

# WEEKLY REPORT



12/04/21

---

## POLITICS

### **BRAZIL'S BOLSONARO JOINS PL AND SEALS LINK WITH CENTRÃO VOTING BLOC**

After two years with no party and months of negotiations, President Jair Bolsonaro on Tuesday, November 30, signed his affiliation to the PL (Liberal Party) to run for reelection in 2022. The affiliation ceremony took place on Evangelical Day, at the Brasil 21 Complex, in Brasília, and was attended by legislators and ministry officials. Minister of Regional Development Rogério Marinho and Senator Flávio Bolsonaro, the president's first son, also joined the PL. [Read more.](#)

### **SÃO PAULO GOVERNOR DORIA WINS PSDB PRIMARY AND WILL BE PARTY'S 2022 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE**

PSDB (Brazilian Social Democracy Party) on November 27 announced that São Paulo governor João Doria won the party's primary poll and will be its candidate for the 2022 presidential elections. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL'S BOLSONARO ATTACKS SERGIO MORO, CALLS HIS EX-MINISTER "LIAR, CLOWN AND CHARACTERLESS"**

According to the President, his former ally is a person "with no character" and the leak of the message exchange between Moro and Lava Jato prosecutors exposed a "shameful exchange of information." [Read more.](#)

### **SUPREME COURT INVESTIGATES BOLSONARO FOR STATEMENTS ON COVID-19 VACCINES AND AIDS**

Brazil's Federal Supreme Court (STF) on Friday opened an investigation into President Jair Bolsonaro's remarks in which he erroneously stated that Covid-19 vaccines can increase the likelihood of developing AIDS. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL'S PROSECUTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE OPENS 6 PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIONS INTO BOLSONARO**

The Federal Prosecutor General's Office (PGR) has opened 6 new preliminary investigations into President Jair Bolsonaro, based on the Senate Covid CPI's final report. Ministers and legislators listed by the committee will also be examined for alleged crimes. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL'S SENATE APPROVES ANDRÉ MENDONÇA FOR FEDERAL SUPREME COURT POSITION**

The Senate plenary on Wednesday, December 1, approved André Mendonça's name for the post of Federal Supreme Court (STF) Justice. Earlier in the day, Mendonça had been approved by the Constitution and Justice Committee (CCJ), in a meeting that lasted some 8 hours. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL'S BOLSONARO ON STF: "WE HAVE 2 JUSTICES, 20% OF WHAT WE WOULD LIKE"**

President Jair Bolsonaro on Thursday (2) said he now has 20% of what he would like within the Federal Supreme Court (STF), after his nominee to the Court, André Mendonça, was confirmed. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL'S SENATE PASSES COURT-ORDERED DEBT PEC; TEXT WILL RETURN TO CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES**

The PEC defers the payment of more than half of court-ordered federal debt recognized by the courts in decisions that can no longer be appealed. It is designed to avoid the spending limit of the budget. [Read more.](#)

### **SENATE APPROVES IN TWO ROUNDS PEC OF PRECATÓRIO**

With a loose vote, the Senate approved, in the early afternoon of this Thursday (2), in two rounds, the so-called PEC dos Precatórios. In the first round, the score was 64 in favor and 13 against, while in the second round there were 61 votes in favor and 10 against. To enable voting on the text and guarantee the minimum 49 votes needed in each turn in the Senate plenary, the government leader in the House and rapporteur of the proposal, Fernando Bezerra Coelho (MDB-PE), made significant last-minute changes in the last version of the text that had been approved last Tuesday (30) by the Committee on Constitution and Justice (CCJ). [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL GDP DROPS IN 3RD QUARTER BY 0.1%, REFLECTING STABILITY, SAYS IBGE**

The Brazilian Gross Domestic Product (GDP) decreased 0.1% in the third quarter of 2021, compared to the previous three months, in the seasonally adjusted series, reported the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) on Thursday. Agriculture and Livestock fell 8%, Industry was stable, and Services increased 1.1%. [Read more.](#)

### **INDUSTRIAL SALES IN BRAZIL DROP FOR THIRD CONSECUTIVE MONTH – CNI**

The real turnover of the manufacturing industry fell 2% in October, compared to September, according to the Industrial Indicators, from the National Confederation of Industry (CNI), released today (1). This is the third consecutive monthly drop in sales, which has accumulated a retraction of 8% in this period. With this, the industry's total sales retreated to the lowest amount since June 2020, when the economy and the productive sector were still recovering from the closure of activities in the first wave of Covid-19. In the comparison with October 2020, the turnover has registered a drop of 12.8%. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL'S SÃO PAULO INAUGURATES STATE GOVERNMENT BUSINESS OFFICE IN NEW YORK**

