Steering Committee of the 
Tripartite Antimicrobial Resistance Multi-Partner Trust Fund 
15 January 2020 
15:00-16:00 
Video conference

Participants

OIE: M. Stone, E. Tagliaro, S. Kalenius, S. Renaudin
WHO: H. Getahun, L. Tayler, L. Merdad, D. Kogevinas
UNDP: O. Aleshina, P. Anderssen, M. Matsumoto
Resource Partners: The Netherlands (R. Driece, R.M. Peran i Sala), Sweden (N. Viberg, S. Norlin-Teldem)
Apologies: H. Balkhy, J. Topping

1. Welcome and Introductions

The purpose of this first Steering Committee meeting via video conference was to introduce resource partners to the Tripartite AMR MPTF team, to provide a briefing on the progress made to date and next steps, including the first formal AMR MPTF Steering Committee meeting scheduled in mid-March 2020. OIE (Matthew Stone, Deputy Director General) welcomed the Tripartite representatives and resource partners – the Netherlands and Sweden, thanking them for their support for the initiative.

FAO (Bukar Tijani, Assistant Director-General) observed the significant progress the Tripartite had made in the field of AMR and stated that FAO expected clear results from the March meeting. FAO thanked the resource partners on the call and expressed the hope that the AMR MPTF would benefit from increased funding as a consequence of effective implementation and advocacy.

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) participated on the call as an observer and announced that it may support the AMR MPTF through multi-year funding.

The following key issues were discussed:

2. Update on Progress of MPTF

WHO (Haileyesus Getahun, Director) reported on the formalization and operational phase of the AMR MPTF. Key achievements include the development of an Operational Manual and the definition of the mechanisms through which the AMR MPTF will operate. A strategic approach had been established following two Senior Tripartite Management meetings focusing on harnessing country impact and results. Eligible countries were identified taking into consideration key factors including economic status, countries’ needs, potential high-impact within short periods of time and strong country and regional technical support of the Tripartite. The Tripartite’s results, quick wins and countries’
efficiency in the long-term will be crucial for pooling further resources for the AMR MPTF. Another significant milestone was the development of the results chain and Theory of Change for the AMR MPTF. This was elaborated considering the Tripartite mandate to coordinate the global multi-sectoral response to AMR.

3. Tripartite Support for Proposal Development

WHO and FAO have strong country presence in the selected countries, and regional Tripartite offices have been primed to support the concept note development process. OIE has regional and sub-regional offices which will work with countries and their Tripartite colleagues. It was noted that the three organizations do not have the same geographical/region demarcations and offices, but a strong collaborative relationship is in place. Different approaches, including WHO seconding staff into the FAO office in Bangkok, are being used to further facilitate collaboration. The countries with which the Tripartite country and regional offices were invited to submit concept notes were selected on the basis of their ongoing action on AMR as a one health issue, and many have been informally warned that the letter is coming. Nevertheless, for some countries the concept notes may not be arrive in time, and these can be reviewed by the Steering Committee in a second wave (through electronic consultation).

The Netherlands queried which kind of technical support would be provided and mentioned the potential role of “twinning” between countries for technical support (South-South, North-South etc). Examples in the past have been successful, but further discussion in the Steering Committee will be required based on proposals received and funding available.

Swedish Sida underscored the importance of ‘leaving no one behind”. It was agreed that this is an important principle raised at the AMR Ministerial event on 19 June 2019 in Noordwijk (The Netherlands). Almost all the first wave countries are low or low middle-income countries, and some are fragile states, but these are the countries that are most likely to make progress and show results. It was noted each of the Tripartite organizations prioritizes vulnerable populations and that supporting countries where progress is stalled is important and could be a focus of later rounds.

Further resource mobilization will be required to meet emerging needs. A resource mobilization plan is being developed, identifying resource partners which could join the AMR MPTF (both public and private sector). The upcoming UN General Assembly High-Level Interactive Dialogue on Antimicrobial Resistance in New York should be explored to raise interest and partnership. The Netherlands offered assistance in encouraging fellow resource partners to contribute and requested that the Tripartite provide the brochure.

4. Concept Note Development

The MPTF’s next steps were outlined. Letters will be sent soon to the countries with their regional offices in copy for technical backstopping. The concept notes should be submitted to the Tripartite Joint Secretariat by 17 February. Webinars will be held in end January to support concept note development. The technical review process will be managed by the Tripartite. The concept notes will be circulated to the Steering Committee electronically 7-10 days prior to the mid-March meeting. The Operating Manual will be submitted to the Steering Committee for review at its next meeting.
5. The MPTF Office’s update on the funding framework

The UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office, serving as the Administrative Agent of the AMR MPTF, presented the financial report.

To date, the Fund has received USD 7,065,602 (The Netherlands has contributed USD 4,979,455 and Sweden USD 2,086,147) from two resource partners. The Administrative Agent 1% fee and bank charges were deducted. No projects have been funded as of 15 January 2020. The total amount currently available for programming is USD 6,994,926 (earmarking is specified in the Funding Framework dated 9 January 2020).

Regarding the earmarked funding, The Netherlands explained that, while fully understanding the need to support the AMR MPTF globally, they wished to ensure that most of their funding was directed towards country support. Thus, The Netherlands opted to earmark most of the funding to the National Component Window.

The OIE requested that all reference to participating UN organizations be revised to remove “UN”. The Administrative Agent confirmed this will be actioned.

6. Date of first face to face Steering Committee meeting

The first face-to-face Steering Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday 18 March at the OIE Headquarters in Paris (France). OIE noted that this is one week before the UN General Assembly High-Level Interactive Dialogue on Antimicrobial Resistance in New York, enabling the Tripartite to showcase progress being made to a broader range of interested stakeholders.