

AD HOC INTERAGENCY COORDINATION GROUP ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (IACG)

Background and request

In UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/71/3, Member States requested “the Secretary-General to establish, in consultation with WHO, FAO and OIE, an ad hoc interagency coordination group, co-chaired by the Executive Office of the Secretary General and WHO, drawing, where necessary, on expertise from relevant stakeholders, to provide practical guidance for approaches needed to ensure sustained effective global action to address AMR”.

Response

In response to this request, the Secretary-General convened a group of experts to carry out this work on his behalf. These experts were drawn from relevant agencies and independent individuals selected for their expertise. This Ad Hoc Interagency Coordination Group on AMR (hereafter, the IACG) is co-chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General and the WHO Director-General.

The IACG will provide regular updates to the Secretary-General, through the co-chairs, on its methods of work, major issues being explored, work commissioned from other experts, planned meetings, open hearings, and publications. The IACG will seek feedback from Member States and other stakeholders about additional questions that need to be explored. The IACG may also establish subgroups on specific issues; these subgroups will report to the co-chairs.

Three co-conveners will guide and facilitate the work of the group.

Objective of the IACG

To provide practical guidance for approaches needed to ensure sustained effective global action to address antimicrobial resistance, including options to improve coordination, taking into account the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance

Terms of Reference

Through global coordination:

- To raise awareness and support implementation of major global priorities, tools and standards for reducing AMR, including the Global Action Plan on AMR and supporting the Sustainable Development Goals.
- To coordinate mapping of actions being taken by UN agencies, other organizations and key stakeholders towards achieving measurable results, and

identify opportunities for collaboration, as well as gaps, redundancies, and duplication.

- To promote, plan and facilitate collaborative action to align activities so gaps are closed and resources are optimally distributed.
- To explore the feasibility of developing global goals and ambitions related to AMR for UN agencies, component members, and, where appropriate, other stakeholders, for priorities set out in the declaration.
- To regularly report on progress and on IACG meetings and to issue a full report to the UN General Assembly at its 73rd session, through the Secretary-General, keeping Member States, stakeholders and the governing bodies of WHO, FAO and OIE fully apprised of progress.

Composition of the IACG

- **Co-Chairs**
 - UN Deputy Secretary-General
 - Director-General of the WHO
- **Membership**
 - Senior representatives of relevant agencies and individual independent experts from 20 - 30 stakeholders
 - Three members of the IACG as co-conveners to guide and facilitate the group's work
- **Secretariat**
 - Staff provided by FAO, OIE and WHO; located in Geneva

Method of Work

- **Meetings**
 - In person at least twice a year, in New York, Geneva and in countries with a special interest in AMR or those who offer to provide support to host meetings
 - Teleconferences and related methods of electronic communication
- **Stakeholders**

The group may invite a wide number of stakeholders, including, but not limited to: academia, civil society organizations, consumer, patient and veterinary groups, faith-based organizations, industry and the private sector, UN Member States, nongovernmental organizations, philanthropic organizations, and professional organizations to interact with and provide input to the IACG through mechanisms to be determined.

Duration

- A final report will be presented to the Secretary-General at the seventy-third session of the UN General Assembly, which runs from September 2018 to September 2019.

NB: This is an updated version of this document, posted on 29 May 2017.