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Thursday, 29th April 2021

To: Rev. Prof. Dr. Ioan Sauca Interim General Secretary World Council of Churches

Receive greetings from Buenos Aires, Argentina on behalf of the Evangelical Church of the River Plate, a regional church present in Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay.

First of all, we would like to expressly thank you for each and every one of the information you regularly share with us about the work of the World Council of Churches and its associated churches. In times of such uncertainty, it is very important to feel accompanied by one another.

We follow with attention the news of the WCC's actions related to health, especially those initiatives in pursuit of access to vaccines against covid-19 for all humanity, particularly for those countries that have more problems to access them. Many political, religious and social actors are calling for the liberalization of patents so that the production of vaccines can be expanded exponentially so that, as humanity, we can begin to emerge from the situation left by the pandemic, not only at the health level but also at the social, economic, cultural and political levels. We are aware that an important part of the laboratories have managed to achieve the production of the vaccine thanks to public funding, and that at the same time their objective is to profit in the market, but perhaps it could be possible to suspend the patents while the pandemic situation lasts to ensure free access to vaccines during 2021 reaching immunize a higher percentage of the population than estimated today.

Pope Francis reaffirmed in a letter addressed to the participants of the XXVII Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government that widespread immunization against Covid-19 should be considered a "universal common good".

We support each and every one of the efforts that could be made in this sense from a great coalition, which includes all sectors, both public and private, to remind us at the same time that we all get out of this situation together (as humanity) and not from individual actions.

I take this opportunity to wish you many blessings in your work.

Rev. Leonardo Schindler President