

Final Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Global Leaders Group on Antimicrobial Resistance 16 March 2022

The Global Leaders Group on AMR is co-chaired by:

Her Excellency Mia Amor Mottley
Prime Minister of Barbados

Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina
Prime Minister of Bangladesh

Vice Chair: Ms Lena Hallengren, Minister of Health and Social Affairs of Sweden

Participants: *Dr Ahmed Bin Mohammed Bin Obaid Al Saidi (of Oman); Prof António Correia de Campos (of Portugal); Prof C.O. Onyebuchi Chukwu (of Nigeria); Dr Guilherme Antônio da Costa Júnior (of Brazil); Prof Dame Sally Davies (of UK); Dr Maggie De Block (of Belgium); Ms Grace Fu (of Singapore); Dr Julie Gerberding (of US); Ms Sunita Narain (of India); Mr Yasuhisa Shiozaki (of Japan); Ms Dechen Wangmo (of Bhutan); and Dr Jeffrey Scott Weese (of Canada).*

Ex-officio: *Dr Qu Dongyu (FAO) and Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus (WHO).*

Apologies: *Ms Inger Andersen (UNEP); Dr Monique Eloit (OIE); Prof Sir Jeremy Farrar (of UK); Dr Christopher Fearne (of Malta); Ms Sussan Ley¹ (of Australia); Ms Aminata Mbengue Ndiaye (of Senegal); and Prof Lothar H. Wieler² (of Germany).*

Absent: *Prof Anna Y. Popova (of Russia).*

Process of the meeting: The fourth official meeting of the [Global Leaders Group](#) (GLG) on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) was held virtually on 16 March 2022 (14:00-15:40 Central European Time).

The meeting was chaired for the first hour by H.E. Mia Amor Mottley, Prime Minister of Barbados, and for the second hour by Ms Lena Hallengren, Minister of Health and Social Affairs of Sweden. Co-Chair H.E. Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of Bangladesh, was unable to attend. Dr Ahmed Bin Mohammed Bin Obaid Al Saidi, Minister of Health, Sultanate of Oman, was welcomed as a new member of the GLG.

The agenda for the meeting covered four areas: (1) Progress report since last meeting; (2) AMR in the context of the proposed international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response; (3) Deliverables for 2022 under the GLG rolling action plan 2021-2022; and (4) the Third Ministerial Conference on AMR in Muscat, Oman, 24-25 November 2022 and discussion of forthcoming meetings of the GLG. Background papers with suggested actions for each agenda item were provided in advance of the meeting.

¹ Provided written intervention to Secretariat on the agenda items.

² Provided recorded video intervention which was played during the meeting.

The following issues were discussed during the meeting:

