



MINISTÉRIO DA SAÚDE
Assessoria Especial de Assuntos Internacionais

**156th Session of the Executive Board
3-11 February 2025**

ITEM 19 – Poliomyelitis - OK

Dear Chair,

Although Brazil proudly achieved the elimination of polio since 1989, we remain vigilant to prevent any potential reintroduction.

The recent reemergence of polio cases worldwide should serve as a reminder to global leaders and the scientific community. We are all susceptible to the reemergence of polio transmission. No country is safe as long as others are at risk.

In light of this, we emphasize the pressing need to eradicate polio, as underscored in the 2022 Scientific Declaration on Polio. Brazil has strongly supported the Strategic Plan of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

In line with this conviction, Brazil maintains its efforts to increase vaccine coverage in polio vaccination strategies, particularly in regions heavily impacted by humanitarian emergencies.

It is crucial to intensify routine actions to complete the vaccination schedule, focusing on protecting children under five years and on the capacity building of healthcare professionals across the three levels of government.

Brazil reiterates its unwavering commitment to contributing to global polio eradication, recognizing that success on an international scale hinges on united efforts, and effective implementation of the Global



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Polio Eradication Strategy, through a sustainable funding of actions and collaboration with the private sector, governments, and other organizations.

Brazil earnestly calls upon Member States to strengthen their commitments to polio eradication and to redirect their focus towards neglected diseases, particularly in regions where polio persists, as highlighted by the WHO Polio Transition Strategic Framework.

I would like to conclude stating that it is also fundamental to combat misinformation and rebuild the population's trust in vaccines, through the continuity of a nationwide mobilization, engaging local leaders, religious figures, community health workers, and civil society as a whole.

This effort must undergo continuous updates, by investing in science and innovation and incorporating new technologies and successful practices in our strategies.

Thank you!