

# Global Leaders Group on AMR: Information session on the 5<sup>th</sup> High Level Ministerial meeting on AMR and the establishment of the Independent Panel on Evidence for Action (IPEA) Against AMR

## Summary Note

March 18, 2026, 12:00 -13:30 CET

### 1. Background

The Global Leaders Group (GLG) Information Session was convened to support timely political engagement by GLG members ahead of major AMR milestones in 2026, including the 5<sup>th</sup> High-Level Ministerial Meeting on AMR in Abuja and the continuing establishment process for the Independent Panel on Evidence for Action against AMR (IPEA).

The session was chaired by Swedish Ambassador Global Health, Karin Tegmark Wisell on behalf of the Interim Chair, Honourable Minister Jakob Forssmed, who conveyed his regrets for being unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances and emphasized the importance of sustaining GLG engagement as priority actions continue to be implemented. Former GLG members were invited at the Interim Chair's request, reflecting the continued value placed on their continued engagement in Global AMR advocacy efforts.

### 2. Update on the 5<sup>th</sup> High-Level Ministerial Meeting on AMR (Abuja, Nigeria)

Speaker: Dr Ayoade Alakija, Ministerial Global Envoy on AMR, Government of Nigeria

Dr Alakija provided an update on preparations for the Ministerial Meeting (28–30 June 2026), noting that invitations (including Note Verbales) had been issued widely and that registrations were ongoing via the conference website. She indicated that over 500 invitations had been sent.

She emphasized that Nigeria is positioning the meeting as a global, action-oriented Ministerial Conference, hosted in Africa for the first time, and deliberately designed as a One Health conference with stronger participation from ministers beyond health, including agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and environment.

She noted that the programme for the Ministerial Conference is already in an advanced stage of development, while the outcome document (Abuja Accord) remains in a zero-draft phase and is undergoing internal consultation with Nigerian ministers, then Troika would have the first review of the draft programme and the zero-draft outcome document, before sharing with other stakeholders.

On logistics, she described the conference website as a “one-stop shop” supporting travel/visa facilitation, encouraged early engagement due to limited accommodation availability, and referenced a delegation limit of five per country.

Dr Alakija further underscored that Nigeria does not intend to host a pledging conference, framing the meeting as action-oriented and focused on implementation, partnership, access, stewardship, and prevention, in light of the evolving global health financing landscape.

In response to questions on GLG engagement, she welcomed continued dialogue with GLG. She highlighted opportunities for GLG-led contributions, including side events or roundtables. She also encouraged GLG members to advocate within their governments, particularly with ministers beyond health to help secure high-level and cross-sectoral participation. Nigeria remains open to continued discussion on how best to reflect GLG priorities within the Ministerial process and related convenings.

### **GLG Discussion- positioning, participation and outcomes**

GLG members and other participants:

- Welcomed Nigeria's leadership and reinforced the importance of high-level, cross-sectoral participation and action-oriented outcomes.
- Supported Nigeria's emphasis on bringing ministers of agriculture, animal sector and environment alongside health, to strengthen a whole-of-government One Health response to AMR.
- Nigeria confirmed that visa support would be provided via the conference website and through direct issuance of invitations where embassies are not present.
- Recommended encouraging national One Health mechanisms and regional economic blocs to convene pre-Abuja consultations to align priorities and strengthen collective positioning. Nigeria welcomed this approach and referenced related opportunities across other international and regional fora.
- Noted the GLG's interest in maintaining an active and visible role in Abuja, including through potential GLG-supported agenda items in Ministerial sessions or roundtables,
- Requested to table the draft outcome document during their upcoming GLG meeting scheduled for 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026,
- Were requested to advocate to their national and regional stakeholders to prioritize attendance at this meeting.

## **2. Update on the establishment of the Independent Panel on Evidence for Action against AMR (IPEA)**

Speaker: Jacqueline Alvarez, Chief, Chemicals and Health Branch (UNEP)

Ms Alvarez presented an update on IPEA establishment, recalling the UNGA 2024 mandate for the Quadripartite to establish an independent panel to support UN Member States through the generation and use of multisectoral scientific evidence. She reported that the UN Member State written consultation conducted between November and December 2025 received 139 submissions from 72 UN Member States, with feedback highlighting important views regarding the participation of UN Member States in the governance and operational processes of the panel. She outlined a model which foresees an expert committee supported by ad hoc working groups, with a secretariat hosted at the UNEP for administration arrangements while jointly coordinated by the Quadripartite organizations. Ms Alvarez noted that revisions have been incorporated following UN Member State feedback, including that experts would serve in an individual capacity, selection would be conducted through transparent processes, applicants would be encouraged to include UN Member State endorsement letters, and the Quadripartite organizations would not serve as members of the expert committee, in order to safeguard the panel's independence.

She indicated that the Quadripartite aims to finalize revisions to the foundational and operational documents and proceed towards a launch in Q2 of 2026, with an evaluation planned after three years to assess effectiveness and inform potential evolution of the panel.

## **GLG Discussion - UN Member State role, independence, and stakeholder participation**

Discussion focused on ensuring the panel's scientific independence while maintaining UN Member State ownership and clarifying the nature of stakeholder engagement.

GLG members and other participants:

- Emphasized the need for a clear and visible role for UN Member States in shaping priorities and ensuring outputs are actionable and aligned with policy cycles, including concerns regarding nomination versus endorsement of experts and the need for continued UN Member State consultation.
- Welcomed the direction to avoid Quadripartite dual roles within the scientific body and stressed the importance of careful framing and communication to safeguard independence and avoid misinterpretation. Suggestions were made regarding terminology (e.g. referring to a "scientific committee") to enhance clarity.
- Underscored that partnership and stakeholder engagement, including with the private sector, can support effective AMR action, and recommended risk-based conflict-of-interest management rather than categorical exclusion.
- Requested clarification regarding the nature of a Q2 2026 launch, with participants emphasizing the importance of clear communication that the launch would initiate the process rather than imply full operationalization.

In response, the Quadripartite noted the comments and suggestions raised by GLG members and confirmed that these would be taken into account as the foundational and operational documents for the IPEA continue to be updated and refined.

### **3. Conclusion and follow-up**

The Chair thanked speakers and participants for an active discussion and emphasized the value of GLG insights in guiding advocacy and engagement in the months ahead. The Secretariat confirmed that meeting materials, including the summary note, would be circulated through regular updates and reminded members of the upcoming GLG meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> April for continued discussion.