



36th Session of the HRC
Geneva, September 21st, 2017
ITEM 6 – Brazil UPR outcomes
Speaker: Ms. Lavinia FORMICA

Oral Statement submitted by
**VIDES International – International Volunteerism Organization for Women,
Education and Development (VIDES International)**
Co – signed by
IIMA – Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice

Thank you, Mr. President

Vides International and IIMA welcome the participation of Brazil in its latest Universal Periodic Review and the acceptance of all the recommendations concerning the rights of women. ¹

In accordance with the words that Pope Francis dedicated to women all over the world during his last visit to Colombia, we reaffirm that - **We have the grave obligation to understand, respect, appreciate and promote the social impact of all that women do.** ²

We recognize the efforts undertaken by Brazil in the last years, in particular through the program “Women Living Without Violence” which defines **violence against women as a malicious crime**. Too many women are killed as a result of domestic violence. Thus, it is imperative that perpetrators are brought to justice.

Therefore, as evidenced by the recommendations addressed to Brazil on the subject, further efforts are needed to guarantee the full realization of women’s rights in Brazil, especially for women belonging to low – income families.

Consequently, VIDES International and IIMA call on Brazil to:

- **Create more specialized courts to address cases of female victims of violence.**
- **Facilitate the denunciation of perpetrators of violence against women, including through continuous sensitization measures and psychological support for the victims.**
- **Take concrete measures to educate, especially young people, about non – violence in compliance of law 7477 which provides for methods to combat violence against women as a compulsory measure to be introduced in every school.**

Thank you, Mister President.

¹ Recommendations 136.176 – 136.98

² Address of His Holiness, Meeting with the executive Committee of CELAM, 7 September 2017, Bogotá

