

**From breakthrough to access: making lenacapavir affordable for all
Scaling PrEP access: country leadership, partnerships, and financing
for sustainability**

7 de novembro de 2025 – 7:00 às 8:30

Excellencies, dear colleagues,

1. I would like to thank UNITAID and South Africa for organizing this session, which addresses such an important and timely issue.
2. Since the beginning of President Lula's third term, Brazil has resumed the principles that made our national response to HIV/Aids a global reference - science-based, respect of human rights, social participation, and fight against stigma and discrimination.
3. This year, as we celebrate 40 years of Brazil's response to Aids, we are very proud that Brazil has achieved significant progress in eliminating vertical transmission of HIV, reaching such lower rates that allowed the country to apply for international certification of the elimination of this form of transmission in June.
4. On the other hand, more than 70,000 (seventy thousand) new users have started PrEP, which now benefits nearly 140,000 people in Brazil. This aligns with our goal to eliminate AIDS and HIV transmission as a public health challenge by 2030.

5. PrEP is offered through the Brazilian public health system (SUS) as part of a combined prevention strategy, which also includes the use of preservatives, HIV testing, and treatment of other Sexually Transmitted Infections.
6. Considering that one third of these users discontinues the use of prophylaxis, lenacapavir emerges as an important innovation, with the potential to expand the reach of preventive strategies, especially among the most vulnerable populations who face challenges adhering to oral PrEP.
7. Brazil recognizes the relevance of the transformative potential of lenacapavir. However, no innovation can be truly transformative if it remains out of reach for those who need it most.
8. We cannot ignore the challenge posed by market prices – often excessive – which jeopardize the sustainability of public policies and may perpetuate inequalities in access. The solution encountered by our policy makers was to negotiate by all means available to guarantee the access to Lenacapavir of all those in need in Brazil.
9. We, therefore, celebrate the agreement to procure Lenacapavir at a price of US\$40 (fourty US dollars) per year for countries included in the voluntary license, however I cannot avoid mentioning that Brazil, and other Latin American countries, that contributed to studies on the efficacy and use of Lenacapavir, were not included in this licensing agreement for patents covering low- and middle-income countries.
10. Regardless of this, Brazil reaffirms its strong commitment to scientific progress and to contributing to the

development of solutions that promote transparency, sustainability, and equity in global access to health innovations. In this regard, we are already advancing implementation studies, including those led by the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation.

11. Brazil has a long history of governmental efforts, in partnership with civil society, multilateral bodies, international organizations, and the private sector, to ensure access to antiretroviral drugs through price negotiation and local production of health technologies. One of this mechanisms, PAHO's Strategic Fund, is a central component for pooled procurement to ensure better access of essential medicines and strategic health supplies.
12. During the Brazilian presidency of the G20, local and regional production of vaccines, therapeutics, and other health technologies was a central priority in the discussions. This debate culminated in the endorsement by the G20 Health Ministers of the Global Coalition for Local and Regional Production, Innovation, and Equitable Access, which was later formally launched in Geneva in 2025. The Coalition is expected to become a key player in this field, and should work closely with strategic partners such as UNITAID to advance this vital agenda.
13. This experience allows us to affirm that global cooperation is essential to invest in lenacapavir and other innovative technologies that can expand access for persons in vulnerable situation and ensure that such innovation is accessible, equitable, and sustainable.
14. Thank you very much.