Proposed work plan of the Ad-hoc Interagency Coordination Group on antimicrobial resistance

May 2017 – September 2019

CONTEXT

1. On 21 September 2016, during the 71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), Member States adopted the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) contained in Resolution A/RES/71/3.

2. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the Political Declaration, the Secretary-General has established an ad hoc Interagency Coordination Group (IACG) on AMR, in consultation with the tripartite, which includes the World Health Organization (WHO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). The Group is co-chaired by the UN Deputy Secretary-General and the Director-General of WHO and comprises high-level representatives of relevant UN agencies, other international organizations, and individual experts across different sectors. Three conveners were appointed to direct the group’s work—Dr Junshi Chen, Dame Sally Davies, and Ms Martha Lutterodt.

3. The main objective of the IACG is to provide practical guidance for approaches needed to ensure sustained effective global action to address AMR, including options to improve coordination, taking into account the Global Action Plan (GAP) on AMR. It will produce a report to the Secretary-General for the 73rd session of the UN General Assembly.

4. This work plan sets out the intended activities of the IACG between 2017 and 2019. It is firmly grounded in Resolution A/RES/71/3 and takes into account the terms of reference for the Group¹ and the Global Action Plan on AMR. The work plan is organized around five objectives, in line with the terms of reference. The IACG may commission additional studies to complement its deliberations.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS²

Objective 1. Support implementation of the UNGA political declaration and the Global Action Plan and link them to the SDGs by championing and advocating for action against AMR at the highest political level.

1.1 Support implementation of the UNGA political declaration and GAP objectives in line with the SDGs, in a way that addresses antibacterial

¹ http://www.who.int/antimicrobial-resistance/interagency-coordination-group/IACG-AMR-ToR.pdf?ua=1
² From IACG’s Terms of Reference: http://www.who.int/antimicrobial-resistance/interagency-coordination-group/IACG-AMR-ToR.pdf?ua=1
resistance as well as resistance to antimicrobials used to treat other infectious diseases.

1.2 Add supplemental objectives to the GAP that are in line with the text of the Resolution and new issues that may arise. These may include: (1) ensuring sustainable production and access to existing and future antibiotics and other antimicrobial medicines, (2) need for new R & D models for medicines, vaccines, and diagnostics based on the delinkage principle, (3) conducting basic and applied innovative R & D, (4) identifying mechanisms for private sector engagement (through such organizations as pharmaceutical umbrella organizations, food producers, etc.), (4) ensuring sustainable and safe food production, as part of responsible use, (5) greater focus on the management of waste that might contain antimicrobial residues or resistant microbes, and (6) other issues that may emerge during the course of this work.

1.3 Develop a Stakeholder Engagement Plan as a framework for engaging with stakeholder groups appropriately (Annex).

1.4 Regarding National Action Plans (NAPs): (1) Review tools available to support NAPs; (2) identify gaps and barriers to implementation, especially in low- and middle-income countries; (3) seek partners to fill the gaps or strengthen existing systems, and (4) share best practices.

1.5 Engage with Member States through consultations and country visits to identify priorities and challenges.

1.6 Agree an IACG Framework for Action based on the UNGA resolution, the GAP and SDGs that is flexible enough to allow incorporation of new or other issues that arise.

Objective 2. Coordinate mapping of actions being taken by UN agencies, and other organizations and key stakeholders towards achieving measurable results, and identify opportunities for collaboration, as well as gaps, redundancies and duplication.

2.1 Undertake a mapping exercise of high-level AMR activities in key organizations, to identify current players and funding flows, and identify synergies, gaps and opportunities for coordination, and publish by 2018.

2.2 Extend this mapping to all relevant UN organizations and publish regular updates.

2.3 Further extend this mapping to other partners.

2.4 Develop a registry of commitments to action against AMR. The “Call to Action” event (hosted by Wellcome Trust, UK Government, Government of Thailand, and the UN Foundation) currently in development will provide a basis for this registry, which will support the IACG’s work.

Objective 3. Promote, plan and facilitate collaborative action to align activities so that gaps are closed and resources are optimally distributed.

3.1 Consult with UN agencies and others, including funding bodies, to explore mechanisms to optimize collaboration and resource use, share resources, and identify synergies in investments.

3.2 Define a model to enable collaboration and operationalization of the global response to AMR, at local, national, regional, and international levels.*
Objective 4. Explore the feasibility of developing global goals and ambitions related to AMR for UN agencies, component members, and, where appropriate, other stakeholders, for priorities set out in the declaration.

4.1 Evaluate progress made since adoption of the GAP.
4.2 Develop a roadmap and overarching vision towards 2030 with quantitative targets for action on AMR to minimize its negative impact on SDGs. These targets should be coordinated with, complement and not duplicate ongoing work by the tripartite and others to establish targets and indicators.
4.3 Propose options for mechanisms for global collaboration and coordination among all relevant stakeholders, with the aims of strengthening existing mechanisms and maintaining political commitment to combat AMR.

Objective 5. Regularly report on progress and on IACG meetings and issue a full report to the Secretary-General during the 73rd session of the UN General Assembly, keeping Member States, stakeholders and the governing bodies of FAO, OIE and WHO fully apprised of progress.

5.1 Provide briefings to UN Member States and other stakeholders, with regular calls for input to the website managed by the IACG Secretariat, and publish an online report after each IACG meeting.
5.2 Report to the UN Secretary-General during the 73rd session of the General Assembly (submit an interim report on progress in September 2018, and a final report in July 2019). This will be accompanied by a Secretariat report on progress in implementing the UN declaration A/RES/71/3.

MEETINGS

10. IACG members will meet face-to-face at least twice a year, and communicate by email or teleconference as needed. The IACG will use these meetings and leverage any other opportunities to promote multi-stakeholder engagement with Member States and other appropriate stakeholders through open consultations during meetings or web consultations. The IACG also commits to regularly debriefing Member States and other stakeholders about their deliberations after meetings.

REPORTING

11. The IACG intends to provide an interim progress report to the Secretary-General ahead of the UN General Assembly in September 2018, with a final report provided in July 2019. Meeting reports and other updates will be published online as frequently as possible.

*To be discussed at September teleconference.