Report of the fourth meeting of the Interagency Coordination Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (IACG)

BACKGROUND

In UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/71/3, Member States requested “the Secretary-General to establish, in consultation with WHO, FAO and OIE, an ad hoc interagency coordination group, co-chaired by the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and WHO, drawing, where necessary, on expertise from relevant stakeholders, to provide practical guidance for approaches needed to ensure sustained effective global action to address AMR”.

In response to this request, the Secretary-General convened a group of 28 organizations (note that UNITAID was added by the Secretary-General after the first meeting) and experts to carry out this work on his behalf. This Ad Hoc Interagency Coordination Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (the IACG) is co-chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General and the WHO Director-General. At the request of the Secretary-General, the tripartite Secretariat of FAO, OIE and WHO is hosted in Geneva. The IACG’s work is directed by three conveners: Professor Junshi Chen, Professor Dame Sally Davies, and Ms Martha Gyansa-Lutterodt.

More information about the IACG, including records of all previous meetings, is available at www.who.int/antimicrobial-resistance/interagency-coordination-group/en/.

ORGANIZATION AND PROCESS OF THE MEETING

1. The meeting was hosted by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) at its headquarters in Paris, France.

2. Of the 28 members of the IACG, 21 were present (see Annex 1).

3. Individual sessions within the meeting were alternately chaired by the IACG co-conveners and co-chair (see Annex 1).

4. Director-General of OIE, Dr Monique Eloit, delivered opening remarks, reinforcing the OIEs commitment and urging the IACG to build on the political momentum gained at last year’s UNGA.

5. Through a video address, the IACG Co-Chair, UN Deputy Secretary General Amina J Mohammed, emphasized the need for: a clearly defined work plan, an agreed way of working, and a truly integrated response that spans the full scope of the SDGs and is built on in-country evidence.
6. Members of the IACG Secretariat and co-conveners presented updates on some of the ongoing activities including: the Call to Action conference held in Berlin in October 2017; the R&D collaboration hub announced by G20 leaders at the July 2017 summit; the UNGA side event on AMR (hosted by the Wellcome Trust and UN Foundation, in partnership with the Governments of Mexico, Thailand, South Africa and the United Kingdom as members of the UN Group of Friends on AMR, and the IACG) held in September 2017; the GARD-P initiative to develop and deliver new treatments for bacterial infections affected by drug resistance; and the intergovernmental body Codex Alimentarius that exists under the auspices of FAO and WHO to develop internationally recognized standards, codes of practice, guidelines and other recommendations relating to foods, food production and food safety.

7. The group discussed results of the AMR mapping exercise conducted across the UN organisations in the IACG, and options for taking this work forward. It agreed that next steps include: re-mapping activities to the IACG Framework for Action; providing a hyperlink to further information on each project; consider how best to integrate the commitments made at the Call to Action meeting and other mapping activities; and making the initial results public (to be published as work in progress).

8. The IACG Secretariat presented its view on how best to include HIV/TB/malaria (HTM) into the IACG workplan. Participants agreed that HTM needed to be in the workplan, but should not be the focus of it. The group was reminded that its work is not about individual diseases, but AMR more broadly; and that it needs to be carefully balanced across human, animal, environment, and plant health. At the same time, the IACG recognized the fact that addressing HTM is critical to addressing AMR globally, particularly in low- and middle-income countries where HTM resistant and non-resistant infections account for the majority of morbidity and mortality; and that there is much to be learnt from the HTM community’s long experience in tackling AMR. The IACG agreed for HTM to be included but reinforced the IACG principles of co-ordination, collaboration, with no duplication.

9. After a presentation by WHO on behalf of the tripartite on the global M&E Framework for AMR, the group asked for more information on indicators, including data on access to drugs, patterns of antimicrobial use, drug production rates, and policies. IACG decided that they needed a fuller discussion on indicators; and will dedicate a half-day session to the topic at their next face to face meeting in Bangkok.

