

# PRIORITIES OF THE GLOBAL LEADERS GROUP ON AMR FOR 2021-2022

(Rolling action plan)

July 2021

**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

**Advocate for sustained political action on antimicrobial resistance 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>**

### OUTCOME:

Antimicrobial Resistance (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:

- AMR issues are highly prioritized in all relevant international agendas and frameworks, with new or progressive commitments to action consistent with a One Health approach;
- Number of GLG members attending key events advocating for priorities identified by the GLG;
- Global pandemic treaty includes AMR; and
- Percentage of global COVID-19 response and recovery plans that include AMR.

### KEY ACTIVITIES:

- Mapping and prioritization exercise to review key opportunities, gaps and influential groupings for action;
- GLG-commissioned reports and advocacy statements with tailored and targeted asks related to the identified critical opportunities and gaps in the global response;
- Advocate for inclusion of AMR in global health security plans and any global pandemic treaty developed following the decision of the 74th World Health Assembly to hold a special session on this issue in November 2021, and establish a GLG Task Force to advance AMR within any such treaty;
- Advocate for High Level Meeting on AMR at UNGA in 2024 or 2026;
- GLG members promote key asks and messages in national, regional and global fora including in their respective sectors individually and collectively;
- Advocate around and/or 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 to the governing bodies of the Tripartite, UNEP and the UN Secretary General on global progress and gaps including on the outputs of the Independent Panel on Evidence for Action against AMR; and

<sup>1</sup> A One Health Approach to antimicrobial resistance refers to designing and implementing programmes, policies, legislation and research in a way that enables multiple sectors and stakeholders engaged in human, terrestrial and aquatic animal and plant health, food and feed production and the environment to communicate and work together to achieve better public health outcomes. (Ref: [IACG Report, 2019](#))

**KEY  
DELIVERABLES  
2021:**

- Recognizing the strong collaboration and current cohesion of guidance among Tripartite, UNEP, and international organizations, advocate for efforts to identify and address remaining needs for increased coherence and consistency.
- Internal mapping document prepared by the Secretariat covering all sectors to support with prioritization and identification of key opportunities for collective and individual actions by GLG members; and
- GLG communications and engagement strategy.

**PRIORITY 2**

**OUTCOMES:**

**Advocate for transforming the human health, animal health, food, plant and environment 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 environment eco-systems; and (2) Responsible and sustainable use of antimicrobials across human, animal and plant health.**

**KEY  
PERFORMANCE  
INDICATORS:**

- Increased percentage of Tripartite and UNEP products that include infection prevention and control including water, sanitation and hygiene, biosecurity and vaccination programmes as part of AMR mitigation;
- Increased number of countries prioritizing 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;
- Number of sector-specific pledges made by relevant stakeholders regarding reduced use, discharge, excretion and release of antimicrobials into the environment, and implementation of them;
- Increased number of countries eliminating access to or increasing oversight of over-the-counter and internet sales of antimicrobials (particularly antibiotics);
- Increased number of countries eliminating use of Highest Priority-Critically Important Antimicrobials for growth promotion;
- Number of GLG members playing visible roles in promoting IPC and antimicrobial stewardship to key audiences in their respective sectors during World Antimicrobial Awareness Week; and
- Adoption of the Code of Practice and Surveillance Guidelines of the Codex at the ad hoc Codex Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR8) and Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC44).

**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 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;



**KEY  
DELIVERABLES  
2021:**

- 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; and
  - Advocate for the successful finalization and adoption of the revised Codex Alimentarius Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Foodborne AMR and the draft Guidelines on Integrated Monitoring and Surveillance of Foodborne AMR at TFAMR8 and their adoption at CAC44.
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- Targeted GLG working group discussion on the use of antimicrobials in food systems with a focus on infection prevention and control;
  - Mapping of work of the Tripartite and UNEP (including AMR, IPC and WASH); and
  - GLG statement on the use of antimicrobials in food systems.

**PRIORITY 3**

**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.**

**OUTCOME:**

**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:**

- Number of countries that perform integrated surveillance on antimicrobial use and resistance surveillance across relevant sectors;
- Number of countries with global and national targets for responsible and sustainable antimicrobial access and use across relevant sectors; and
- Number of stakeholders developing voluntary targets on the responsible and sustainable use of antimicrobials across the human health, animal health, food, plant and environment eco-systems that are monitored by relevant bodies, and progress against them.