Recently chosen as the PSDB candidate for Brazil's presidency in 2022, São Paulo Governor João Doria disembarks on Wednesday (1/12) in the United States with an entourage of more than 20 businesspeople to inaugurate the São Paulo state government's business promotion office in New York City. [Read more.](#)

### **OECD URGES BRAZIL TO MAKE FISCAL REFORMS IN THE FACE OF RISING PRICES**

The OECD projects for Brazil a growth of 5% in its economic activity this year and 1.4% in 2022 but recommends its authorities to undertake fiscal reforms to address the "significant increase" in inflation in recent months. This is stated in the section dedicated to Brazil by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in its economic outlook report released on Wednesday, which estimates that there will be a global growth of 5.6% this year. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL'S ECONOMY MINISTER TO CHANGE TREASURY HEAD AND CREATE SPECIAL SECRETARY**

Minister of Economy Paulo Guedes will change the Federal Treasury's leadership and create a special secretariat in Economic Studies. The official announcement will be made next week, according to sources. With the change, Federal Treasury Secretary José Tostes, to take up a new position at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and

Productivity Secretary Carlos da Costa, who will hold a post at the Brazilian embassy to the U.S., will leave their offices. [Read more.](#)

### **S&P CONFIRMS BB - RATING FOR BRAZIL; STABLE OUTLOOK**

Rating agency S&P Global has affirmed Brazil's foreign currency rating at BB-. The announcement was made on Tuesday, November 30. The outlook for the country's rating is stable. "Spending pressures and the high-interest burden are likely to lead to slow fiscal consolidation, with general government net debt trending toward 75% of GDP by 2024," said S&P, which believes that the stable outlook for the grade assumes that the government will gradually stabilize its recent growth in public debt. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY ADVANCES WITH PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENTS – MINISTER GUEDES**

"We have already created more than three million jobs in a year and a half. So, Brazil is growing at 5.3 [%], creating 3.5 million jobs. The service sector is coming back; the tourism sector is coming back. Brazil is condemned to grow", the Minister of the Economy emphasized. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL'S BOLSONARO SENDS BILL TO CONGRESS FOR US\$178 MILLION IN CREDIT FOR MINISTRIES**

President Jair Bolsonaro submitted a bill to Congress requesting the opening of a special credit of R\$1 billion (US\$178 million) for the Ministries of Economy, Education, Justice and Public Safety, Infrastructure and Regional Development. The dispatch was announced on Tuesday, November 30, in a statement by the general secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL'S ECONOMY MINISTER: "POLITICAL WAR UNDERMINES ECONOMIC RECOVERY"**

Minister of Economy Paulo Guedes on Tuesday, November 30, said that the economy had a V-shaped recovery and that investments are coming back. "The political war is damaging," the Minister said, noting "worrisome patterns" in the political arena. "People are losing sense, they have created hate bubbles," he stated. [Read more.](#)

### **UNEMPLOYMENT DROPS IN 20 OF BRAZIL'S 27 STATES BETWEEN SECOND AND THIRD QUARTERS**

The unemployment rate posted a statistically significant drop in 20 of the 27 Brazilian states between the second and third quarters, according to data from the Continuous National Household Sample Survey (PNAD Continuous), released by the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE). The highest unemployment rates were found in Pernambuco (19.3%), Bahia (18.7%), Amapá (17.5%), Alagoas (17.1%) and Sergipe (17.0%). The lowest results were seen in Santa Catarina (5.3%), Mato Grosso (6.6%), Mato Grosso do Sul (7.6%), Rondônia (7.8%) and Paraná (8.0%). [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL: PANDEMIC EXACERBATED INEQUALITIES IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EDUCATION AND BETWEEN RICH AND POOR**

The Covid-19 pandemic had a profound impact on the country's education, exacerbating the already existing inequalities between the public and private networks and between poor and wealthy students, according to data from the Social Indicators Survey (SIS) released by the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) on Friday, December 3. [Read more.](#)

## **HEALTH**

### **STATE OF SAO PAULO WILL HAVE A PARLIAMENTARY FRONT IN SUPPORT OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY**

On December 7, at 6 pm, the Legislative Assembly of São Paulo will launch the parliamentary front in support of the pharmaceutical industry in the state. The creation of the front was requested by deputy Fernando T. Ferreira (PT-SP). The objective is to dialogue with the public power and the private sector on the tax issue of medicines, so that it can achieve a better cost for patients. [Read more.](#)

