

Global Leaders Group on AMR: Information session on establishment of the Independent Panel on Evidence for Action (IPEA) Against AMR

Summary Note

January 30, 2025, 11:30 -13:00 CEST

Following a presentation from the Quadripartite organizations (FAO, UNEP, WOA and WHO) on a roadmap for the establishment of the IPEA in 2025, the GLG provided views and guidance on key issues, including how it will support the Quadripartite organizations in establishing the IPEA, as well as its governance and functions.

1. Background

At the 79th Session of the UN General Assembly in September 2024, countries adopted the [Political Declaration](#) of the High-level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance. The Declaration invited the Quadripartite organizations to establish an independent panel on evidence for action (IPEA) against AMR in 2025 to facilitate the generation and use of multisectoral, scientific evidence to support Member States in their efforts to tackle AMR. The Political Declaration notes the need for an open and transparent consultation with all Member States and other relevant stakeholders on the Panel's composition, mandate, scope, and deliverables, and emphasizes the need to make use of existing resources and avoid duplication of on-going efforts.

The Quadripartite Joint Secretariat (QJS) on AMR has developed a preliminary roadmap setting out steps and timelines for establishing the IPEA. This GLG information session aimed to elicit feedback and guidance from GLG members on this roadmap. In the absence of GLG co-facilitators Hon. Minister Beatrice Anywar and Dame Sally Davies, the session was co-facilitated by Dr Jean-Pierre Nyemazi, Director a.i. of the QJS, and Mr Tom Pilcher, Head of the Office of the UK Special Envoy on AMR. Around 35 GLG members and/or their technical staff and Quadripartite representatives participated in the session.

2. Presentation by the Quadripartite organizations

Ms Jacqueline Alvarez of UNEP presented an overview of the Quadripartite draft roadmap for establishing the IPEA, emphasizing the importance of transparency and inclusiveness at all stages. The roadmap consists of six building blocks:

1. Landscape analysis (January to April 2025)
2. Stakeholder engagement and consultation (January to April 2025)
3. Soliciting written inputs and development of key documents (February to August 2025)
4. Development of guidance and operational documents (May to August 2025)
5. Formal adoption of panel and consultation process (May to August 2025)
6. Resource mobilization (July to December 2025)

A communication and launch plan will also be needed. Ms Alvarez noted that materials for four operational areas will need to be defined and developed:

1. **Scope, objectives, and functions:** This could include scientific assessments; analysis of current and emerging risks and impacts across sectors; knowledge management, information exchange, and communications; production of reports and recommendations; and support for capacity building.
2. **Institutional arrangements:** This would include a governing body (e.g. intergovernmental or other); modalities and membership (e.g. universal or specific); a Secretariat; and how various stakeholders interact with the Panel.

3. **Financial arrangements:** Financing needs to be sustainable and predictable, and based on a modality (e.g. voluntary or assessed contributions). Processes must be in place to manage issues such as earmarking.
4. **Rules, policies, and procedures:** These will need to be developed to address the Panel's financial, governance and operational processes, including conduct of meetings, work plan development, managing conflicts of interest, and production and dissemination of deliverables.

Mr Thanawat Tiensin of FAO noted that better knowledge and data are critical for the agri-food sector, and that the IPEA will provide an important mechanism to guide policy- and decision-makers. He hopes for strong linkages with existing multi-sectoral and sector-specific platforms and data systems, including the MSPP, which is well-placed to support stakeholder mapping and the consultation process for the IPEA. Dr Yukiko Nakatani of WHO emphasized that the IPEA should be independent and purely scientific. Ms Ana Mateus of WOAHA noted that WOAHA is committed to ensuring that the IPEA complements its own work and helps to fill evidence and knowledge gaps.

3. GLG discussion

GLG members provided their views on their role in establishing the IPEA and key issues such as the Panel's governance and the consultation process.

- 3.1. *In support of the Quadripartite organizations, the GLG will continue to advocate for the IPEA, facilitate consultations with political stakeholders and help to ensure transparency and inclusivity.* The GLG has gained significant trust and legitimacy as an advisory body through its constructive and transparent contributions to global advocacy and policy. It can play an important role in relationship building, for example, through outreach and fostering links between the IPEA and groups engaged in research, analysis, and knowledge generation, including academia, NGOs, government, and the private sector. The GLG also has a role to play in ensuring that IPEA findings reach decision-makers in countries and could play a role in supporting resource mobilization for the Panel.
- 3.2. *The GLG emphasized several key principles for consideration regarding the governance of the IPEA.* Members called for the IPEA to have legitimacy, noting that it must be owned by all Member States, including low- and middle-income countries. To have credibility, IPEA structures must have equitable representation. The GLG can help to ensure that voices across sectors, including from civil society and the private sector, are reflected in the work of the IPEA. The biennial Ministerial Conferences could provide an opportunity to discuss the IPEA's work. While it is not yet clear whether the IPEA will be solely intergovernmental, it is important that there are clear communication channels and defined methods of interaction with all stakeholders, including industry, civil society, and academia. The GLG agreed to continue discussing the establishment of the IPEA at upcoming meetings and to provide additional strategic inputs.
- 3.3. *The GLG provided preliminary inputs regarding the scope and functions of IPEA.* The IPEA can play a role in fostering research and development in low- and middle-income countries. The outputs of the IPEA should be based purely on science and its products should be practical and simple to use for governments and the private sector. Issues relating to access in the global south should be part of the IPEA's focus.

Concluding the session, the Secretariat noted that it will work with GLG members Minister Beatrice Atim Anywar and Dame Sally Davies to develop a plan for further GLG engagement in this work, including in the consultation process, and ensure that the IPEA is on the agenda of the next GLG meeting. It was suggested that the GLG may also wish to consider developing a more formal communication or statement on specific issues related to the IPEA, including how best to ensure global ownership.