

# PRIORITIES OF THE GLOBAL LEADERS GROUP ON AMR

(Rolling action plan)

March 2023 version

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The Global Leaders Group (GLG) on Antimicrobial Resistance will collaborate globally with governments, agencies, civil society and the private sector through a One Health approach to advise on and advocate for political action for the mitigation of drug resistant infections through responsible and sustainable access to and use of antimicrobials.

## PRIORITY 1

### OUTCOME:

**Advocate for sustained political action on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) by seizing critical opportunities including the COVID-19 pandemic response and recovery, embedding it in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and promoting a One Health approach.<sup>1</sup>**

AMR is widely recognized and acted upon as a major threat to health and development in existing and future national and global frameworks and targets and mitigation of its impact through a One Health approach.

### KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:

#### LONG TERM:

- Development of an international instrument that positions AMR as a major global challenge and monitors its impacts.

#### SHORT TO MEDIUM TERM:

- Number of GLG outputs advocating for inclusion of AMR in a pandemic instrument; and
- Number of GLG outputs, activities and events with key stakeholders including member states promoting specific and bold commitments at the UNGA High-level meeting on AMR in 2024.

### KEY ACTIVITIES:

- GLG-commissioned reports and advocacy statements with tailored and targeted asks related to identified critical opportunities and gaps in the global response;
- Continue to advocate for inclusion of a One Health response to AMR in global health security plans and any global pandemic instrument;
- Support for organization of the High-level Meeting on AMR at UNGA in 2024 as requested by UNGA resolution A/RES/76/257, including collaboration with President of the General Assembly, Quadripartite organizations, key diplomatic missions and other stakeholders;
- GLG members promote key asks and messages in national, regional and global fora including in their respective sectors individually and collectively;
- Engage in key global and regional fora such as the G7, G20, regional, political, and economic blocs and relevant high-level meetings on health and development;
- Report periodically on global progress and gaps including on the outputs of the Independent Panel on Evidence for Action against AMR to the governing bodies of the Quadripartite, the UN Secretary General, and global and national stakeholders and make recommendations for action;

<sup>1</sup> One Health is an integrated, unifying approach that aims to achieve optimal and sustainable health outcomes for people, animals, and ecosystems. It recognizes that the health of humans, domestic and wild animals, plants, and the wider environment (our ecosystems) are closely linked and inter-dependent. (One Health High Level Expert Panel, 2021)



- Recognizing the strong collaboration and current cohesion of guidance among the Quadripartite and other international organizations, advocate for efforts to identify and address remaining needs for increased coherence and consistency; and
- Advocate for and promote whole-of-government dialogue and action on AMR including between ministries of health, finance, agriculture, the environment, education and development.

## PRIORITY 2

### OUTCOMES:

### Advocate for transforming the human health, animal health, food, plant and environmental eco-systems focusing on infection prevention and control and the responsible and sustainable use of antimicrobials.

- (1) Infection prevention and control including water, sanitation and hygiene, biosecurity and vaccination programmes and waste management tools are prioritized as interventions to mitigate AMR across the human health, animal health, food, plant and environmental eco-systems; and  
(2) Responsible and sustainable use of antimicrobials across human, animal and plant health.

### KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:

#### LONG TERM:

- Number of countries in which the use of medically important antimicrobials for growth promotion is eliminated;<sup>2</sup>
- Number of GLG outputs promoting concrete commitments to halting non-veterinary medical use of antimicrobial agents.<sup>3</sup>

#### SHORT TO MEDIUM TERM:

- Number of GLG outputs related to implementation of Codex Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Foodborne AMR ("Codex Code of Practice") and Guidelines for the Integrated Monitoring and Surveillance of Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance ("Codex Guidelines");
- Number of GLG outputs that identify best practices for setting and monitoring of national targets for responsible and sustainable use in food systems; and
- Number of GLG outputs linking AMR to WASH, biosecurity and vaccination for human and animal health in alignment with WHO and WOAHA standards and recommendations.<sup>4</sup>