1. **Secretariat report on progress since last meeting:** Haileyesus Getahun, Director of the Quadripartite Joint Secretariat (QJS) on AMR, presented highlights from the Secretariat report on GLG progress since the last GLG meeting on 10 November 2021; the report was based on the six priority areas of the GLG rolling action plan. He noted that on 16 March 2022 the Foreign Policy and Global Health Initiative of the UN General Assembly had negotiated on a resolution to be introduced at the UN General Assembly in 2022 that the UNGA will hold a High-Level Meeting on AMR in 2024. This reflects achievement of this key performance indicator under GLG action plan. The resolution notes the supporting role to be played by the GLG in the High-Level Meeting. Dr Getahun also noted that the process of GLG engagement with forthcoming meetings of the G7 and G20 is ongoing, requested GLG input on the economic and investment case study planned by the Quadripartite, and sought GLG guidance on suggested approaches to strengthen GLG engagement and impact. The GLG took note with appreciation of work accomplished by the Secretariat. GLG members noted the need to ensure collaboration with other international organizations with expertise and existing workstreams in economic studies on AMR. The GLG supported the proposed actions to step up the GLG's impact including high-level GLG missions and directed the Secretariat to finalize the plans and support their implementation.
2. **Progress on integrating AMR into a pandemic instrument and the way forward for development of international governance on AMR:** On behalf of the GLG task force on this issue, Dame Sally Davies presented the draft position statement on AMR in the context of the pandemic instrument being discussed by WHO Member States. The task force has met three times since January 2022. The Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) for the pandemic instrument last met on 15 March 2022 and called for submission of initial substantive elements for the instrument by late April. The draft position statement notes that there is significant synergy between the actions needed to address AMR as a silent pandemic and other pandemics, and that guiding principles and several substantive areas likely to be included in the instrument, such as surveillance, need to adopt a One Health approach and benefit both AMR and pandemic prevention, preparedness and response. Dame Sally emphasized the need to advocate to the Member States to include these elements. Directors-General of WHO and FAO made statements noting the importance of the pandemic instrument and commending GLG advocacy to consider AMR within any new pandemic instrument. GLG members also commended the work of the task force and broadly supported the draft position statement while proposing several edits or amendments. The GLG requested that the Secretariat and task force continue advocacy efforts to include AMR as a substantive element of the instrument considering the INB process and timeline. Along with these efforts, the GLG also noted the importance of considering long-term options for an international instrument on AMR in its deliberations.
3. **Feedback and direction on 2022 action plan deliverables:** Facilitators of technical discussions on the deliverables proposed for 2022 under the six priorities of the GLG rolling action plan (Dame Sally Davies, Ms Sunita Narain and Dr Scott Weese) presented the background paper on this issue. The GLG expressed its appreciation for the work of the technical working groups, broadly endorsed the proposed deliverables and requested that the Secretariat consider their suggestions when finalizing the deliverables document.
4. **Update on Independent Panel for Evidence and Action on AMR:** Together with the GLG and a partnership platform, the Independent Panel was one of the three governance structures for AMR

recommended by the Interagency Coordination Group (IACG) on AMR to the UN Secretary-General in 2019. The IACG recommended that the Panel be established by the UN Secretary-General. After extensive consultation the Tripartite Organizations' principals submitted TOR and a concept note after to the Secretary-General for his consideration. The GLG received an update on the progress of the Panel and emphasized its critical role and global impact. The Secretariat noted that the Panel is likely to be resource-intensive, with costs estimated at between US \$10 million to US \$50 million over five years. In January 2022, the Secretary-General's Office responded to the Tripartite Principals that the feasibility of the Panel will be considered under the framework of the Secretary-General's Our Common Agenda priorities and that further consultations will be undertaken.³ The GLG emphasized the importance of comprehensive evidence for action in the response to AMR and requested that the Secretariat work with the Co-Chairs and Vice Chair to follow up on this issue.

5. **Third Ministerial Conference on AMR, Muscat, Oman, November 24-25, 2022:** H.E. Dr Ahmed Bin Mohammed Bin Obaid Al Saidi, Minister of Health, Sultanate of Oman, presented plans for the conference, noting that the two previous conferences hosted by the government of the Netherlands in 2014 and 2019 had been catalysts for the 2016 High-Level Meeting on AMR and the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) respectively. He asked GLG members to encourage participation in the conference by ministers from their countries across sectors and requested GLG input into the format and outcomes of the conference in 2022. The GLG suggested a range of potential content areas and outcomes for the conference including launch of the GLG pocket guide for ministers; replenishment of the MPTF; planning for the 2024 High-Level Meeting on AMR; engagement with the G20 Working Group on Sustainable Financing for Health; and discussions on pull incentives for research and development, environmental standards and AMR governance. The GLG requested that the Secretariat follow up with the conference organizers.
6. **Forthcoming GLG meetings:** If circumstances permit, GLG members expressed strong interest in holding its next meeting in person. H.E. Prime Minister Mottley repeated her previous invitation to GLG members to meet in Barbados. At this meeting, H.E. Dr Al Saidi of Oman also invited GLG members to meet in Oman on the sidelines of the Third Ministerial Conference on AMR. The GLG delegated the Secretariat to follow up with the Co-Chairs and Vice Chair on this issue.

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³ On 17 March 2022 (after the GLG meeting) the UN Secretary-General informed the Tripartite Principals that he only supports the establishment of the Independent Panel if requested by Member States through an intergovernmental agreement such as the General Assembly Resolution. He encouraged the Tripartite Organisations to further work through their own respective governing mechanisms to explore the feasibility of establishing such a Panel and the associated funding commitments.