EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

While AMR has been an important topic on the international community's agenda during 2019, the second half of the year saw important steps forward with the creation of the AMR MPTF on 1 August 2019. During the first five months since its establishment, the Tripartite - a long-standing partnership between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Health Organization (WHO) - has focused its efforts on putting into place a robust and solid operational framework for the Fund. Significant investments have also been dedicated in coalescing engagement on the pressing global issue of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and corresponding investments from resource partners. Between April and December 2019, the following main events and achievements took place:

- April 2019, the ad hoc United Nations Interagency Coordination Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (IACG AMR) transmits to the Secretary-General of the United Nations a report titled "No Time to Wait: Securing the future from drug-resistant infections" (see specific stories hereafter);
- April 2019, a first official leaflet on the AMR MPTF is developed and shared with partners;
- June 2019, the Tripartite senior management meets in Rome (Italy) to discuss the implementation of the IACG AMR recommendations;
- May 2019, the Tripartite submits to the United Nations Secretary-General the draft follow-up report in response to General Assembly resolution 71/3, adopted in 2016, on the implementation of the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance and on recommendations emanating from the ad hoc IACG AMR;
- June 2019, The Netherlands hosts a Ministerial Conference in Noordwijk setting the scene for the official launch of the Fund and where initial contributions from the Government of the Netherlands and Sweden are pledged (see specific stories hereafter);
- August 2019, the Standard Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the AMR MPTF is signed between the MPTF Office and Participating UN Organizations (FAO, WHO). In parallel, a second MoU is signed between the MPTF Office and the OIE, recognizing the OIE as the third Participating Organization;
- September 2019, the AMR MPTF specific webpage is created: http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/AMR00;
- September 2019, the Tripartite senior management meets for a second time to confirm approaches and management principles for the Fund;
- September 2019, the Tripartite Joint Secretariat on AMR is established;
- November 2019, stakeholders are invited to provide written feedback on the draft terms of reference for a One Health Global Leaders Group on Antimicrobial Resistance, one of the recommendations of the ad hoc IACG AMR;
- November 2019, The Netherlands becomes the first official donor makes a financial allocation of 4,500,000€ (USD 4,979,455) to the Fund;
- November 2019, Sweden provides the second financial contribution to the Fund, allocating SEK 20,000,000.00 (USD 2,086,147.46);

1 Summary of recommendations and key messages of the report in Annex 1
2 Latest version of the leaflet in Annex 2
3 https://www.who.int/antimicrobial-resistance/interagency-coordination-group/en/
November 2019, the Tripartite senior management meets for the third time (through video conference) with representatives from the Netherlands and Sweden to report on progress made to date and schedule the first Steering Committee meeting;

December 2019, the Tripartite conducts a workshop to further develop and refine the result matrix for the Fund.

Building on these important milestones, 2020 will correspond to the first year of investments provided to support countries accelerate the sustainable implementation and scale up of One Health National Action Plans as well as to put into place the necessary frameworks, tools and standards at global level to facilitate change in countries to systematically counter the global threat of AMR.

Purpose

AMR is arguably the most complex threat to global health security, potentially leading to millions of deaths a year and hundreds of billions of dollars lost in annual economic growth, threatening to compromise the global community’s progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Misuse and overuse of antimicrobial drugs in human medicine, veterinary medicine, and food production put our future at risk, with few alternative solutions in the pipeline. Without coordinated and accelerated action, the world is heading towards a post-antibiotic era in which common infections could once again kill and routine medical procedures become high risk. Globalization has led to an unprecedented rise in the movement of people, animals, and food commodities, providing opportunities for the spread of resistance. Stemming the tide of AMR will take bold and determined global action and the commitment of all.

To ensure that today’s cures are available for generations to come, a One Health approach is required to systematically address key challenges that include:

- Responsible use and stewardship, whilst ensuring access to existing and new antimicrobials;
- Systems for infection prevention, universally agreed priorities and mechanisms to foster innovation towards quality and inexpensive diagnostic tests that provide care practitioners quick and accurate information, as well as quality vaccines that are affordable and available to all;
- Transformation of animal husbandry (terrestrial and aquatic) and food production to substantially reduce antimicrobial use whilst boosting agricultural productivity and ensuring food security and safety.