### KEY ACTIVITIES:

- Advocate for all countries to prioritize implementation of infection prevention and control, including WASH, biosecurity and vaccination programmes as key interventions to prevent and mitigate infectious disease risk and AMR across all sectors;
- Advocate for mechanisms to improve and broaden appropriate access to quality antimicrobials worldwide in all sectors;
- Advocate for access to and use of existing and new affordable diagnostic testing, disease prediction tools, vaccines, safe and efficacious non-antimicrobial alternatives and appropriate nutrition for humans and terrestrial and aquatic animals, and where applicable for plants;
- Advocate for national governance, regulation and increased professional oversight of sales and the appropriate use of antimicrobials in all sectors, including the development and implementation of evidence-based guidelines for treatment, control and prevention in all sectors;
- Advocate to eliminate the use of antimicrobials to compensate for inadequate infection prevention and control, management and other modifiable deficiencies in humans, animals and plants;
- Advocate for limiting antimicrobial prophylaxis and metaphylaxis in animals and plants, ensuring use is performed with regulatory oversight and under the direction of authorized prescribers;
- Advocate to end the use of medically important antimicrobials for growth promotion, starting immediately with ending the use of the Highest Priority Critically Important Antimicrobials, then continuing to other categories;

<sup>2</sup> Principle 12 in the Codex Code of Practice adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission in November 2021.

<sup>3</sup> Terrestrial Code Online Access - WOAHA - World Organisation for Animal Health

<sup>4</sup> List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance and Responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine



- Advocate for implementation of the revised Codex Code of Practice and Codex Guidelines and WOA standards for animal health and welfare; and
- Advocate for the implementation of the Muscat Ministerial Manifesto targets and evidence- and outcome-oriented actions to transform systems.<sup>5</sup>

## PRIORITY 3

### OUTCOME:

**Advocate for improved surveillance and monitoring of antimicrobial use and resistance across all sectors to inform ambitious, science- and risk-based, global and national targets and interventions to address gaps in the response to AMR.**

**Global and national actions on AMR are guided by science- and risk-based data on surveillance and monitoring of antimicrobial use and resistance across all sectors.**

### KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:

#### LONG TERM:

- Number of countries with integrated surveillance platforms<sup>6</sup> to measure patterns of antimicrobial resistance in human and animal health systems and/or food systems;
- Number of countries with integrated surveillance platforms<sup>6</sup> to measure patterns of antimicrobial use in human and animal health systems, food systems and/or the environment; and
- Number of countries with national targets for responsible and sustainable antimicrobial use in food systems.

#### SHORT TO MEDIUM TERM:

- Number of GLG outputs that identify gaps and best practices for introduction of integrated surveillance platforms to measure the pattern of antimicrobial use and resistance in human and animal health systems, food systems and/or the environment.

### KEY ACTIVITIES:

- Promote coherence, best practices and cost-effectiveness in surveillance of antimicrobial use and resistance across relevant sectors;
- GLG-commissioned reports and advocacy statements on the development of global, regional and national targets for responsible and sustainable antimicrobial access and use across the human health, animal health, food, plant and environmental eco-systems;
- Support the development and advocate for the implementation of Codex Guidelines and other internationally agreed Quadripartite guidance and policies;
- Promote global genomic surveillance of AMR with integration of priority pathogens to create a global network;
- Liaise and work with the Quadripartite Technical Group on Antimicrobial Resistance and Use Surveillance and other relevant organizations through the GLG Task Force on Integrated Surveillance;
- Liaise and work with the Independent Panel on Evidence for Action against AMR to use its reports and options provided for advocacy and action;
- Encourage the development and improvement of surveillance and monitoring of antimicrobial resistance and use across relevant sectors to inform ambitious, science- and risk-based, global and national targets and interventions to address gaps in the response to AMR; and
- Promote laboratory strengthening initiatives including microbiological, diagnostic and technical capacity and infrastructure to foster the generation and use of quality AMR data in and across sectors; and
- Advocate for integrated surveillance of antimicrobial discharge and determinants of AMR across all sectors.

<sup>5</sup> The Muscat Ministerial Manifesto on AMR, November 2022. <https://bit.ly/3FwoaMv>

<sup>6</sup> An integrated surveillance platform is defined for the purpose of this action plan as a programme that consists of coordinated sampling and testing of antimicrobial susceptibility and/or resistance determinants across **at least two relevant sectors**, using epidemiological and microbiological methods that enable comparison of results.



## PRIORITY 4

### OUTCOMES:

**Advocate for increased mobilization of internal and external financial resources, with a focus on LMICs, to support the development and implementation of ambitious, multisectoral national action plans in all countries.**

(1) Increased dedicated and sustainable public and private sector investment to combat AMR across all One Health sectors; (2) Each country has a funded, implemented and sustainable national action plan on AMR; and (3) Increased support for new and existing funding mechanisms to provide external financial support for implementation of national action plans on AMR in LMICs; and (4) Fostering diagnostic and treatment actions through low-cost and easily accessible tools for communicable diseases in both animals and humans.

### KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:

#### LONG TERM:

- At least 50% of all countries have funded and implemented national action plans on AMR (Baseline: 14% of all countries based on TrACCS 2019-20 data);
- Number of existing or new financing instruments or funding commitments that are dedicated to the AMR response.

#### SHORT TO MEDIUM TERM:

- Number of GLG outputs that identify barriers and solutions to enhanced financing of AMR activities in LMICs;
- Increased and predictable funding on AMR for the Quadripartite organizations and the Quadripartite Joint Secretariat.

### KEY ACTIVITIES:

- Advocate for increased dedicated and sustainable public and private sector investment to combat AMR across all sectors in all countries through implementation of funded and sustainable national action plans on AMR;
- Advocate for new and existing funding mechanisms including the AMR Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) and innovative approaches to fund implementation of national action plans on AMR in LMICs;
- Explore how existing and future mechanisms can better motivate and incentivize countries to take action on AMR;
- Advocate for use of a One Health AMR “lens” financing approach in investments by multilateral, global and regional banks to foster action on AMR;
- Support development of AMR investment case to strengthen advocacy and action in all sectors;
- Promote business environment that promotes healthy and sustainable production choices;
- Promote the Investor Action on AMR<sup>7</sup> initiative for greater private sector engagement and enhance strong public private partnerships; and
- Liaise and work with the Partnership Platform for Action on AMR.

## PRIORITY 5

### OUTCOME:

**Advocate for increased, effective and affordable innovations across all sectors and stakeholders to secure a sustainable pipeline for new antimicrobials (particularly antibiotics), vaccines, diagnostics, waste management tools, and safe and effective alternatives to antimicrobials, and to ensure equitable access to them.**

Specific commitments by governments and the private sector to advance policies that attract sustainable, long-term research and development investments in new antimicrobials (particularly antibiotics), vaccines, diagnostics, waste management tools and safe and effective alternatives to antimicrobials including mechanisms that recognize the value of novel antimicrobials and systems that enable appropriate patient access.

<sup>7</sup> A coalition between the Access to Medicine Foundation, the FAIRR Initiative, the Principles for Responsible Investment and the UK Government Department of Health and Social Care to galvanize investor efforts to address global antimicrobial resistance. ([amrinvestoraction.org](http://amrinvestoraction.org))



## KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:

### LONG TERM:

- Number of countries with government commitment to specific push and/or pull incentives for development of new antimicrobials, vaccines, diagnostics, waste management tools, and/or safe and effective alternatives to antimicrobials and ensuring their equitable access.

### SHORT TO MEDIUM TERM:

- Number of GLG outputs that advocate for public and private investment in and innovation on AMR; and
- Number of GLG outputs promoting access to antimicrobials as global public goods.

## KEY ACTIVITIES:

- Advocate for smart and effective public private partnerships for specific investment commitments by governments and the private sector to the research and development of new antimicrobials (particularly antibiotics), vaccines, diagnostics, waste management tools and safe effective alternatives to antimicrobials;
- Promote mechanisms that recognize the value of novel antimicrobials to society and systems that enable appropriate patient access;
- Advocate for responsible and sustainable access to new antimicrobials, vaccines, diagnostics, waste management tools, and safe and effective alternatives to antimicrobials especially in LMICs;
- Support analysis of and advocate for measures to remove financial and regulatory barriers for increased, effective and affordable innovations across all sectors.

## PRIORITY 6

### OUTCOME:

### Advocate for evidence-based action to address environmental aspects of AMR

**Stronger engagement of environmental stakeholders in the AMR response and better evidence on AMR in the environmental eco-system that can be used to understand risks and in turn mitigate the development and transmission of AMR.**

## KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:

### LONG TERM:

- Environmental AMR containment efforts are included in national action plans on AMR in all countries.

### SHORT TO MEDIUM TERM:

- Number of GLG outputs addressing environmental aspects of AMR.

## KEY ACTIVITIES:

- Promote the findings of and support action based on the UNEP report on environmental dimensions of AMR;
- Use opportunities to raise issues related to AMR and the environment in key environmental fora and advocate for prevention of AMR in the context of multilateral environment conferences such as Conferences of the Parties (COP) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and Conferences of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Biodiversity, G7 and G20;
- Promote follow up on the GLG call to action on environmental discharges;
- Prioritize advocacy around G7 and G20, with emphasis on reducing antibiotic load and focus on prevention and SDG6;
- Advocate for actions outlined in existing guidance for WASH and wastewater management in agriculture and community settings and healthcare facilities;
- Encourage private sector engagement including the sharing and use of data to better understand environmental pathways to the development and transmission of AMR and to support the development of evidence-based policies and actions.