

**Climate change and its possible security implications**  
**Comments from Brazil**  
**(20 July 2009)**

1. Brazil welcomes the opportunity to present views on the possible security implications of climate change, to be reflected in the Secretary-General's report to the sixty-fourth

I. On the concept of security

2. The consensual definition of security encompasses the protection against direct threats to the territorial integrity of a State. Recently, the concept has been extended beyond the traditional concern with military security. But applying the concept of security to distinct conceptual areas contributes to increasing imprecision, especially because the existence of a direct link between a single cause and a threat to security is extremely difficult to determine.

3. An "all-inclusive" concept of security, albeit potentially useful for identifying the extensive array of needs that should be attended to, becomes all but ineffective as an analytical and policy tool, as it practically does not allow for the establishment of a hierarchy of priorities.

II. On possible security implications of climate change

4. In the context of the possible security implications of climate change, it is important to distinguish between a potential "national emergency" and "a threat to national security".

of the debate from development to security do not contribute to addressing the matter in its full scope and complexity.

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