I would like to thank Sweden, Switzerland and OCHA for convening this important event.

Alleviating the suffering of millions of civilians in Yemen is an essential dimension of the struggle to bring about a lasting, peaceful solution to the conflict that has caused the worst humanitarian crisis on the planet. As the WFP and other UN agencies have warned, the window to prevent famine in Yemen is narrowing, and concerted action and support by the international community is urgently needed.

I am pleased to announce that Brazil has decided to make a fifty-thousand dollars contribution, through the World Food Programme, to help fight Covid-19 in Yemen. In times of severe constraints, we hope this contribution can help generate wider support for the cause of alleviating the distress of the Yemeni people, until the urgent cessation of conflict is finally reached.

As the fighting continues to aggravate living conditions in Yemen, it is worth reiterating that the only solution to the humanitarian crisis remains political. Brazil strongly condemned the attack that took place in Aden on the 30th of December, targeting the Yemeni governmental cabinet. News of the death and injury of civilians in Hodeidah, last Saturday, are also extremely concerning. These attacks are tragic reminders of the need to make progress in the path towards peace in Yemen. We renew our call on all parties to renounce the escalation of violence and to engage in good faith in direct talks under the leadership of Special Envoy Martin Griffiths, who has our full support.

As a candidate to a non-permanent seat in the Security Council for the 2022-2023 term, we are fully aware of the challenges ahead in the road to de-escalation, peace and recovery in Yemen. Should the General Assembly trust Brazil with this high responsibility, we will continue to seek the constructive engagement of the Security Council, keeping in mind the centrality of protection of civilians, access for humanitarian workers, continued funding for humanitarian operations, and support for the economy and the peace talks.