

Country: Brazil

Committee: UNESCO

Agenda Item: Barriers to Education in Conflict-Affected Countries

Brazil is the largest country in South America and the sixth most populous country in the world. Although Brazil has a population of two hundred million, only forty three percent of its population graduated from middle school. The rate of university graduates is only eight percent.

Brazil had the normalisation of a poor education system and how it affects nearly every aspect of the country's daily life. One of the main problems with the country's education system is there are racial barriers that hinder education. More than 75 million black people live in Brazil today. But racism still continues to exist in Brazilian society. For many years, the arguments of inequality in Brazil largely ignored the relationship between race and class. Black people have less privilege than whites especially for education. That's why only three percent of the black population in Brazil goes to university. Racial inequalities in Brazil still affect the condition for accessing high quality education in the county.

Another problem is the universities are too expensive and most families in Brazil can't afford the price. This creates problems for many people. Although there are public schools that provide free education in Brazil, the education in these schools is not good quality. State schools may be the only option for some children who want to beat poverty. But state schools in Brazil have a lot of problems. They are economically weak, classrooms are overcrowded and teachers receive low salaries. Because of this bad image of state schools, rich families send their children to private schools. So good education in Brazil is considered a luxury item. Basically, no money means no education in Brazil. That is one of the few countries which does not have good basic educational statistics. However, it is clear that very few children go to primary school. 90% of the population never attended school, dropped out early, or had poor cognitive skills.

The UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education (1960) prohibits the exclusion or limitation of educational opportunities for any reason. For example, gender, race, language, religion, nationality, social background, economic situation, deficiencies etc. UNESCO aims to support the country in the implementation of actions to promote equal opportunities for Brazilian society to access good quality education. All students MUST have access to a good quality education that can learn all the basic learning needs.

In Conclusion to this important and serious issue Brazil stands strong in supporting any resolutions in combating any barriers to education in conflicted countries. We truly believe and promote the idea of unity to gain strength in overcoming this great problem.