

Her Excellency
Dr. Michelle Bachelet
High Commissioner for Human Rights
United Nations

Since the beginning of the covid-19 pandemic, Brazil has recorded more than 10 million cases and more than 260,000 deaths. This situation worsened starting in January 2021, with more than 75,000 new cases and almost 2,000 deaths per day, reaching more significantly the vulnerable layers of the population. The country is currently experiencing the collapse of its health system, both in the public and private sectors.

Your Excellency is certainly well informed about the current situation of the pandemic in Brazil and the insufficient implementation of the measures recommended by the WHO in relation to disease prevention and social protection to reduce exposure, such as avoiding social agglomerations and requiring the use of face masks. To the contrary, the highest public authority encourages activities that lead the population to expose themselves to risk.

Vaccination, an important instrument for controlling the situation, has faced enormous organizational challenges, making it difficult to control the pandemic. The world-renowned National Immunization Program is a success story that includes the eradication of smallpox and the elimination of polio, as well as the control of several other communicable diseases. The current dynamic, however, contradicts this history.

In addition, with the emergence and dissemination of new variants of the virus, the prospect of achieving the necessary vaccination coverage to produce collective immunity and allow pandemic control is remote.

With an understanding that the right to health and the right to life are being disrespected by the Brazilian government, the National Health Council, the social control body of the SUS, and the Front for Life, a movement that brings together hundreds of civil society entities, including scientific associations and health professionals, comes to ask Your Excellency to warn the Brazilian government and people about the consequences of the disrespect for human rights that the country may suffer in the realm of the concert of nations.

Finally, it is worth adding that the uncontrolled pandemic makes Brazil a global threat in that it favors the generation of new variants of the virus that, if disseminated, can weaken efforts to control the pandemic in different countries of the world. In this sense, the signatories are also appealing to the Executive Board Chairman, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, and the Director General of the WHO, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Geyebresus, to warn the Brazilian authorities of the consequences of non-compliance with the provisions of the International Health Regulation (2005).

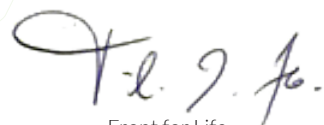
Brasilia, March 8, 2021.



National Health Council



Front for Life



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