### **ANVISA, ANS AND ABIMED HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HEALTH TECHNOLOGY SECTOR IN THE LAUNCH OF A PARLIAMENTARY FRONT IN SÃO PAULO**

Representatives from Anvisa (National Health Surveillance Agency), ANS (National Supplementary Health Agency) and Abimed (Brazilian Association of High Technology Industry of Health Products) highlighted the importance of the health technology sector for the generation of employment, income and wealth in the State of São Paulo this Thursday (2/12), during the launch of the Parliamentary Front for Medical Devices and Technology for Health, this Thursday (2/12), at Alesp. [Read more.](#)

### **PROPOSAL FOR AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION PRESENTED IN ORDER TO LIMIT LAWSUITS IN THE UNIFIED HEALTH SYSTEM**

Senator Marcelo Castro (MDB-PI) presented the Proposed Amendment to the Constitution 45/2021, which provides for the incorporation of technology in health. The initiative's objective is to limit lawsuits for access to treatments in the Unified Health System (SUS). [Read more.](#)

### **SENTENCES ABOUT THE VETO OVER THE LICENCING COMPULSORY BILL ARE PROJECTED IN THE FEDERAL SENATE**

The Federal Senate building received the phrases 'A Vida Asks Permit' and 'Law 14,200 Saves Lives' this Thursday night (2). The projections were requested by senator Paulo Paim (PT-RS) with the aim of improving the government's capacity to face the covid-19 pandemic, as well as other health emergencies that may arise. The Law 14.200, 2021, was sanctioned with five vetoes by President Jair Bolsonaro, on 2 September. If the vetoed devices were already in effect, it would be possible to determine the temporary breaking of patents on vaccines and supplies in periods of emergency or state of public calamity. [Read more.](#)

### **CHAMBER APPROVES REVOCATION OF SUBSIDIES ON MEDICINES AND HEALTH PRODUCTS**

The Chamber of Deputies approved this Wednesday (1/12), symbolically, the PL 5149/2020 intended to extend the exemption from the Tax on Industrialized Products (IPI) on the acquisition of passenger cars, acquisition of cars for use in autonomous transport passengers or by people with disabilities and to extend the benefit to people with hearing impairments. To offset the tax exemption, the approved text revokes tax subsidies (exemption from PIS/COFINS) for medicines and other health products established in laws 10.637/2002; 10833/2003; and 10865/2004. [Read more.](#)

### **COMMITTEE PASSES THE FIRST PART OF THE TEXT TO AUTHORIZE PRIVATE COMPANIES TO PRODUCE RADIOPHARMACEUTICALS**

The special committee of the Chamber of Deputies destined to analyze the PEC 517/2010, which allows the production of radioisotopes for medical use by the private sector, approved on Wednesday (1) the basic text of the rapporteur, Deputy General Peternelli (PSL-SP). [Read more.](#)

### **ASSOCIATIONS LAUNCH MANIFESTO AGAINST CHANGES IN HEALTH PLAN LAW**

Idec and other association have sent a manifesto to congressmen discussing changes in legislation on complementary health in Congress. According to Veja, the document, addressed to the Special Committee on Health Plans, of the Chamber, criticizes the actions of operators who are trying to "force changes" which, as a result, say the signatories, will reduce coverage and worsen the quality of services provided. The letter was also signed by the Brazilian

Association of Health Economics, the Association of Servers and Other Workers of the National Supplementary Health Agency, the Brazilian Center for Health Studies, and the Brazilian Association of Collective Health. The so-called "affordable plans" are the main target of criticism from the entities, which point out that this type of agreement is often cheaper, but with limited coverage. [Read more.](#)

### **DECISION ABOUT THE LIST OF HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS WILL REMAIN FOR 2022**

The continuation of the judgment that will decide whether the list of procedures and events of the National Agency for Supplementary Health (ANS) is exemplary or exhaustive, will remain for 2022. The information was confirmed by the minister of the Superior Court of Justice (STJ) Nancy Andrighi, who is requesting a review of the case. The case is judged in the 2nd Section of the STJ, through the EREsp 1886929/SP and the EREsp 1889704/SP, both reporting by the minister Luis Felipe Salomão. The trial began on September 16, with the rapporteur's vote in defense of the exhaustive list, but with exceptions. Right after Salomão's vote, minister Nancy Andrighi asked to be seen and so far, has not returned the process to the agenda. When voting, Salomão spoke about the security of legal relations and affirmed that the Judiciary has a fundamental role in promoting a fair and balanced interpretation of legislation, "without sentimentality and preconceived ideas". His arguments were fundamentally based on the defense of the legislation that governs the supplementary sector, on the legitimacy of the ANS as a regulator, on the contractual economic balance, and on the scientific proof of mandatory coverage treatments. For Minister Salomão, administrative or judicial decisions outside the law can aggravate the financial situation of health plan operators and, ultimately, affect the confidence and expectations of consumers, making the problem no longer just that of the operator. and start to reach the whole society.so that the problem is no longer just the operator's problem and starts to affect society as a whole.so that the problem is no longer just the operator's problem and starts to affect society. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL SUPPORTS NEGOTIATION OF GLOBAL PACT TO PREVENT NEW PANDEMICS**

