



**REPÚBLICA DE ANGOLA**

**MINISTÉRIO DA SAÚDE**

**INTERVENTION OF HIS EXCELLENCY**

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**MR PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY**

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DR. TEDROS ADHANOM GHEBREYESUS**

**MINISTERS**

**HEADS OF DELAGATIONS**

**LADIES, GENTLEMEN, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS**

The **UNIVERSAL COVERAGE OF HEALTH, LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND** is an aspiration of every human being and seeks to ensure a duty of all States.

Angola, like many other developing countries, despite the gains achieved in the last decade in health indicators, particularly in reducing maternal and child mortality rates and increasing life expectancy, still faces a heavy burden of diseases, malnutrition and the frequent occurrence of epidemic outbreaks.

The vision and objectives of the Angolan executive configures health as an indispensable factor in the global development of the country and social justice, so we are making efforts to gradually focus on universal health coverage, prioritising primary health care, seeking to ensure equity, improving management mechanisms, offering permanent services with higher quality, seeking to overcome geographic and financial barriers in the perspective of Eradication of poverty.

Despite the progress made, the population's access to basic health services is still limited, with geographical, economic, socio-cultural and organisational barriers that prevents people, especially from rural areas to access and fully utilize existing health services, leading to an important burden of morbidity and mortality, which is not yet controlled, and the occurrence of epidemic outbreaks, a situation that is aggravated by the economic crisis.

Our initiatives for improving health and service delivery in Angola have been monitoring the reform of the State in the context of devolution, decentralisation and recently in the creation of municipalities, seeking to maintain the governability of the Health system, reinforcing intersectoriality

and promoting community participation in the development of the health system to meet their needs, in a context of accountability.

The national efforts to improve access and quality in the provision of services go through the hiring of more health professionals who are being distributed in rural areas. The development of a supply chain of essential medicines and other medical products, the improvement of the logistics chain management, are gradually enabling to improve the continuous availability of medicines, vaccines and medical products, lowering costs, as well as the exemption from customs duties on imports of medicines, reagents, hospital equipment and aggravation of fees for tobacco, spirits and other luxury products.

The introduction of new and more specialised technologies to increase access and improve the provision of healthcare in remote places, namely telemedicine and Digital Health, are initiatives considered on the development process, to be integrated as actions, aiming to increase local capacity to solve health problems.

In the context of funding, the health budget suffered an increment of nearly 4%, from 3.6% to 7.2%, of the General State Budget, despite the economic crisis, which expresses the government's willingness to prioritize the health sector. The National Development Plan proposes an increase up to 12% of the GSB by 2022.

To conclude, I thank your attention, making vows that the experiences here shared will be enriching for the strengthening of our countries.