.

Thus, it is our main purpose, as a governamental youth institution, to protect as well as to put forward all human rights to all youth, especially to those in situation of social vulnerability.