In strengthening sustained advocacy, political commitment and accountability, Tripartite dialogue, intersectoral approaches and data and evidence, the Fund has been established as a funding mechanism to secure consistent and coordinated financing to enable the development and implementation of One Health NAPs, Tripartite Workplans on AMR and the follow-up of the ad hoc IACG on AMR. The AMR MPTF will finance catalytical, coordinated policy advice, technical assistance and capacity-strengthening programmes that Member States have requested from FAO, OIE and WHO in order to combat AMR.

Established for an initial five-year period (2019-2024) and aimed at influencing and contributing to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, the AMR MPTF supports joint and coordinated actions based on the Tripartite Workplans on AMR at global, regional and country levels to catalyze national level action and garner results. Specifically, countries will be provided with policy support and technical assistance in the following areas:

- Designing and implementing of One Health NAPs: (i) provide in-country support to develop, finance and implement One Health NAPs; (ii) build evidence and tools to support implementation and evaluation of One Health NAPs; (iii) undertake assessments of the economic and social benefits of reducing AMR; and, (v) develop guidance on the analysis of legal frameworks and regulatory options;
- Raising awareness and catalyzing behaviour change: global and regional campaigns, as well as support to countries to identify key audiences, develop awareness raising campaigns to effect behaviour change, enable collective action, achieve national priorities and strengthen monitoring and accountability;
Strengthen surveillance and monitoring of AMR and antimicrobial sales and use: support the global, regional and country levels to obtain and standardize meaningful data to guide the development of tools, policies, and regulations. This includes integrated surveillance systems to promote data sharing across sectors at local, regional and global levels. Provision of technical support to countries to establish and deliver national AMR surveillance programmes monitoring the sales, distribution, use/consumption of antimicrobials.

• Strengthening stewardship and the optimal use of antimicrobials: at all levels foster research and development, develop and support practical measures to minimize the need for antimicrobials, reduce the use of antimicrobials, and prevent the spread of AMR or residues;

• Robust monitoring and evaluation: build capacities and processes at all levels to boost –monitoring and evaluation to measure progress towards the delivery of the objectives, and achievements and Availability of, and access to, financial resources to support actions at scale that contribute to transformational change in addressing AMR are key factors for successful implementation.

The private sector, public sector, and financial institutions will also be encouraged to support implementation through the AMR MPTF.

Results

(i) Narrative reporting on results

This first annual report presents the activities undertaken in the five (5) months spanning from August to December 2019 and centers on progress in establishing the Fund. Actions and reports in future years will report on results garnered by Tripartite in alignment with the Fund’s result matrix.

1. Tripartite set up AMR MPTF together with the MPTFO, developed advocacy materials and engaged potential partners.

2. Two resource partners, the Netherlands and Sweden, provided initial funding for the AMR MPTF paving the way for the release of the first investments.

3. The Tripartite, supported by the UNDP MPTFO, conducts weekly teleconferences to ensure good coordination, equitable division of tasks and prompt reactivity to progress in the development of deliverables and milestones. This has been essential to ensure that the Fund is grounded on common and robust principles, which will facilitate work all programming cycle levels.

4. The number of recommendations from the ad hoc IACG AMR report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations “No Time to Wait: Securing the future from drug-resistant infections” inform and guide the work of the Tripartite.

Preparations for the first Steering Committee to adopt the Fund’s terms of reference, operation manual and start allocation decisions to begin country and global level work.

10%:

The financial allocations of these 2 initial investors represent 10% of the USD 70 million support needed to deliver the results identified in the results matrix at global, regional and country levels.

Two resource partners, the Netherlands and Sweden, provided initial funding for the AMR MPTF paving the way for the release of the first investments.
This first half year of operations have resulted in positive progress, classifiable among three categories:

**Administrative:** With the signature of the Fund’s MoUs, the high political will of the Tripartite on the issue of AMR was underscored as well as the need for an intersectoral approach when combatting AMR and the commitment of the three organizations to work together; this is clearly delineated in the Terms of Reference annexed to the MoUs. Other administrative outputs were also delivered in the first five months of the Fund, namely the Operations Manual; this document describes in details the governance and processes of the Fund. This represents an important step forward and demonstrates the capacity of the Tripartite, cognizant of their distinctive governance and structures, to collaborate and make decisions towards a common objective.