10. The IACG discussed the group’s work plan, including amendments proposed by the Secretariat following a web consultation earlier in the year. IACG members agreed to:
   • make recommendations more explicit
   • clarify the purpose of the Framework for Action
   • put in stronger language about the IACG’s role and added value
   • address stakeholder engagement
   • keep the reference to ‘de-linkage’, as an example of innovative financing (not the only option)
11. The Secretariat were asked to submit a new draft of the workplan based on the discussion; this was agreed and signed off by the IACG on the second day of the meeting.

12. Professor Davies introduced the concept of **subgroups** and moderated a discussion about their scope, terms of reference and deliverables. The group agreed that subgroups need to:
   - make the recommendations that are the mandate of this group: the IACG’s added value is its engagement at a political and strategic level;
   - focus on the gaps (identifying them and thinking through how to address them);
   - be transparent, particularly in setting out criteria for membership selection;
   - be clear on what they are not doing;
   - link their work to the broader workplan;
   - consider resource needed to take forward and deliver work.

13. Participants agreed membership of the subgroups (see Annex II).

14. WHO Director-General and IACG Co-Chair, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, addressed the IACG and reaffirmed his commitment to AMR and supporting the IACG to deliver its work.

15. Participants reviewed potential approaches to **stakeholder engagement** in the IACG process. They agreed that the task of mapping relevant stakeholders could form part of the work of subgroups, and that its results would be a significant contribution to the added value of IACG.

16. The IACG agreed to establish a **drafting group** consisting of Chairs of the subgroups: Dr Hanan Balkhy, Professor Dame Sally Davies, Ms Martha Gyansa-Lutterodt; Ms Jaana Husu-Kallio, Dr Lelio Marmora, and Dr Donald Prater. The purpose of the drafting group is to ensure that the output of the subgroups is brought together cohesively and presented to the IACG as a whole for decisionmaking.

17. Both Co-Chairs have called for the group to undertake **country visits**. Participants agreed such visits would be: short (1 day high-level engagement); prepared (supported by a strong country briefing beforehand); and high-level (focused on strengthening political will and advocacy).

18. Participants broke into groups to discuss details of individual **subgroups**, including: nominations for contributions from external experts, ways of working, key topics to cover, stakeholder engagement, information gaps and timelines for meeting and reporting to the next face-to-face IACG conference in Bangkok in January 2018.

19. The IACG had in-depth engagement with stakeholders over the two days. On the first day, Professor Christian Brun-Buisson (delegate on antimicrobial resistance, Ministry of Health, France, and Dr Cecile Adam, Ministry of Agriculture, presented lessons learned in implementing the
French National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance. On the second day, Professor Junshi Chen welcomed stakeholders from the world of animal health and food and invited them to share their perspectives with IACG. Presentations were made by representatives from: International Dairy Federation, International Meat Secretariat, International Egg Commission, International Poultry Council, Federation of European Aquaculture Producers, Health for Animals, and USDA Agriculture Research Service (the entire session was webcast and is available here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lWd8tGB6DNg). In the evening of 17 October, Lord Llewellyn, British Ambassador to France held a reception for the IACG at the UK Embassy in Paris during which members were able to interact with representatives from several Member States.

**NEXT STEPS**

20. The next face-to-face meeting will happen on the margins of the Prince Mahidol Award Conference in Bangkok on 28 January – 3 February 2018.

21. Subgroups will meet—either face-to-face or by teleconference—over the next three months and report on progress to the Bangkok meeting.
ANNEX I: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

FOURTH MEETING OF THE AD-HOC INTERAGENCY COORDINATION GROUP
16–17 OCTOBER | PARIS, FRANCE

CO-CHAIRS

Ms Amina J Mohammed  
Deputy Secretary-General  
United Nations (could not attend)

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus  
Director-General  
World Health Organization

MEMBERS

Dr Hanan Balkhy  
Executive Director  
Ministry of National Guard Health Affairs  
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Dr Enis Baris  
World Bank  
United States of America

Professor Otto Cars  
Senior Professor, Infectious Diseases,  
Senior Adviser – ReACT  
Sweden

