



***Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva***

## ***73rd WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY (resumed session)***

***Geneva, 9-14 November 2020***

### ***11.2. Universal health coverage: moving together to build a healthier world***

#### **Written Statement by BRAZIL**

Brazil welcomes the report about WHO actions to implement the High-Level Political Declaration on UHC, of September 2019.

The importance of UHC has been further proven by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Universal and resilient health systems are key to preventing future health emergencies.

The Brazilian Constitution upholds the right of every individual, irrespective of her or his status in our territory, to have access to our national health system, the “*Sistema Único de Saúde*” (or SUS). The SUS itself is also the main pillar for our national response to COVID-19.

Brazil advocates for the expansion of the concept of universal health coverage. It should encompass health promotion, prevention, diagnostics, treatment and rehabilitation. It should ensure that persons are not exposed to financial hardship.

WHO must also strive to help develop mechanisms for financial protection, including the possible elimination of direct payments, thus reducing impoverishment caused by out-of-pocket health expenditure.

Efficient and participatory health systems require a commitment from society, with clear mechanisms for inclusion, transparency, accountability, multi-sectoral participation, dialogue and consensus among relevant social actors, as well as a firm and long-term political commitment to elaborate public policies, laws, regulations and



***Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva***

strategies aimed at increasing access to comprehensive, timely and quality services.

Brazil stands for a people-centered health system, based on universal access, prioritization of preventive measures and primary health care, in cooperation and coordination with relevant stakeholders, such as academia and the private sector.

As we uphold UHC as an important goal, we underline the need of methodologies and tools to measure our progress.

\*\*\*\*\*