

WEEKLY REPORT



12/25/20

POLITICS

BRAZILIAN ECONOMY MINISTER TO STAY UNTIL END OF BOLSONARO ADMINISTRATION, PRESIDENT SAYS

Brazil president Jair Bolsonaro said in a video published on Saturday, December 19th, that his finance minister Paulo Guedes assured him he will stay on in the government until the end of his administration. Bolsonaro acknowledged in the video that Guedes is unhappy because of the difficulties experienced in implementing his economic agenda, which involve significant cuts in public spending and a tax reform long-awaited in financial circles. [Read more.](#)

ECONOMY MINISTER: "WE ARE IN V-SHAPED RECOVERY; BRAZIL IS SURPRISING THE WORLD"

In light of the best CAGED (General Register of Employed and Unemployed) results since official records began, with a balance of 414,556 in the formal market in November, Minister of Economy Paulo Guedes once again said that Brazil is experiencing a V-shaped recovery of its economy and "surprising the world". Guedes also said that the "reforms continued", albeit at a "somewhat slow" pace. [Read more.](#)

BRAZILIAN CONSUMER CONFIDENCE DROPS IN DECEMBER FOR THIRD MONTH IN A ROW

Brazilian consumer confidence fell in December for the third month in a row, due to a more negative perception of the current situation and the coming months, according to a report released Tuesday, December 22nd, by a leading economic think tank. The Getulio Vargas Foundation (FGV) report showed the Consumer Confidence Index (ICC) slipped 3.2 units this month to settle at 78.5 points. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL GOVERNORS URGE EXTENSION OF COVID-19 EMERGENCY MEASURES

Governors from 17 Brazilian states urged President Jair Bolsonaro on Friday to extend the "state of public calamity" due to the COVID-19 pandemic now set to expire at the end of the year. Under the emergency measure, lawmakers are permitted to break certain budget rules as they prioritize addressing fallout from the pandemic. [Read more.](#)

RIO'S OUTGOING MAYOR CRIVELLA ARRESTED ON GRAFT CHARGES

Rio de Janeiro's outgoing mayor was arrested on Tuesday, December 22nd, and charged with graft, causing yet another embarrassment for Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, an ideological ally and anti-corruption campaigner who had backed the mayor's failed re-election bid. Marcelo Crivella, who was arrested at home in western Rio just nine days before the end of his term, denied any wrongdoing and said he was the target of political persecution. [Read more.](#)

STJ JUDGE RELEASES RIO MAYOR FROM JAIL, PLACES HIM UNDER HOUSE ARREST WITH ANKLET

Federal Superior Court (STJ) Chief Judge Humberto Martins decided on Tuesday evening, December 22nd, to place Rio Mayor Marcelo Crivella under house arrest with an electronic

anklet. Nine days before leaving office, Crivella was arrested accused of leading the "Kickback HQ" installed in the Rio de Janeiro Executive branch. [Read more.](#)

WHILE BRAZIL GROWS ONLY 2.2% IN THE DECADE, THE WORLD ADVANCED 30.5%
Brazil's economy will complete 40 years, with growth lower than the average of the world. As this decade ends, the divergence between Brazil and the world has never been bigger. From 2011 to 2020, the country became poorer in relation to the rest of the world and its population. Brazilian GDP grew no more than 2.2%, given the Ministry of Economy's projection of a 4.5% drop this year, driven by Covid-19. [Read more.](#)

ISOLATED, BRAZIL FAILS TO ELECT JUDGE TO THE HAGUE CRIMINAL COURT

In a diplomatic defeat for the government of President Bolsonaro, Brazilian Judge Monica Sifuentes was unable to secure enough votes to obtain a seat on the International Criminal Court. She dropped out of the race after a poor performance at the polls, indicative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' political isolation. [Read more.](#)

WHILE BRAZIL GROWS ONLY 2.2% IN THE DECADE, THE WORLD ADVANCED 30.5%
On Monday night, December 14th, President Jair Bolsonaro confirmed that he will grant R\$20 (US\$3.9) billion through a Provisional Measure (a presidential decree having the force of a statute) for the purchase of Covid-19 vaccines. [Read more.](#)

HEALTH

BOLSONARO SAYS THE BEST VACCINE FOR COVID-19 IS THE VIRUS, WHICH HAS KILLED MORE THAN 188,000 IN THE COUNTRY

President Jair Bolsonaro (without a party) said on Wednesday (23) that the best vaccine for Covid-19 is the coronavirus itself, which has killed more than 188,000 people in Brazil. Without a mask, the president greeted supporters who, for the most part, were also unprotected and flocked to photos in São Francisco do Sul (SC), where he has been resting since the weekend. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL HEALTH MINISTRY EXPECTS 150 MILLION VACCINE DOSES BY JUNE

