High-level Technical Meeting

**Outcome Statement**

1. Representatives from leading research and research funding agencies, governments, the Government of Brazil, OIE and WHO, as well as of Civil Society Organizations, gathered in Brasilia, on the 26th and 27th March 2015, to discuss current gaps in research on antimicrobial resistance and actions to overcome the existing obstacles and support innovation and research and development of new prevention tools, new diagnostics, and new classes of antibiotics.

2. The meeting aimed at contributing to the draft global action plan on antimicrobial resistance submitted to the World Health Assembly for discussion in May 2015\(^1\), with regards to the development of a global agenda on research on antimicrobial resistance.

3. The outcomes of this meeting add to the results of consultations held in the Netherlands\(^2\), Norway\(^3\) and Sweden\(^4\) in 2014, in the process of developing the draft global action plan on antimicrobial resistance.

4. Some countries and regions have launched collaborative initiatives to encourage and support research on antimicrobial resistance. For example in 2013, some European Union Member States have collaborated to develop a joint strategic research programme on antimicrobial resistance\(^5\). Existing regional and national research agendas and the work done in the context of the setting up of the WHO Global Observatory on Health Research and Development can inform the development of a global strategic research agenda on antimicrobial resistance.

5. Surveillance of antimicrobial resistance is essential to support research and provide information required for estimates of burden of disease and economic impact associated with antimicrobial resistance and guide interventions.

6. The need for substantial further research was discussed in the following key areas:

   6.1. antimicrobial resistance transmission dynamics, within and between human, animal and agriculture sectors;

   6.2. infection prevention and control strategies, including vaccines and safe practices in all settings;

   6.3. new approaches from behavioral economics and other social sciences to realign incentives and make antimicrobial stewardship programmes easily adoptable and sustainable;

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\(^3\) Meeting outcomes statement available from: http://www.who.int/drugresistance/events/Oslomeeting/en/ accessed 31 March 2015

\(^4\) Meeting information from: http://www.who.int/drugresistance/events/SwedenMeeting/en/ accessed 31 March 2015

6.4. impact of veterinary and husbandry practices on the emergence and spread of antimicrobial resistance;

6.5. affordable, rapid and easy to use point of care diagnostics;

6.6. more basic and pre-clinical research including on microbiology and molecular mechanisms to inform the development of new anti-infective treatments;

6.7. appropriate regulatory pathways that support the development of new tools to tackle antimicrobial resistance, including prevention, diagnostics and treatment tools;

6.8. burden of disease estimates and economic research on costs of action and inaction to inform local, regional and global decision making.

7. The urgency of the global challenge of antimicrobial resistance calls for significantly greater societal investment in research and development.

8. Based on the above, the following actions to address research on antimicrobial resistance have been identified in this consultation:

8.1. pursue the development of a global research agenda, guided by the global action plan to inform interventions and increase capability to prevent, control and treat infectious diseases. The research agenda should be global in its scope and applicability, taking into consideration the needs, priorities and stage of development of countries and regions while recognizing when there is value in conducting activity on a global scale and when a specific subject should be addressed locally;

8.2. encourage investment in the development of new prevention tools, new classes of antibiotics and other antimicrobial medicines, as well as new diagnostics and vaccines, particularly through new models for research and development;

8.3. foster better coordination of national and international efforts in antimicrobial resistance research, making more use of modern technologies, including information and communication technologies, to promote open collaboration;

8.4. create an enabling environment for collaborative innovation, research and development, including support to innovation platforms, sharing of preclinical and clinical data, and partnerships between public and private sectors;

8.5. address the need for holistic research on AMR in line with the “One Health” approach, recognizing the impact of veterinary and husbandry practices on the emergence and spread of antimicrobial resistance;

9. The participants recognized the need for wide engagement on research on antimicrobial resistance and committed to address this through collaborative action within countries, and by working with FAO, OIE, non-governmental organizations and WHO, and others to promote a coherent and global approach that builds on existing initiatives.