

## Information Note:

# Complementarity of governance structures for antimicrobial resistance

The Independent Panel for Evidence, The Global Leaders Group and the Partnership Platform

## Background

The 2016 [Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on Antimicrobial Resistance](#) represented a landmark in the world's commitment to tackling antimicrobial resistance, calling for greater urgency and action in response to its many challenges. Members of the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Health Organization (WHO) to convene an ad hoc interagency coordination group (IACG), co-chaired by the United Nations Deputy Secretary-General and the Director-General of WHO, to provide practical guidance on the approach needed to ensure sustained and effective global action to address antimicrobial resistance. In April 2019, after global consultations, the IACG presented its report [“No time to wait: securing the future from drug resistant infections”](#) to the UN Secretary General.

One of the recommendations of the IACG was to strengthen accountability and global governance by establishing three inter-related structures:

- 1 **An Independent Panel on Evidence for Action against Antimicrobial Resistance in a One Health context**
- 2 **A One Health Global Leaders Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (Global Leaders Group), supported by a Joint Secretariat managed by the Tripartite Organizations (FAO, OIE and WHO).**
- 3 **A Multi Stakeholder Partnership Platform to facilitate multi stakeholder engagement on AMR, to include members of the Tripartite Organizations, UN agencies, interested governments, civil society, private sector and academia.**

## Purpose of the Information Note

This Information Note provides greater clarity on the inter-relationships between these three structures. Draft Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Global Leaders Group have been shared widely. Feedback has been received from multiple stakeholders including national governments, private sector, civil society and academia (available [here](#)). The final Terms of Reference have been approved by the Executive Office of the United Nations Secretary-General. Similar global consultations have been held on the draft TOR for the Independent Panel on Evidence. Feedback has similarly been received from myriad stakeholders (available [here](#)). Some of the feedback requested further clarity on how the three governance structures will complement each other. This Information Note seeks to provide clarity and presents the key features of the three governance structures with the caveat that a draft of the Terms of Reference for the Partnership Platform is still being developed.

## Governance structures: core features

The Tripartite Organizations are accountable to their respective Member States and are well placed to ensure that the governance structures do not duplicate AMR efforts. All three governance structures work to support the broad vision: *a world in which antimicrobials are preserved for the welfare of living beings*. The outputs of the Independent Panel on Evidence inform the agenda of both the Global Leaders Group (GLG) and the Partnership Platform; the deliberations of the GLG similarly feed into the agenda of the Partnership Platform; and the issues that emerge during the broader discussions held on the Partnership Platform likewise feed into the work of the other two structures. There will be a systematic flow of information between the three structures to ensure synergy and shared learning. Further details on how these structures complement each other are presented in the table below. There will be further inclusive discussions on the Partnership Platform before its Terms of Reference are finalised.

## Governance structures of Antimicrobial Resistance: overview

(The structures are neither hierarchical nor sequential)

|                            | Independent panel on Evidence                                                                         | Global Leaders Group                                                                                                       | Partnership Platform <sup>1</sup>                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Vision (common)</b>     | <i>A world in which antimicrobials are preserved for the welfare of living beings</i>                 |                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Purpose</b>             | To assess the science relating to AMR and provide options for interventions                           | To advocate and advise to ensure that action is taken to address the challenges of AMR                                     | To develop and implement a shared global vision, narrative and targeting on AMR                                                                |
| <b>Focus</b>               | Assessment and reporting of evidence based on independence and political neutrality                   | Political momentum and guidance on actions in response to the reports of the Independent Panel on Evidence                 | A venue for information sharing and collaboration                                                                                              |
| <b>Emphasis</b>            | Synthesis of research and evidence to provide practical options for mitigation and containment of AMR | High level advocacy and influence with policy makers for actions at country and global levels                              | Collective engagement on diverse areas of importance by all stakeholders                                                                       |
| <b>Members</b>             | Experts across One Health                                                                             | Primarily governmental and intergovernmental; plus representatives from private sector and civil society across One Health | Primarily civil society organizations and networks, representatives of private sector, governments and multilateral agencies across One Health |
| <b>Basis of membership</b> | Expertise, region, gender, discipline and sector                                                      | Geographical and gender representation                                                                                     | Willingness to engage                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Size</b>                | Small (10-15)                                                                                         | Small (to be confirmed)                                                                                                    | Very large (500+)                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Membership duration</b> | 2-3 years                                                                                             | 2-3 years                                                                                                                  | to be confirmed                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Chair/ co-Chair</b>     | Appointed by UN SG <sup>2</sup>                                                                       | Appointed by the Tripartite Organizations                                                                                  | to be confirmed                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Meeting frequency</b>   | to be decided; likely to be several times a year                                                      | twice a year                                                                                                               | to be confirmed                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Sub committees</b>      | Working groups to be appointed as needed                                                              | None                                                                                                                       | to be confirmed                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Accountable to</b>      | UN SG <sup>2</sup>                                                                                    | Governing bodies of Tripartite Organizations                                                                               | to be confirmed                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Deliverables</b>        | Periodic reports                                                                                      | Meeting reports                                                                                                            | to be confirmed                                                                                                                                |

1 The descriptions provided for the Partnership Platform are indicative. These might vary depending on the results of public consultations to finalise its Terms of Reference which will be held at a later stage

2 This is the current position as at 16 July 2020