



MINISTÉRIO DA SAÚDE
Assessoria Especial de Assuntos Internacionais

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

ITEM 6 – Universal Health Coverage - OK

(297 PALAVRAS)

Dear Chair,

Universal health coverage must be essential for turning equity into reality, relying on resilient health systems, public financing, skilled workforce, and effective access to quality medicines, health products and services.

Brazil recognizes the progress made towards UHC but acknowledges the need to address health inequalities and ensure financial protection for all.

The report highlights that global progress towards UHC has been gradual. In 2021, over 4.5 billion people lacked essential health services, and financial hardship worsened over decades. Yet, 30% of countries expanded coverage and reduced catastrophic health spending in the same period.

Brazil recognizes the urgent need to invest in health, including primary and specialized care, the capacity to incorporate new technologies and the training of health and care workers.



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We are committed to aligning our health priorities with the SDGs and strengthening healthcare infrastructure to expand access to health services.

In line with the global UHC roadmap, Brazil proposes the WHO Secretariat to focus on supporting Member States in health system public funding and reform.

Under this agenda item, we are honored to co-sponsor the resolution 'Strengthening Medical Imaging Capacity,' proposed by Cameroon, aimed at enhancing diagnostic and treatment capabilities in developing countries to translate innovation and technology in access for all.

Brazil is also proud to co-sponsor the resolution 'Rare Diseases: A Priority for Global Health Equity and Inclusion,' proposed by Egypt and Spain, which underscores the importance of inclusive healthcare for patients with rare diseases.

In addition, Brazil supports the resolution 'Accelerating the Eradication of Guinea Worm and Strengthening Cross-Border Collaboration,' presented by Chad, in its perspective to prioritize socially determined diseases.

In conclusion, the progress to address UHC challenges involves a comprehensive, equitable, and sustainable approach which is essential to closing access gaps and leaving no one behind.

Thank you!