



## HLPF 2017 Side event

**Antimicrobial resistance, a litmus test for multi-sectoral action in the SDG era**

## CONCEPT NOTE

Conference Room C, 8.15-9.30am 18 July, 2017

**Background**

In September 2016, Member States at the United Nations High Level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) adopted a Political Declaration that included recognition of the scope and magnitude of the problem and commitments to develop multisectoral national action plans. It called on the Tripartite of the World Health Organization (WHO), the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and other relevant UN agencies to collaborate in supporting national action plans and other activities to counter antimicrobial resistance at national, regional and global levels. In order to effectively address AMR, a one-health approach is required across all sectors and involving a range of stakeholders, and in this regard, lessons learned from the HIV/AIDS response are especially valuable.

A year has passed since the AMR Review, commissioned by the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, released their final report which stated that by 2050, a cumulative 100 trillion USD of economic output could be at risk due to the rise of drug-resistant infections, and the estimated 700,000 people who currently die each year of drug resistance in illnesses such as bacterial infections, malaria, HIV/AIDS or tuberculosis, could rise to 10 million. The potential consequences of not addressing AMR now not only drastically limit efforts to eradicate poverty, but they severely hinder efforts towards achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Political Declaration on AMR also called for the creation of the Interagency Coordination Group (IACG) on Antimicrobial Resistance. During its inaugural meeting on May 2-3 2017, the group stressed the complex nature of AMR and the demand for a multisectoral approach and a framework for the implementation of policies and programs that are linking AMR to the Global Action Plan and the SDGs.

The causes and consequences of AMR are not only directly linked to SDG3 but are interwoven throughout the entire 2030 Agenda: *Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere; Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture; Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages; and Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.* The multidimensional nature of AMR, reaches far beyond the health sector, spreading to the environment, food, agriculture, water and sanitation, among others. A multisectoral and whole-of-government approach can lead to an effective and sustainable solution which in turn will ultimately pave the road towards promoting prosperity in a changing world.

A substantial proportion of antibiotics sold globally are used in animals to prevent disease and increase growth. This could have adverse effects on human health, and Governments must therefore support efforts beyond the health sector, which include the farming, food industries, veterinary services, and



beyond. Due to a shared responsibility of multiple sectors, the response to AMR could be seen as a true litmus test for how prepared we are to work in multisectoral and multistakeholder partnership to address high priority global issues.

**Purpose**

This event builds on the commitments from the Political Declaration on Antimicrobial Resistance and builds on recommendations from the Review on Antimicrobial Resistance and from the first meeting of the IACG on Antimicrobial Resistance. It will bring AMR Experts together with representatives from UN agencies from relevant areas as well as representatives from national Governments engaged in the AMR agenda, private sector, small scale farmers and consumer groups.

Continuing to build political momentum on AMR at the UN, the discussion will focus on aiming to inspire national stakeholders and regional policymakers to take a multisectoral approach to design and implement national action plans to measure, monitor and limit the spread of AMR through intervention inside and outside of the health sector.

Interactive discussion to follow panel.

**Co-hosts:**

Permanent Mission of United Kingdom to the UN, Permanent Mission of Mexico to the UN, WHO Office at the UN, UNAIDS New York Office, FAO

**Speakers include**

WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

UK Chief Medical Officer Dame Sally Davies

FAO Deputy Director-General Ms Maria Helena Semedo

Director-General at the Austrian Federal Ministry of Health Dr. Clemens Martin Auer

Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations Ambassador Juan José Gómez Camacho

Regional Executive Director DNDi Ms. Rachel Cohen

*Others TBC*

**Moderators**

WHO Office at the UN and UNAIDS NY Office

**Audience**

This event is open to all but intended for heads of delegations to the HLPF and relevant experts.

**Logistics**

40-50 people, hosted in CR C from 8.15-9.30am on the 18<sup>th</sup> of July.