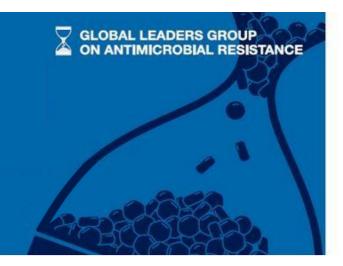
GLG welcomes the adoption of the Pandemic Agreement : A framework to respond to pandemics and AMR

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The Global Leaders Group on Antimicrobial Resistance welcomes the formal adoption of the WHO Pandemic Agreement by Member States at the Seventy-eighth World Health Assembly. We acknowledge the significant efforts and constructive engagements that brought the process to a successful conclusion, and we appreciate the work of the World Health Organization for its facilitation and technical support throughout the negotiations.

The Agreement marks a critical step in strengthening global solidarity and preparedness to prevent and respond to future pandemics. We commend the inclusive and collaborative spirit in which the process was undertaken and reaffirm our commitment to supporting its effective implementation, particularly in advancing action on antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

Because AMR is a growing threat that is undermining the effectiveness of health systems, poses significant risks to lives and livelihoods and is linked to the health of the planet, it is critical that pandemic prevention and preparedness efforts encompass all potential threats, whether from novel, drug-susceptible or drug-resistant pathogens and genes. As global advocates for a multisectoral One Health response to AMR, we welcome the Agreement's recognition of the pandemic potential of AMR, the need for a One Health approach to prevent and respond to pandemics and the Agreement's emphasis on building system-wide resilience. We are encouraged that AMR is explicitly included in Article 4 of the Agreement, which calls for risk assessment and surveillance of antimicrobial resistant pathogens, as well as measures to ensure equitable access and appropriate use of antimicrobials.

It is vital that implementation of the Agreement further contributes to preventing and mitigating the impact of AMR through strengthened surveillance and laboratory capacity across sectors; equitable and affordable access to essential diagnostics, vaccines and treatments; and sustained investment in multisectoral research and innovation. Efforts to ensure responsible manufacturing, waste and wastewater management, expand the health workforce and enable inclusive and coordinated national action across sectors are also critical to safeguard the effectiveness of antimicrobials and to help deliver on the commitments of the 2024 United Nations General Assembly Political Declaration on AMR.

We urge WHO and its partners, particularly the Quadripartite organizations (FAO, UNEP and WOAH) to continue developing and supporting implementation of the technical tools, financing pathways, and accountability mechanisms that will enable countries to embed measures to prevent and contain AMR across pandemic prevention and preparedness efforts, including the necessary measures to prevent and respond to disease in humans and animals and to protect the environment. This includes strategic guidance and policies, data platforms, integrated support packages, and implementation approaches aligned with national contexts.

The Global Leaders Group on AMR is committed to supporting efforts that translate the vision of the Pandemic Agreement into action. We stand ready to work with WHO and Member States and Quadripartite organizations to advance our shared agenda of preventing and responding to pandemic threats, regardless of their origin, while preserving life-saving medicines for generations to come.

The Global Leaders Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (GLG) is chaired by Her Excellency Mia Amor Mottley, Prime Minister of Barbados. The GLG's mission is to collaborate globally with governments, agencies, civil society and the private sector 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. For more information on the Global Leaders Group on Antimicrobial Resistance, please see www.amrleaders.org or contact amr-glg@who.int.