**Technical:** The establishment of a Tripartite Joint Secretariat on AMR in 2019 saw the development of specific technical documents including, for example, the result matrix, concept note templates, project proposal templates, assessment criteria and matrices. The Tripartite Joint Secretariat on AMR has worked to ensure the timely release of these tools which will ensure that all investments made through the Fund align with the One health approach.

**Resource mobilization:** With the commitment and funding allocation of two initial resource partners, the Fund has had a positive initiation to its activities. Both The Netherlands and Sweden have been instrumental in advocating for the importance of a coordinated global effort on AMR and their financial contribution is a testament to this as early as during the Ministerial Conference on AMR held in May 2019 in Noordwijk (The Netherlands). The 7 million USD received from these 2 initial resource partners as of 31 December 2019, already represent 10% of the targeted USD 70 million. The Tripartite will continue efforts in the coming year based on the resource mobilization mapping that has been undertaken to support continued investment in the Fund.

**(ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:**

In December 2019, the Tripartite finalized a robust result matrix to enhance results oriented reporting for the Fund. The following table represents the results; further work is underway to identify relevant indicators. The Tripartite will report against this framework in its next annual report.

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6 One MoU was signed between UNDP MPTFO and WHO and FAO and the other signed between UNDP MPTFO and the OIE as a non-UN organization.
Ad hoc IACG on AMR report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations: "No Time to Wait: Securing the future from drug-resistant infections"

The report was handed in April 2019 and includes recommendations in five areas: a) accelerate progress in countries; b) innovate to secure the future; c) collaborate for more effective action; d) invest for a sustainable response; and, e) strengthen accountability and global governance.

As a follow-up to the 2016 political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance and further to this report, the UN Secretary-General invited the Tripartite and all relevant international, regional and national organizations, partners and stakeholders, to assist in implementing the recommendations of the ad hoc IACG AMR and to provide Member States with the necessary political, technical, advocacy and financial support.

The Fund fulfills and provides a framework to address a large number of recommendations in the report across the five areas, including key points in terms of governance, accountability, and financing.

The summary of recommendations and key messages of the IACG report can be found in Annex 1.

The Netherlands Ministerial Conference, 19th June 2019

At the Ministerial Conference held in Noordwijk (The Netherlands, 19 June 2019), the Tripartite launched the AMR MPTF. Pledges were made from the Government of the Netherlands and from Sweden.

As a testament to their commitment, below are excerpts from the representatives of the Tripartite:

- FAO, Ms Maria Helena Semedo, Deputy-Director General, Climate and Natural Resources: “FAO is fully dedicated to help eliminate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition and dedicated to produce safe food for a growing world population in a sustainable way. Antimicrobials are necessary tools to ensure food security, but they need to be used in a responsible way. FAO considers the Multi Partner Trust Fund as a milestone in our Tripartite efforts to reduce AMR.”
- OIE, Dr Monique Eloit, Director General: “We all have a role to play to protect the efficacy of antimicrobial agents and the AMR Trust Fund gives us the opportunity to support the efforts of the different sectors at national, regional and global levels. AMR must be addressed in a One Health approach and supported by long-term commitments from all stakeholders. The OIE is committed to supporting the animal health sector in fulfilling its commitments to ensure that both animals and humans will continue to benefit from available and efficient antimicrobials to treat their diseases for the future.”
- WHO, Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab, Deputy Director-General: “This new Trust Fund signals an important new commitment to combat antimicrobial resistance. AMR is a serious challenge to reaching universal health coverage and a threat to achievement of the SDGs”.

Resources

Significant in-kind resources have been allocated to the establishment and operationalization of the Fund in 2019. Although the Fund has been set up to enable the implementation of the Tripartite workplan and national programmes in line with a One Health approach, the Tripartite acknowledges the fundamental support received from resource partners to enable coordinated joint activities to combat AMR. This support is essential for each organization to deliver in its own field of expertise and to complement the work that will be executed under the AMR MPTF to maximize results.
A. ACCELERATE PROGRESS IN COUNTRIES

A1: The IACG calls on all Member States to ensure equitable and affordable access to existing and new quality-assured antimicrobials as well as alternatives, vaccines and diagnostics, and their responsible and prudent use by competent, licensed professionals across human, animal and plant health.