Professor Junshi Chen*  
Senior Research Professor  
China

Professor Dame Sally Davies*  
Chief Medical Officer  
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Dr Lyalya Gabbasova  
Ministry of Health of Russian Federation  
Russian Federation

Mr Minelik Alemu Getahun  
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)  
Switzerland

Ms Martha Gyansa-Lutterodt*  
Ministry of Health  
Ghana

Mr Elliot Harris  
United Nations Environment Programme  
United States of America  
(Could not attend)

Ms Ana Hinojosa  
World Customs Organization  
Belgium  
(Could not attend)

* Co-Convener
Ms Jaana Husu-Kallio  
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry  
Finland

Dr Hajime Inoue  
World Health Organization  
Switzerland

Mr Martin Khor  
South Centre  
Switzerland  
(Could not attend)

Dr Luiz Loures  
Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS  
Switzerland

Dr Juan Lubroth  
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)  
Italy

Dr Marco Marzano de Marinis  
World Farmers Organization (WFO)  
Italy

Dr Lelio Marmora  
Executive Director UNITAID  
Switzerland

Dr Gerard Moulin  
National Agency for Veterinary Medical Products (ANSES)  
France

Mr Mark Pearson  
Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)  
France

Dr Stefan Peterson  
United States of America

Dr Donald Prater  
Food and Drug Administration  
USA

Dr Jarbas Barbosa da Silva  
National Health Surveillance Agency (ANVISA)  
Brazil

Dr Matthew Stone  
World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)  
France

Dr Marijke Wijnroks  
Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria  
Switzerland  
(Could not attend)

Ms Christiane Wolff  
World Trade Organization  
Switzerland
ANNEX II: SUBGROUPS MEMBERSHIP

IACG subgroup 1: Communication, public awareness, behaviour-change, professional education and training

Ms Martha Gyansa-Lutterodt, Ministry of Health, Ghana (Chair)
Dr Hajime Inoue, WHO
Ms Ana Hinojosa, World Customs Organization

IACG subgroup 2: National Action Plans, including measurement and surveillance

Ms Jaana Husu-Kallio, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finland (Chair)
Dr Matthew Stone, OIE
Dr Lyalya Gabbasova, Ministry of Health, Russian Federation
Dr Otto Cars, REACT

IACG subgroup 3: Reduce need for antimicrobials and unintentional exposure, and optimising use

Dr Hanan Balkhy, Ministry of National Guard Health Affairs, Saudi Arabia (Chair)
Dr Jarbas Barbosa da Silva, National Health Surveillance Agency (ANVISA)
Dr Juan Lubroth, FAO
Dr Marco Marzano de Marinis, World Farmers Organization
Professor Junshi Chen, China National Center for Food Safety Risk Assessment
Dr Gerard Moulin, ANMV, ANSES, France

Ms Christiane Wolff, WTO
Dr Stefan Peterson, UNICEF

IACG subgroup 4: Invest in innovation and research, and boost R&D and access

Dr Lelio Marmora, Unitaid (Chair)
Professor Dame Sally Davies, Chief Medical Officer, UK
Dr Marijke Wijnroks, Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
Mr Mark Pearson, OECD
Mr Minelik Getahun, WIPO
Mr Martin Khor, South Centre
Dr Hajime Inoue, WHO

IACG subgroup 5: SDG alignment, Global Governance post 2019, and UN role and responsibilities

Professor Dame Sally Davies, Department of Health, UK (Chair)
Dr Luiz Loures, UNAIDS
Prof Otto Cars, ReAct
Dr Enis Baris World Bank
Mr Minelik Alemu Getahun, WIPO
Ms Martha Gyansa-Lutterodt, Ministry of Health, Ghana

IACG subgroup 6: Surveillance and monitoring for antimicrobial usage and resistance

Dr Donald Prater, US FDA (Chair)
Dr Lyalya Gabbasova, Ministry of Health, Russian Federation
Mr Elliott Harris, UNEP