**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 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 draft Codex Guidelines on Integrated Monitoring and Surveillance of Foodborne AMR and other internationally agreed Tripartite and UNEP guidance and policies;
- Promote global genomic surveillance of AMR with integration of priority pathogens to create a global network;
- Liaise and work with the Tripartite, UNEP and other relevant organizations with global surveillance efforts to promote the further development and implementation of an updated, coherent One Health approach to monitoring and surveillance of antimicrobial use and resistance across relevant sectors;

**KEY  
DELIVERABLES  
2021:**

- 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 within and across sectors.
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- Stock take of One Health antimicrobial use, resistance surveillance and monitoring mechanisms globally and identification of best examples and gaps at regional and national levels to define areas of engagement and action for the GLG; and
  - GLG information note on surveillance of antimicrobial resistance and use.

**PRIORITY 4**

**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.**

**OUTCOMES:**

**(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.**

**KEY  
PERFORMANCE  
INDICATORS:**

- Increased number of countries with funded and implemented national action plans on AMR (Baseline: 14% of all countries based on TrACCS 2019-20 data);
- Increased number of financing mechanisms supporting national action plan implementation, especially in LMICs;
- Number of new global and national funding partnerships and mechanisms;
- Amount of new AMR funding by donors to LMICs;
- Increased members' core funding for AMR to Tripartite and UNEP; and
- Adoption of One Health lens by key investors and banks.

**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 AMR Multi-Partner Trust Fund to provide external financial support for 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 to investments of multilateral, global and regional banks to foster investment on AMR;
- Support development of AMR investment case to strengthen advocacy and action in all sectors;
- Promote business environment that promotes healthy production choices;
- Promote the Investor Action on AMR<sup>2</sup> initiative for greater private sector engagement and enhance strong public private partnerships;

<sup>2</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  
DELIVERABLES  
2021:**

- Liaise and work with the Partnership Platform for Action on AMR; and
- Hold side meetings in global and regional Heads of State and leaders' meetings.

- GLG statement on need for enhanced funding for AMR, particularly in LMICs;
- GLG information note on financing for the response to AMR; and
- Mapping and analysis of funding shortfalls in LMICs and their implications to guide GLG action.

**PRIORITY 5**

**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.**

**OUTCOME:**

**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.**

**KEY  
PERFORMANCE  
INDICATORS:**

- Inclusion of pledges for investment and innovation on AMR in political statements from key multilateral groups (e.g., G7, G20, OECD, regional blocs);
- Number of countries that have implemented new approaches to attract sustainable investment; and
- Number of R&D stakeholders targeting new medicines, rapid diagnostic tools, vaccines and alternatives to antimicrobials.

**KEY ACTIVITIES:**

- Advocate 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 to address financial and regulatory barriers for increased, effective and affordable innovations in all sectors including the food system;
- 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 financial and regulatory barriers for increased, effective and affordable innovations across all sectors to guide GLG actions; and
- Advocate for whole-of-government dialogue and action on AMR including between ministries of health, finance, agriculture, the environment and education.

**KEY  
DELIVERABLES  
2021:**

- GLG statement to solicit pledges from G7, G20, OECD and regional blocs that represent concrete and tangible action and step up on existing commitments; and
- GLG statements advocating and promoting specific focus areas in research and development (e.g. phage and gene editing technologies, research grants and awards for young researchers in LMICs, and prevention research).

**PRIORITY 6**

**OUTCOME:**

**Advocate for better understanding of environmental pathways to the development and transmission of antimicrobial resistance.**

**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:**

- Environmental aspects of AMR with a focus on prevention approaches and a way to operationalize them included in Tripartite and UNEP strategies and plans; and
- Number of new commitments made by relevant stakeholders to reduce and eliminate antimicrobials in manufacturing discharge.

**KEY ACTIVITIES:**

- GLG review and comment on UNEP report on environmental dimensions of AMR (draft in June and final report in February 2022);
- Develop position papers on: (1) antimicrobial manufacturing waste disposal and (2) antimicrobial discharge and determinants of AMR in food systems (animal, food and agriculture discharge); (3) antimicrobial discharge and determinants of AMR in hospitals and other health facilities;
- 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, community and healthcare facilities settings;
- Advocate for integrated surveillance of antimicrobial discharge and determinants of AMR across all sectors;
- Encourage use of data from private sector to better understand the environmental pathways to the development and transmission of antimicrobial resistance; and
- Advocate for prevention of AMR in the context of sustainable biodiversity at COP26, G7 and G20.

**KEY DELIVERABLES 2021:**

- Targeted GLG working group discussion on environment and AMR;
- GLG statement on environment and AMR, including the importance of sustainable biodiversity;
- GLG position paper on antimicrobial manufacturing waste disposal;
- GLG position paper on antimicrobial discharge and determinants of AMR in food systems;
- GLG position paper on antimicrobial discharge and determinants of AMR in hospitals and other health facilities; and
- GLG information note on AMR and climate change.