A2: The IACG calls on all Member States to accelerate the development and implementation of One Health National Antimicrobial Resistance Action Plans within the context of the SDGs.

A3: The IACG calls on all Member States to phase out the use of antimicrobials for growth promotion, consistent with guidance from the Tripartite agencies (FAO, OIE and WHO) and Codex Alimentarius, starting with an immediate end to the use of antibiotics categorised as the Highest Priority Critically Important Antimicrobial Agents on the WHO List of Critically Important Antimicrobials for Human Medicine.

B. INNOVATE TO SECURE THE FUTURE

B1: The IACG calls on governments; global, regional, national, bilateral and multilateral financing and development institutions and banks; and private investors to systematically apply standards to assess risks and impacts related to antimicrobial resistance (an antimicrobial resistance and One Health "lens") when making investments.

B2: The IACG emphasizes the need for increased investments in the response to antimicrobial resistance, including from domestic financing in all countries; urges existing and future financing mechanisms in human, animal and plant health, food and feed production and the environment to give greater priority to antimicrobial resistance in their resource allocations; calls on public, private and philanthropic donors to contribute additional funding, including to support implementation of National Antimicrobial Resistance Action Plans.

B3: The IACG calls on public, private and philanthropic research funders and other stakeholders to build upon current research and development efforts for new antimicrobials, diagnostics, vaccines, waste management tools, and safe and effective alternatives to antimicrobials for human, terrestrial and aquatic animal and plant health.

C. COLLABORATE FOR MORE EFFECTIVE ACTION

C1: The IACG calls for the systematic and meaningful engagement of civil society groups and organizations as key stakeholders in the One Health response to antimicrobial resistance at global, regional, national and local levels.

C2: The IACG calls for the systematic and meaningful engagement of and enhanced action by the private sector as key stakeholders in the One Health response to antimicrobial resistance at global, regional, national and local levels.

D. INVEST FOR A SUSTAINABLE RESPONSE

D1: The IACG calls on governments; global, regional, national, bilateral and multilateral financing and development institutions and banks; and private investors to systematically apply standards to assess risks and impacts related to antimicrobial resistance (an antimicrobial resistance and One Health "lens") when making investments.

D2: The IACG emphasizes the need for increased investments in the response to antimicrobial resistance, including from domestic financing in all countries; urges existing and future financing mechanisms in human, animal and plant health, food and feed production and the environment to give greater priority to antimicrobial resistance in their resource allocations; calls on public, private and philanthropic donors to contribute additional funding, including to support implementation of National Antimicrobial Resistance Action Plans.

E. STRENGTHEN ACCOUNTABILITY AND GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

E1: The IACG requests the Tripartite agencies (FAO, OIE and WHO) together with UN Environment, other UN agencies and the World Bank, in the context of UN reform, to further strengthen joint One Health action, based on target-setting, country priorities and needs, by enhancing their organizational capacity and providing adequate and sustainable core funding for antimicrobial resistance-related activities.

E2: The IACG recommends the urgent establishment of a One Health Global Leadership Group on Antimicrobial Resistance, supported by a Joint Secretariat managed by the Tripartite agencies (FAO, OIE and WHO).

E3: The IACG requests the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Tripartite agencies (FAO, OIE and WHO), UN Environment and other international organizations, to convene an Independent Panel on Evidence for Action against Antimicrobial Resistance in a One Health context to monitor and provide Member States with regular reports on the science and evidence related to antimicrobial resistance, its impacts and future risks, and recommend options for adaptation and mitigation.

E4: The IACG recognizes the ongoing process led by Member States to develop the Global Development and Stewardship Framework to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance and urges the Tripartite agencies (FAO, OIE and WHO) and UN Environment to expedite its development in line with the scope described in the 2015 World Health Assembly resolution on antimicrobial resistance (WHA68.7). As Member States finalize this process, they should also consider the need for new international instruments.
Annex 2
Leaflet of the AMR Multi-Partner Trust Fund