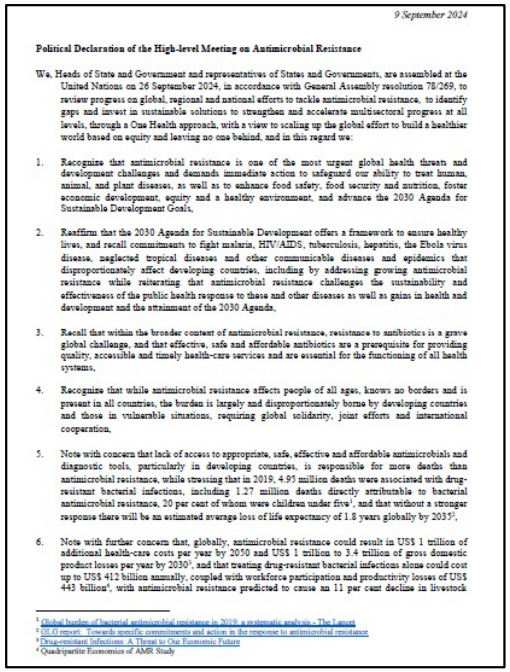

CSE
WEBINARS
3-DAY INTERNATIONAL ONLINE WORKSHOP
UPDATING THE GLOBAL ACTION PLAN ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (AMR)
A Southern Perspective
Scaling up prevention in food-animal systems to minimise disease and antibiotic use
Framing presentation
Rajeshwari Sinha
CSE

Prevention focus of the Political Declaration on AMR, 2024



9 September 2024

Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance

We, Heads of State and Government and representatives of States and Governments, are assembled at the United Nations on 26 September 2024, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 78/269, to review progress on global, regional and national efforts to tackle antimicrobial resistance, to identify gaps and invest in sustainable solutions to strengthen and accelerate multisectoral progress at all levels, through a One Health approach, with a view to scaling up the global effort to build a healthier world based on equity and leaving no one behind, and in this regard we:

1. Recognize that antimicrobial resistance is one of the most urgent global health threats and development challenges and demands immediate action to safeguard our ability to treat human, animal, and plant diseases, as well as to enhance food safety, food security and nutrition, foster economic development, equity and a healthy environment, and advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals,

2. Reaffirm that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development offers a framework to ensure healthy lives, and recall commitments to fight malaria, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, hepatitis, the Ebola virus disease, neglected tropical diseases and other communicable diseases and epidemics that disproportionately affect developing countries, including by addressing growing antimicrobial resistance while reiterating that antimicrobial resistance challenges the sustainability and effectiveness of the public health response to these and other diseases as well as gains in health and development and the attainment of the 2030 Agenda,

3. Recall that within the broader context of antimicrobial resistance, resistance to antibiotics is a grave global challenge, and that effective, safe and affordable antibiotics are a prerequisite for providing quality, accessible and timely health-care services and are essential for the functioning of all health systems,

4. Recognize that while antimicrobial resistance affects people of all ages, knows no borders and is present in all countries, the burden is largely and disproportionately borne by developing countries and those in vulnerable situations, requiring global solidarity, joint efforts and international cooperation,

5. Note with concern that lack of access to appropriate, safe, effective and affordable antimicrobials and diagnostic tools, particularly in developing countries, is responsible for more deaths than antimicrobial resistance, while stressing that in 2019, 4.95 million deaths were associated with drug-resistant bacterial infections, including 1.27 million deaths directly attributable to bacterial antimicrobial resistance, 20 per cent of whom were children under five[1], and that without a stronger response there will be an estimated average loss of life expectancy of 1.8 years globally by 2035[2],

6. Note with further concern that, globally, antimicrobial resistance could result in US$ 1 trillion of additional health-care costs per year by 2050 and US$ 1 trillion to 3.4 trillion of gross domestic product losses per year by 2030[3], and that treating drug-resistant bacterial infections alone could cost up to US$ 412 billion annually, coupled with workforce participation and productivity losses of US$ 443 billion[4], with antimicrobial resistance predicted to cause an 11 per cent decline in livestock

