

# Council Recommendation on stepping up EU actions to combat antimicrobial resistance in a One Health approach



**Meeting AMR One Health Network  
21 September 2023**



# AMR – a priority since 2001

2001: [Community Strategy against AMR](#)

2011: [Action plan against the rising threats from AMR](#)

**2017:** [EU One Health Action Plan against AMR](#)

2019: [Regulations on veterinary medicines and medicated feed](#)

2020: [Farm to Fork Strategy](#)

2020: [Pharmaceutical Strategy for Europe](#)

**2020:** [European Health Union](#)

2022: [Veterinary Medicinal Products](#)

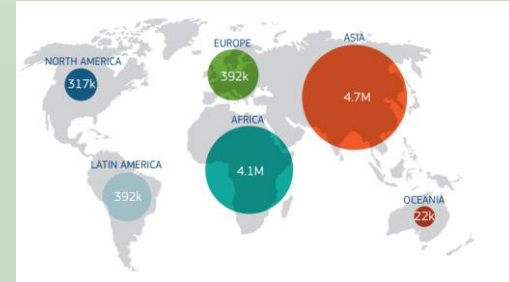
**2022:** [Global Health Strategy](#)

**2023:** [Reform of the EU Pharmaceutical legislation](#)

**2023:** [Council Recommendation on stepping up EU actions to combat AMR in a One Health approach](#)

# WHY?

- Responsible for more than 35 000 deaths every year in the EU/EEA
- EUR 1.5 billion per year in healthcare costs and productivity losses in the EU
- Threatens food security and food safety
- Global estimation by 2050:
  - 10 million deaths globally each year
  - a reduction of 2% to 3.5% in global gross domestic product
  - up to USD 100 trillion costs to the world economy
  - We can only combat AMR by applying the One Health approach



# One Health approach to AMR

- The One Health approach is based on the principle that human, animal and environment health are intrinsically linked.
- One Health can only be reached when joint efforts are taken in these three areas.
- The fight against AMR must address human, animal and environmental concerns in a comprehensive manner involving a wide range of actors.



# Council Recommendation on AMR

## - preparation COM proposal

**Stakeholder consultations:** [call for evidence](#) from 24 February 2022 to 24 March 2022

**Collection and use of expertise:**

- [Study on a future proofing analysis of the 2017 EU AMR Action Plan](#)
- [Feasibility study on stockpiling of antimicrobials against AMR](#)
- [Study on bringing AMR medical countermeasures to the market](#)
- [Opinion on “Managing antimicrobial resistance across the health system”](#) from the independent expert panel on effective ways of investing in health
- [Overview report on Member States’ One Health National Action Plans against AMR](#)
- Results of the [2022 Eurobarometer on AMR](#)
- [Report of the subgroup under the EU AMR One Health Network](#)

# Objectives of the Council Recommendation

Builds on and completes 2017 European Action Plan against AMR

Provide **recommendations to the Commission and to Member States** in order to maximize synergies and to attain a strong and effective response against AMR across the EU.

Strengthen **One Health national action plans** on AMR

Reinforce **surveillance and monitoring** of AMR and antimicrobial consumption

Strengthen **infection prevention and control**

Strengthen **antimicrobial stewardship and prudent use** of antimicrobials

Recommend **targets for AMR** and antimicrobial consumption in human health

Improve **awareness, education and training**

Foster **research & development**, and **incentives** for innovation and **access** to antimicrobials and other AMR medical countermeasures

Increase **cooperation**

Enhance **global actions**

# A. National Action Plans against AMR

**National Action Plans** based on the **One Health approach** in all Member States

- Regularly evaluated and updated
- Effective governance
- Measurable goals, implementation modalities and indicators
- Links with elements of the National Common Agricultural Policy Strategic Plans
- Environment dimension
- Human and financial resources
- Publicly available

