

152nd Session of the Executive Board

30 January – 07 February 2023

Item 2 – Report by the Director-General

Dear Ministers,

Dear Director-General,

Dear Chair,

Distinguished members of the Executive Board, Excellencies, colleagues, ladies and gentleman,

It is my honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the delegation of Brazil.

- Brazil started in January a new phase in its history, a phase where democracy, health and respect for human rights, gender balance, racial equality and the rights of indigenous people walk hand in hand.
- Thank you for the comprehensive report and for sharing your vision for the future of WHO.
- As we approach the 75th anniversary of this Organization still struggling against the COVID-19 pandemic and its sanitary and socioeconomic consequences, it is an honour to renew the firm disposition and will of Brazil to cooperate with you, the WHO and other multilateral organizations, ensuring that they are effective, Member State-driven and transparent and inclusive of the needs and opinions of non-state actors;
- As a member of the bureau of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB), you can count on us to guarantee balanced, inclusive and transparent discussions with a whole-of-society approach that fully take into account the perspectives of all Member States, in particular of developing countries.
- Please allow me to introduce you to the new alternate representative of Brazil, the new vice minister of science, technology, innovation and health economic complex of our Ministry of Health, with whom I will have the honour of sharing these opening remarks.
- Thank you Ambassador.
- Dear Director General,

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- It is my honour to address you today on behalf of Minister Nísia Trindade Lima, the first woman to be Minister of Health in Brazil. The nomination of a representative of science and technology from the Ministry of Health, expresses a clear indication of the centrality of science in our Minister's mandate.
- Brazil is back! Science is back! Brazil is fully committed to local and regional production to support our universal health system and reduce health vulnerabilities and world asymmetries. Health is a priority of President Lula's administration, considered as a driving force for development that brings together the social, economic and environmental dimensions.
- We also reinforce the commitment to take care of our people, emphasizing comprehensive primary health care and preparedness for health emergencies. Brazil will work with all other partners to improve the respect for human rights, in particular when it comes to gender and racial equality, sexual and reproductive health and rights, fighting discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and promoting the rights of people with disabilities and indigenous peoples;
- In this regard I would like to announce our intention to put forward a resolution on the health of indigenous peoples, a topic never addressed directly before by the World Health Assembly, with the objective of ensuring their right to health, according to their own requirements and under their own administration. We count on the support of other Member States, the WHO, as well as other international organizations and all others that care about not leaving anyone behind in order to give the proper recognition to this important issue that has been so often neglected.
- Around 600 indigenous children died in the last 4 years as a result of neglect by the State and lack of public policies. There is no sustainable development, there is no right to health in a situation where children die due to abandonment. In this regard, the support for the resolution on the health of indigenous peoples is also supporting sustainable development, the Amazon and the right to health in the global context.
- Thank you very much.