Brazil's Health Ministry expects the country to have 150 million doses of vaccines against COVID-19 available in the first half of next year, Health Regulatory Secretary Arnaldo Medeiros told lawmakers in a hearing on Tuesday, December 22nd. [Read more.](#)

ONLY 11.1% OF BRAZILIANS REMAINED IN STRICT ISOLATION IN NOVEMBER

The proportion of people across Brazil who failed to take precautions against the spread of the novel coronavirus increased in November, while the portion of the population in social isolation decreased, according to data from the monthly Covid National Household Sample Survey, released by the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE). [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL'S SAO PAULO STATE TO CLOSE RESTAURANTS, SHOPPING MALLS FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

Brazil's Sao Paulo state government announced only essential services are allowed to open between December 25 and 27 and between January 1 and 3, amid rising coronavirus cases. [Read more.](#)

LOGISTICS SECTOR INVESTS TO DISTRIBUTE VACCINES

The distribution of vaccines against covid-19 brings yet another challenge for logistics operators working in the health sector and the pharmaceutical industry, highlighted Valor Econômico newspaper on Tuesday (22). The hospital supply chain worldwide is accustomed to transporting, distributing and storing vaccines between 2 degrees and 8 degrees Celsius, but

in the case of covid-19, some vaccines, such as Pfizer/BioNTech, require temperatures up to 80 degrees Negative Celsius. To avoid losses, the logistics sector is investing in IoT solutions capable of ensuring temperature monitoring in real time, preserving the integrity of vaccines throughout the distribution and storage chain. DHL Supply Chain, responsible for more than a decade for the national distribution of the flu vaccine, is preparing to provide solutions with IoT focused on vaccines that require temperatures around minus 80 degrees Celsius. [Read more.](#)

SINOVAC COVID SHOT'S EFFICACY UNCERTAIN DESPITE BRAZIL, TURKEY RESULTS

With trials of Sinovac Biotech Ltd.'s coronavirus vaccine in Brazil and Turkey suggesting the shot has a protection rate on either side of 90%, there is still no final assessment on exactly how effective it is in protecting people against Covid-19. [Read more.](#)

SINOVAC'S COVID-19 VACCINE OVER 50% EFFECTIVE, REPORTS NEWSPAPER FOLHA

Sinovac Biotech's vaccine against COVID-19 is over 50% effective in late-stage trials, newspaper Folha de S. Paulo reported on Wednesday, December 23rd, adding that the Chinese company had asked the Brazilian institute running tests to wait up to 15 days before publishing their full results. [Read more.](#)

BUTANTAN INSTITUTE CLAIMS CORONAVAC IS "SAFEST" VACCINE TESTED IN BRAZIL

According to the Institute's director Dimas Covas, the "high standard" demanded by the World Health Organization was achieved, and the immunizer would be the safest of those currently being tested in Brazil. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL HEALTH REGULATOR CERTIFIES SINOVAC'S CORONAVAC PRODUCTION STANDARDS

Brazilian health regulator Anvisa said on Monday, December 21st, that it had certified the production standards of CoronaVac, China's Sinovac-produced coronavirus vaccine candidate, which is being tested in Brazil. [Read more.](#)

ANVISA EXPLAINS THE PHARMACEUTICAL TECHNOLOGY AND RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

As soon as a vaccine has been authorized in Brazil, a new stage of work will begin, which is the monitoring of possible adverse events caused by vaccines. The measure is necessary in any case, whether for emergency use or permanent use. For this reason, laboratories must present detailed Risk Management Plans (PGRs). The practice is common and used for any new medicine or vaccine that reaches the market. The table for monitoring vaccine analysis is now updated with information about the laboratories that presented their strategies for monitoring possible events after vaccination. The presentation of the plan is part of the requirements for the application for registration of vaccines. [Read more.](#)

RPBRs' PETITION DATES FOR MEDICINES PUBLISHED

Anvisa informs that the list of active pharmaceutical ingredients is already available, whose Periodic Benefit-Risk Assessment Reports (RPBRs) of the respective drugs must be submitted by the drug registration holders (DRMs). These reports are documents prepared by the DRMs to review and evaluate the safety profile of their products, at moments defined after the publication of the registration. The RBPRs aim to present a comprehensive and critical analysis of the risk-benefit ratio of drugs, taking into account new or emerging safety information. In analyzing these documents, the Agency assesses whether there are new risks identified for these drugs, as well as whether there have been changes in the respective risk-benefit relationships. It is important to clarify that this list will be permanently published on the Agency's Pharmacovigilance page. In addition, it follows the guidelines of the Resolution of the Collegiate Board (RDC) 406/2020 and of the Normative Instruction (IN) 63/2020, which deal with the subject. [Read more.](#)