## B. Surveillance and monitoring of AMR and antimicrobial consumption (AMC)

- **Close surveillance and monitoring gaps and ensure completeness of data in humans**
  - At all levels (*e.g.* community, hospitals and long-term care facilities)
  - Surveillance extended to exposure to substances in the environment (plant protection products, biocidal products)
  - Data collection on antimicrobials consumption in humans
- **Integrated AMR and AMC surveillance systems**, encompassing human health, animal health, plant health, food, wastewater and the environment
- **Assessment of animal diseases** caused by bacteria resistant to antimicrobials



# C. Infection prevention and control (IPC)

- **IPC measures in human health:** implemented and continuously monitored
  - Strengthened infection prevention and control in healthcare settings and long-term care facilities
  - Upgraded hospital infrastructures
  - Strong links to patient safety and prevention of healthcare associated infections
  - Continuous training
  - National immunisation programmes
- **IPC measures for health and welfare of food-producing animals**
- Good, evidence-based, **manure management practices** and good **sewage sludge management practices**
- EU infection prevention and control **guidelines** in human health

# D. Antimicrobial stewardship and prudent use of antimicrobials

- Measures in human health to **support the prudent use of antimicrobial agents**
- **Collection and safe disposal** of antimicrobials on human and veterinary side
- **EU guidelines** for the treatment of major common infections and perioperative prophylaxis in humans
- **Assessment of risk of development of resistance** to human and veterinary antimicrobials **from the use of plant protection products or biocidal products**

# E. Recommended targets for antimicrobial consumption and antimicrobial resistance

By 2030 (baseline year 2019):

- total **consumption** of antibiotics in humans to be reduced by 20% in the EU
- at least 65% total consumption of antibiotics in humans belongs to the **Access group**
- Total incidence of **bloodstream infections** with:
  - ✓ methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) : to be reduced by 15% in the EU
  - ✓ 3<sup>rd</sup> generation cephalosporins-resistant *Escherichia coli* : to be reduced by 10% in the EU
  - ✓ carbapenem-resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* : to be reduced by 5% in the EU

Annex: **recommended national targets** to reach overall EU targets

## F. Awareness, education and training

- National **continuous education programmes** and **curricula**
- **Communication** and **awareness-raising**
  - On collection and safe **disposal** of antimicrobials (professionals and public)
  - On **AMR** and **prudent use of antimicrobials** (professionals, public and specific population groups)
- **Coordination** (Member States, Commission, EU Agencies, other relevant bodies) to maximize impact
- **Commission support** to Member States

# G. Research & development and incentives for innovation & access to antimicrobials and other AMR medical countermeasures

- Support of **research** and technological **innovation**
- **Development** of and **accessibility** to antimicrobials and other medical countermeasures
- **Union multi-country pull incentive scheme** to improve innovation, development and access to antimicrobials
  - Resources, collaborative actions, financial contribution
  - Regular review
  - Dedicated network
- Development and placing on the market of **alternatives to antimicrobials and vaccines for animal health**

## H. Cooperation

- Reporting to the Global Antimicrobial Resistance and Use Surveillance System (**GLASS**)
- Enhanced use of the **EU AMR One Health Network**
- Enhanced **cooperation on AMR between professionals** working in human health, veterinary and agronomy sectors and **with stakeholders**
- Cooperation on AMR between EFSA, EMA, ECDC, EEA and ECHA : **interagency AMR working group**
- Development of a **monitoring framework** to assess the progress and results achieved (2017 AMR Action Plan and Recommendation)

# I. Global

- Development, and the implementation by third countries, of **standards by the International Standard Setting Bodies**
- Inclusion of concrete provisions on AMR in a **potential WHO international agreement on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response**
- **Support to WHO initiatives** (guidance on how GMPs should be implemented to waste and wastewater management for production of antimicrobials)
- AMR to feature as a high political priority in **G7 and G20** settings
- **Planned United Nations High Level conference on AMR in 2024** to raise global commitments
- Quadripartite's [AMR Multi-Stakeholder Partnership Platform](#)
- Development capacity and support in **low-and-middle income countries**