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## **Brazil and the OAS Sign Agreement that Ensures the Work of the Electoral Observation Mission for the October 7 Elections**

August 23, 2018

The Chief of the Electoral Observation Mission of the Organization of American States (EOM/OAS), the former President of Costa Rica Laura Chinchilla, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brazil Aloysio Nunes Ferreira today signed the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities granted to OAS observers in order to carry out their work during the October 7 elections.

Through this agreement, the Government of Brazil commits to facilitating the work of the Mission within its national territory and guarantees the free movement and communication of mission members. For its part, the OAS agrees to carry out its work in an objective, impartial and transparent manner, and with the appropriate technical capacity, as established in the Inter-American Democratic Charter.

The OAS Chief of Mission thanked the Government of Brazil for the invitation--the first ever for the OAS--to observe, "an event of such importance for a country as its elections." In addition, she highlighted the openness of the Brazilian authorities and their recognition of the professional quality of OAS Electoral Observation Missions.

In December 2017, the OAS and the Supreme Electoral Court of Brazil signed the Agreement on the Electoral Observation Process for the deployment of the Mission, which establishes the conditions under which the electoral observation will be carried out. With the signing of these two agreements, the EOM/OAS can now initiate its activities in the country.

The Mission, which will be deployed to Brazil at the end of September, is carrying out a preliminary visit this week in order to gather information on the progress made in the organization of the elections and learn about the perspectives of the different actors involved in the process.

Reference: E-053/18