

Global Leaders Group on AMR: Virtual Technical Session on the Establishment of the Independent Panel for Evidence on AMR (IPEA)

Summary Note

7 July 2025 | 11:30–13:30 CEST | Virtual (Zoom)

1. Background

The 2024 United Nations General Assembly Political Declaration on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) invited the Quadripartite organizations (FAO, UNEP, WHO, WOA) to establish an independent panel on evidence for action against AMR (IPEA) to facilitate the generation and use of multisectoral, scientific evidence to support Member States in their efforts to tackle antimicrobial resistance. This GLG technical session sought feedback and strategic insights from GLG members as part of the consultation process for establishing the IPEA. GLG members and/or their technical staff and Quadripartite representatives participated in the session.

2. Opening of the session

Dr. Jean-Pierre Nyemazi (Quadripartite Joint Secretariat on AMR) opened the session, welcoming new GLG members and technical advisors. He highlighted the progress made by the Quadripartite organizations, including the completion of landscape analysis and the launch of stakeholder consultations through an online survey. He then conveyed the apologies of Hon. Min. Anywar for not being able to co-facilitate the technical session and welcomed her co-facilitator, Dame Sally Davies, to lead the discussion.

Dame Sally thanked the QJS for the [background materials](#) shared with GLG members in advance of this session. She expressed the GLG's support for the Quadripartite organizations to expedite the process to ensure that the timelines set by the Member States to establish the panel by December 2025 are met. She noted that the aim of the session was to review and provide feedback to inform the development of the founding documents that will shape the panel's design and operations, building upon expert advice from the Quadripartite.

3. Presentation by the Quadripartite organizations

Based on the landscape analysis, Ms. Sheila Aggarwal-Khan (UNEP) [outlined](#) major design considerations for the IPEA including its objective, functions, governance modality, institutional structure, and approaches to financial arrangements, stakeholder engagement and effectiveness evaluation, which will be formalized in a draft founding document to be circulated by August 2025. That document will be supported by other key documents necessary for the initial operation of IPEA, such as the rules of procedure, a conflict-of-interest policy, and financial procedures. These will be developed in parallel and submitted for consideration and adoption at the first IPEA plenary session in 2026.

Drawing on two analyses of examples of existing science-policy panels and networks undertaken by the Quadripartite organizations in 2020 and 2025, Ms. Aggarwal-Khan emphasized the value of phased development, lean governance, and inclusive, accountable processes. She underscored the need to avoid duplication, align with existing mechanisms, and ensure meaningful Member State and other stakeholder engagement and participation. The Quadripartite organizations intend to launch the IPEA on the sidelines of the UNEA-7 in December 2025.

4. GLG discussions on key foundational elements for the IPEA

GLG members provided the following insights on key aspects of the panel's design:

- **Objective & scope:** In principle, the panel should not commission primary research. Its mandate should primarily focus on analyzing and synthesizing existing scientific evidence to inform Member States and strengthen the science–policy interface. However, the scope and objective should remain broad, agile and flexible, allowing the IPEA to adapt rapidly to emerging challenges and evolving knowledge. A One Health lens should be consistently applied to ensure that policy is relevant, and outputs are actionable. There was general support for the suggestion outlined in the summary of the landscape analysis prepared ahead of the GLG technical session that “the objective of IPEA is to facilitate the generation, synthesis and use of multisectoral, scientific evidence to support Member States in their efforts to tackle antimicrobial resistance, making use of existing resources and avoiding duplication of ongoing efforts.” The GLG advised on the need to learn from other panels to refine the language, including the IPCC.
- **Functions:** There was general support for the five suggested functions and their associated descriptions outlined in the summary of the landscape analysis, recognizing that they offer a flexible framework that may be adapted and refined over time. The GLG highlighted that the panel's key deliverables should be reports produced through the assessment and horizon scanning functions. The group also agreed that the capacity-building function should focus on enhancing the ability of experts around the world to effectively participate in the panel's work. It was further clarified that the policy support function can assist in translating the panel's scientific outputs into policy-relevant information to support decision-making at all levels.
- **Governance and institutional design:** The panel should be representative and diverse, and as cost-effective and simple as possible. Based on this consideration and the objective and functions, the GLG considered that an intergovernmental panel would be most suitable. This means that the panel's membership should comprise all Member States on an opt-out basis, with broad and inclusive participation of stakeholder groups, for example, through observer status with the right to speak but not to vote. The efficiency of the governing body may be achieved through equitable regional representation. Additionally, a manageable number of members should constitute subsidiary oversight bod(ies) such as a Bureau to oversee, steer, and ensure the delivery of work between sessions of the governing body, supported by a lean Secretariat and a limited number of parallel, task-specific, time-bound expert groups. The Secretariat may be delegated by the governing body to provide technical support to the Bureau and the expert *ad hoc* groups.
- **Stakeholder engagement:** Meaningful engagement and participation of non-voting stakeholders from civil society, academia, the private sector and affected communities should be enabled through an open, transparent process. However, they should not have decision-making or voting rights. All stakeholders should have the opportunity to nominate candidates for consideration to join *ad hoc* expert groups for delivering the panel's work; these members would serve in their individual capacity. There should be further consideration of the linkage between the panel and existing structures for AMR, namely the Global Leaders Group on AMR, the AMR Multistakeholder Partnership Platform and the High Level Inter-Ministerial Conference on AMR.
- **Financing:** The GLG discussed various financing options, including the possibility of voluntary contributions through an independent trust fund. A diversified resource base—including voluntary contributions from Member States as well as innovative arrangements through engagement with multilateral development banks, philanthropic donors, and the private sector—will need to be pursued, while safeguarding the panel's independence. It was suggested that research funders could also provide support by aiding the participation of experts, especially from LMICs. The GLG emphasized the need for alignment with existing initiatives to avoid duplication, enhance impact and support resource mobilization.
- **Early deliverables:** To build on current political momentum, demonstrate the panel's added value and catalyze support for the panel, the panel should agree the initial work programme as soon as possible after its establishment in December 2025, in parallel with the development and adoption of key documents on rules and procedures. It was noted that it would be advantageous for the panel to report on its preliminary

analytical work during the 5th Global High-Level Ministerial Conference on AMR that will take place in June 2026 in Abuja, Nigeria. It was suggested that a question from each of the environment, agrifood, and human health sectors in the first instance would be a good starting point to reflect the One Health priorities of the panel.

5. Closing and next steps

Concluding the session, the GLG welcomed the constructive discussion and emphasized the importance of transparency, inclusivity and scientific credibility. The QJS committed to release the draft founding document in August 2025, followed by the stakeholder consultations, including a further GLG technical discussion. Content from the consultations, including written submissions and meeting outputs, will be made publicly available. GLG members were encouraged to continue their advocacy to ensure that Member States and other stakeholders actively engage in both the ongoing and upcoming consultations.