[1] Global burden of bacterial antimicrobial resistance in 2019: a systematic analysis - The Lancet
[2] OLG report - Towards specific commitments and action in the response to antimicrobial resistance
[3] Drug-resistant Infections: A Threat to Our Economic Future
[4] Quadripartite Economics of AMR Study

- **Prevention in animal-health systems**, for the first time, was made integral to global AMR response

- Scope of prevention **expanded**, **well defined** and **articulated**
  - For e.g., earlier prevention was largely understood and articulated as biosecurity

- Focus is both on **product-based solutions** like vaccines, diagnostics, technologies as well as **process-based solutions** that can improve/maintain animal health/husbandry/welfare conditions

Prevention for a local food-animal production system is now about…

Vaccination	Farm biosecurity	Better farm management practices
Feed	Alternatives	Effective waste management
Diagnostics	Veterinary care	Quality antibiotics and stewardship

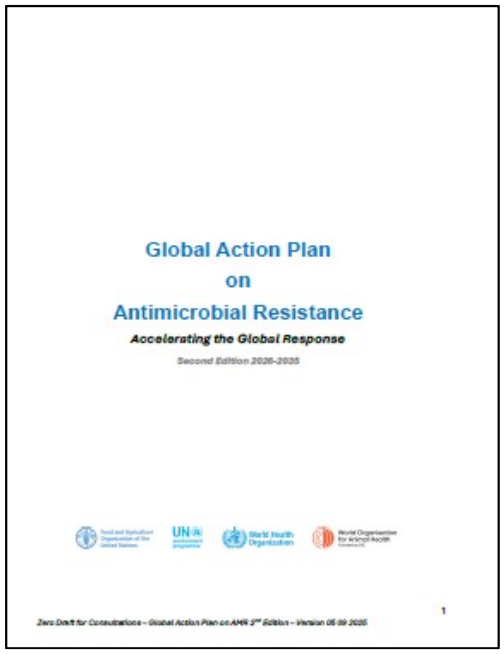
Preventive approach: Gains and support needed

Objective: Less disease, less antibiotic use

Expected outcome	Larger potential	Support needed
• Less cost of medicines • Less mortality • More productivity • Better price of food and low cost of production, if done right • Less AMR risk • Less antibiotic pollution • Less investment to clean up	• Suitable for LMICs • Can lead to sustainable food production systems • Greater trade • Safe food • Better national and global health • Livelihood and nutrition security	National level • Awareness and capacity building • Incentives/subsidies for adoption • Appropriate regulatory framework • Quality and efficacy control • Audits for compliance • Affordable access • Cost-effective technological solutions; R&D ecosystem • Promoting local solutions • Competitive market for products and solutions

This is where the Global Action Plan 2.0 should inform and influence the national action

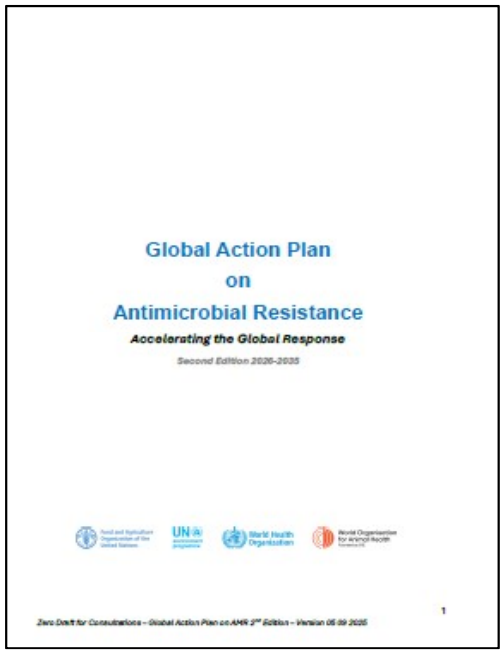
Zero Draft |Strategic Focus| Prevention in food-animal systems



