



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

73rd WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY (resumed session)

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11.3. Global Vaccine Action Plan (GVAP) and Meningitis

Written statement by BRAZIL

Brazil has, for over a century, favored immunization as an effective long-term intervention to eradicate diseases.

Brazil has the largest public, free-of-charge, universally accessible immunization program in the world, through which important achievements have been reached, such as epidemic prevention and eradication of diseases.

We reiterate that vaccines are a common asset for mankind, and their fair and accessible use can save lives.

The world is presently striving to develop vaccines against COVID-19. Many issues that have affected the implementation of the Global Vaccine Action Plan (GVAP), such as vaccination hesitancy, shortages and misinformation, will have to be addressed for the current crisis to be overcome.



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It is high time that we act to counter these challenges and improve immunization coverage, including through the development of new vaccines for immuno-preventable diseases.

Local production and diversification of manufacturers have to be promoted, so as to ensure adequate supply and avoid shortages.

Brazil is committed to helping in the COVID-19 vaccine endeavor. A number of clinical tests are being conducted in Brazil, including 6 vaccine candidates currently being developed by Brazilian laboratories. Brazil has also secured a favorable agreement for transfer of technology with AstraZeneca to ensure that our public laboratories are up-to-date to produce the next generation vaccines.

Brazil welcomes the adoption of Decision WHA73(9), which endorsed the “Immunization Agenda 2030”. We look forward to working together with the WHO secretariat to finalize the operational elements that will be considered in the next governance cycle, in 2021.

Brazil is also honored to cosponsor the draft Resolution on **Meningitis prevention and control**. We thank Burkina Faso for its decisive leadership on the topic.

The adoption and implementation of “Defeating Meningitis by 2030: A Global Roadmap” will contribute to our collective efforts to tackle meningitis, through a clear set of strategies and goals.



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As one of the most successful and best cost-effective interventions in public health in general and, in particular, against preventable diseases, countries should look for strategies that aim to increase their vaccination coverage for the disease, including, but not limited to, promoting vaccination campaigns, combating disinformation, and expanding immunization services.

We encourage Member States, with the support by of WHO as appropriate, to maintain immunization as a fundamental element of primary health care and strengthen routine immunization to meet vaccination coverage targets, in order to advance the objective of defeating meningitis, in partnership with GAVI, the Meningitis Research Foundation and PATH, among other relevant actors.