Brazil is co-sponsor with 100 other countries of a decision closed on Monday (29) to negotiate an international mechanism to prevent future outbreaks from becoming pandemics again such as the Covid-19. The World Health Organization (W.H.O.) special assembly is expected to approve by Wednesday (1) that negotiations begin next year. From there, disagreements are likely to grow over format, devices, rights, and obligations during an outbreak. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL'S MINISTER MARCOS PONTES SAYS COUNTRY WILL BE MAJOR VACCINE PRODUCER**

Minister of Science, Technology and Innovations Marcos Pontes said yesterday (3) during the opening of the 18th National Week of Science and Technology (SNCT) in Brasilia, that Brazil will undergo a major change before the world in the development of new technologies. According to the Minister, several new advances have been fostered by the Ministry's many efforts – from stem cell research to aerospace development. Marcos Pontes further stated that he believes events like SNCT 2021 foster curiosity and the desire for learning in complex areas. [Read more.](#)

### **PRESIDENT BOLSONARO ANNOUNCED THERE WILL BE NO "HEALTH PASSPORT" IN BRAZIL**

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro on Thursday (2) reaffirmed that his government does not plan to implement the so-called "health passport" in the country, since "freedom is above all else" and each citizen should decide whether to be vaccinated. [Read more](#)

### **COVID-19/OMICRON: BRAZILIAN HEALTH MINISTER SIGNALS HE IS AGAINST RESUMING RESTRICTIONS ON MOVEMENT**

"We cannot go from a libertarian situation, of parties, New Year's Eve and Carnival, to a situation of total closure of our economy, because we already know the consequences. And there is no reason for that," said Marcelo Queiroga. [Read more.](#)



**OMICRON VARIANT: BRAZILIAN HEALTH REGULATOR REQUESTS FURTHER DATA ON IMPACT OF AUTHORIZED VACCINES**

The Brazilian Health Regulatory Agency (ANVISA) on Wednesday, December 1, announced that it has requested the developers of Covid-19 vaccines authorized in Brazil to provide data on ongoing studies related to the new Omicron variant. [Read more.](#)

**GOVERNOR DORIA IN FAVOR OF CANCELING NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTIES IN SÃO PAULO**

São Paulo Governor João Doria on Wednesday, December 1, recommended that mayors in his state suspend the traditional New Year's Eve parties. With the emergence of the Omicron variant and the fourth wave of Covid-19 in Europe, at least 14 state capitals in Brazil have already called off public events for the year-end. [Read more.](#)

**BRAZIL CONFIRMS THE FIRST TWO CASES OF OMICRON VARIANT IN LATIN AMERICA; BOTH ARE VACCINATED**

The São Paulo State Department of Health confirmed on Tuesday (30) the first two imported cases. The two cases of Omicron (B.1.1.529) are 41-year-old men and 37-year-old women from South Africa. [Read more.](#)

**COVID-19: SÃO PAULO GOVERNOR REASSESSSES MASK USE AFTER POSITIVE CASES OF OMICRON**

The two confirmed cases of infection by the Omicron, the new variant of the Sars-Cov-2 coronavirus, may delay the pandemic flexibility calendar in São Paulo. A couple that came from South Africa tested positive for the new strain before boarding a return flight to the African country at Guarulhos airport (Greater SP). They are isolated and monitored by health teams in São Paulo. [Read more.](#)

**BRAZIL'S MINISTRY OF HEALTH LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN TO COMBAT DENGUE FEVER**

According to a survey presented by the Ministry, 12 states had an increase in dengue cases compared to last year. In Amapá, the cases increased from 53 to 241 this year. In Alagoas, 2.2 thousand cases were recorded in the previous year and 6.3 thousand in 2021. [Read more.](#)

**BRAZIL'S HEALTH REGULATOR APPROVES FIRST ONE-PILL HIV TREATMENT**

The Brazilian Health Regulatory Agency (ANVISA) has approved the first HIV treatment combining two different substances in a single pill. The new drug is a combination of lamivudine and sodium dolutegravir. Previously, patients were required to take two pills or more, depending on the type of treatment. [Read more.](#)