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I am writing this letter to express my interest in being a representative for the Latin American region (LA) on the International AIDS Society (IAS) Governing Council.

I am a Medical Doctor, specialized in HIV and Internal Medicine, with a Master's degree and a PhD. I have been dedicated to the HIV field for the last 22 years, having worked in different countries, at public and private hospitals, health centers, prisons and NGOs.

In 2009, I joined PAHO-WHO as the Regional Advisor for HIV treatment. For 3 years, I worked tirelessly to support national HIV Programs reviewing 18 national HIV guidelines, rolling-out the Treatment 2.0 and the Congenital HIV and Syphilis Elimination Initiatives and contributing to several WHO guidelines, including the Cotrimoxazole Prophylaxis, Cryptococcal Infection, and ARV Guidelines.

Since 2012, I'm the Research Director at Fundación Huésped, Argentina, where I assembled a diverse team of 37 individuals who work collaboratively to develop, design, and implement a wide portfolio of epidemiological, clinical and social studies. My team's research strategy focuses on ART optimization; HIV prevention innovations and improvement of access to HIV care and treatment for transgender individuals through community approaches. Some of our achievements include the demonstration of dual-therapy as a new paradigm of ART; the positioning of our organization as an international research site as demonstrated by the invitation of several research networks to participate in some of their studies (the HIV Prevention Trials Network, the AIDS Malignancies Consortium and the HIV Vaccine Trials Network); and the successful resource mobilization that increased our total budget dedicated to research by 10-fold during this period. I also have co-authored more than 90 publications in peer-reviewed journals.

In 2015, I joined the Argentinean Society for Infectious Diseases' Executive Committee. I quickly gained support from colleagues who proposed me to be the Chair of the 2016 Infectious Diseases National Conference, elected me as Treasurer, Secretary and, since June 2019, as the President, attesting to my collaborative character and representativeness in my country.

At the IAS, I've had a significant participation at conferences, with 58 posters presented since 2001. Further, I was Assistant Rapporteur at AIDS-2008, AIDS-2012 and IAS-2015; session co-chair at AIDS-2018 and Lead Rapporteur at IAS-2019. I received scholarships for AIDS-2016 and IAS-2017 and for the 2017 Towards an HIV Cure Global Fellows Research Academy. I actively participated in several civil society and clinicians' meetings organized by the Educational Fund (Rio 2017, Buenos Aires 2017,

Mexico 2018, and Bogota 2019) to discuss HIV prevention and policy implementation for PrEP and PEP in the region.

In summary, my experience proves my knowledge in HIV prevention and care and a strong commitment to end the epidemic prioritizing evidence-based interventions. My research background focused on the most vulnerable, a vocation for building capacity and promoting synergies, the sustainable collaboration with a variety of groups, agencies and research networks will facilitate my role as an LA representative. If elected, I will ensure the strategies proposed by the IAS are relevant for the LA and take into account our interests and different contexts, I will pursue opportunities for training young professionals and advocate for actions to inspire the HIV workforce to demand policy changes for the wider adoption of the latest scientific advances in order to make an impact in the HIV epidemic. As an enthusiastic supporter of the IAS values, I will provide the LA view, and will continue to advocate for prioritizing evidence-based interventions, with a focus on human rights for PLHIV, demanding inclusive approaches aimed to reduce inequities in health, and implementing the highest ethical standards in a collaborative way to make us stronger together.