



MINISTÉRIO DA SAÚDE
Assessoria Especial de Assuntos Internacionais

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

ITEM 9 – Communicable diseases - OK

Dear Chair,

Despite the existence of prevention and control measures, communicable diseases continue to pose a major challenge to public health worldwide. These illnesses can spread rapidly, especially in regions affected by poverty and inequality. Low socioeconomic indicators, such as limited access to clean water and inadequate sanitation, highlight the social determinants of health that contribute to the prevalence of these diseases.

Addressing social determinants of health towards the elimination of related communicable diseases play a significant role in shaping health outcomes and equity. In Brazil, various initiatives are being implemented in this regard, including strengthening primary healthcare services, improving access to healthcare in underserved areas, promoting intersectoral strategies through a One Health approach, as well as investing in social programs to reduce poverty, promoting education and employment opportunities, and addressing racial and gender inequalities in health.

Initiatives to eliminate communicable diseases require integrated, collaborative strategies among countries. Successfully eradicating these diseases will enhance productivity, reduce the burden on healthcare systems, and support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.



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In this regard, we would like to highlight the importance of the Global Coalition for Local and Regional Production, Innovation and Equitable Access created by the Brazilian G20 Presidency. The Coalition will promote equity in health through access to vaccines, treatments, diagnostics and other health technologies, with a focus on neglected diseases and populations. The development or strengthening of technological platforms will allow to reorient production when needed, thus playing a critical role in endemic and pandemic times.

Brazil reaffirms its commitment to tackling meningitis by 2030 aligning with the recommendations of the WHO Global Roadmap, which establishes strategies to combat the leading causes of acute bacterial meningitis. After a series of actions involving the areas of surveillance, immunization, healthcare, and laboratory services, Brazil has launched a “Guideline for Addressing Meningitis by 2030”. This initiative provides guidance for the development of strategic actions and activities across the three levels of management within our Unified Health System, focusing on strengthening Health Care Networks, epidemiological and laboratory surveillance, immunization, and communication.

Finally, Brazil thanks the DG’s report and urges other countries to tackle socially determined communicable diseases and to commit to eradicating meningitis by 2030.

Thank you!