- **Separate strategic focus on prevention**

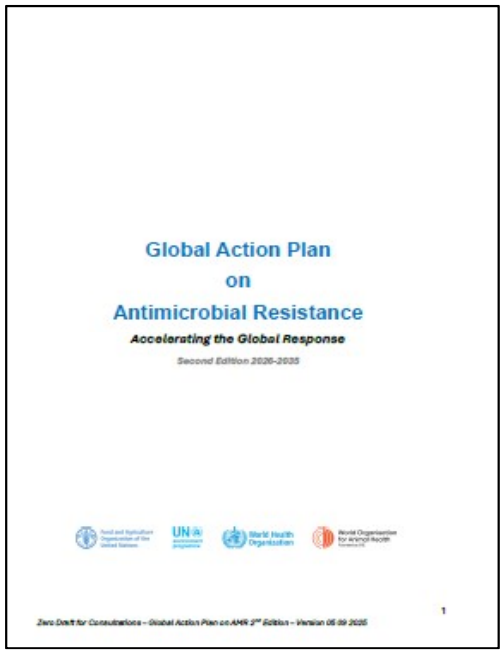
"Scale up high-impact preventative interventions by increasing investment in IPC, WASH, RENOFARM, waste and wastewater management, and vaccination to reduce the burden of infectious diseases, and therefore decrease the need for antimicrobials and support the safe disposal of antimicrobials in humans, animals and agrifood systems. Scale up innovation and tailored country support: Digital technologies such as AI and whole genome sequencing must be effectively deployed to strengthen surveillance, stewardship, R&D, and innovation, enhancing the effectiveness and long-term impact of the AMR response"

Zero Draft |Aspects in Strategic Objectives| Prevention in food-animal systems



- **Behaviour change for AMR** prevention and mitigation across sectors
- **Prevention specific to animal health**
  - Talks about vaccines, biosecurity, sanitation, diagnostics, vaccination, access to vets, good animal husbandry practices, access to clean water…in addition to surveillance
- **Integrating environment dimensions** into AMR prevention: **waste management and disposa**l from agriculture systems

Zero Draft | Key result areas | Prevention in food-animal systems



- Key result areas
  - Demonstrable behaviour changes in **reducing the need** for and inappropriate use of antimicrobials across sectors
  - **Reduction in preventable infections** in humans and **animals**
  - **Improved waste and wastewater management** across sectors
  - **Less reliance on antimicrobials in agrifood sector** and their discharge in the environment
  - **Reduction of the need and use of antimicrobials** in animals, food and agriculture.
  - **Reduction in non-therapeutic use** of medical/veterinary antimicrobials

However, updated Global Action Plan should also…

- Recognize that the non-therapeutic use of antibiotics for **disease prevention and control** is not '**real' prevention**, it is **chemical based prevention**

- Recognize that such **chemical based prevention** should be **phased off** along with that growth promoter use (…because if AGP use is reduced, likely chance is that antibiotic based prevention will increase)

- Inform countries through the GAP that **adequate focus** needs to be put on **process centric solutions** such as farm management and biosecurity because it may not involve too much cost and have high returns on investment, in addition to the **product centric solutions** such as vaccination, diagnostics

- Highlight **importance of investing in and promoting local/traditional solutions** such as herbal preparations as alternatives because certain countries of Global South might have a strong understanding and success stories on this (E.g., use of **ethnoveterinary medicines** in India, Nigeria, Uganda)

Thank you

For more information, please contact:
Amit Khurana
Programme Director
Sustainable Food Systems
k_amit@cseindia.org

Rajeshwari Sinha
Senior Programme Manager
Sustainable Food Systems
s_rajeshwari@cseindia.org

Neeraj Kumar
Deputy Programme Manager
Sustainable Food Systems
k_neeraj@cseindia.org