

73rd WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY (resumed session)

Geneva, 9-14 November 2020

*Item 11. Review of and update on matters considered by the
Executive Board*

*11.9 Global strategy and plan of action on public health,
innovation and intellectual property (GSPOA-PHI)*

Statement by BRAZIL

Chairperson,

I will focus on the *Global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property* (the GSPOA).

One of the calls that we have heard most, throughout this pandemic, – and rightly so – is about ensuring the equitable access to life-saving vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics.

The international response to the pandemic has also brought innovative ways into play, such as the ACT Accelerator, the COVAX Facility, the C-TAP.

It has shown that the agenda on access to medicines can bring together all the relevant stakeholders in a spirit of partnership and solidarity, to build solutions under very difficult circumstances.

Chairperson,

This same spirit and commitment should spread beyond the short-term emergency context.

We will need it to cope with the increased demands for health care and economic stimuli, on the one hand, and more constraining fiscal situations, on the other.

We should therefore double down on initiatives and mechanisms to further the encouraging steps taken in the recent years at WHO:

- the Roadmap on access to medicines;
- the groundbreaking WHA Resolution on transparency of 2019;
- the report on prices of cancer medicines; and

Decision WHA73(11), co-sponsored by Brazil and other more than 30 Member States, on the full implementation of the GSPOA.

Chairperson,

The GSPOA is a remarkable effort – even more relevant today.

It can help us address present challenges where affordability hinders the access to health both in poor and rich countries.

It can help us address the emerging challenges to the sustainability and resilience of health systems, such as the costs of new, gene- or cell-based therapies.

Chairperson,

Now is the time to work together for making the most of the GSPOA.

We acknowledge the hard and competent work done dr. Mariângela Simão and her team.

Brazil urges WHO to convene, as a matter of urgency, the consultations called for in decision WHA73(11).

Brazil is ready to re-engage with all interested Member States and other stakeholders for attaining meaningful results by the end of 2020.

Thank you.