



Government of India

# Delhi Declaration on Antimicrobial Resistance

## - an inter-ministerial consensus

We, the ministers and policy-makers from various Ministries under the Government of India, assembled at the Inter-Ministerial Consultation on Antimicrobial Resistance, pledge to adopt a holistic and collaborative approach towards prevention and containment of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in India, and :

**Acknowledge** that resistance of microorganisms to antimicrobials is a matter of serious concern; and is mainly due to inappropriate use in human, animal, food and agriculture sectors. Within AMR, resistance to antibiotics is the greatest and most urgent risk that requires focussed and immediate attention;

**Recognize** that emergence and spread of AMR is negating many twentieth century achievements, particularly reduction in illness and death from infectious diseases; and note with concern that without effective One Health and other multisectoral cooperation and actions, AMR is projected to cause millions of deaths worldwide (and in India) with massive social, economic and public health repercussions;

**Realize** that the overarching principle for addressing AMR is the promotion and protection of human health with a One Health approach and emphasize that this requires coherent, comprehensive and integrated multisectoral action;

**Reaffirm** that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development offers a framework to ensure healthy lives, reiterating that AMR challenges the gains in health and development and attainment of the 2030 Agenda, and sustainable action against AMR shall contribute towards the achievement of 27 targets across 11 Sustainable Development Goals;

**Reaffirm** that the roadmap for containment of AMR in India is the National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance with its six strategic priorities that are aligned with the Global Action Plan on AMR:

1. Improve awareness and understanding of AMR through effective communication, education and training;
2. Strengthen knowledge and evidence through surveillance of antimicrobial resistance in human, animal, food and environment sectors with focus on strengthening laboratories;
3. Reduce the incidence of infection in health care, animal health, community and environment settings through effective infection prevention and control;
4. Optimize the use of antimicrobial agents in human health, animals and food with focus on strengthening regulations, access and surveillance of antimicrobial use and antimicrobial stewardship in human/animal health and agriculture;
5. Promote investments for AMR activities, research and innovations with focus on development of new antibiotics; innovations in diagnostics, vaccines and alternatives and sustainable financing for AMR; and
6. Strengthen India's leadership on AMR with focus on international, national and state/district level collaborations.

**Reaffirm** that national and local priorities shall be the basis to develop and implement the multisectoral national and state action plans on AMR taking into account the national, state and local context;

We therefore **commit** to work towards:

- **Developing** and **implementing** national and state action plans on AMR with a multisectoral One Health approach in consonance with six overarching strategic objectives;
- **Taking** steps to ensure that national and state action plans on AMR include the development and strengthening of appropriate and effective surveillance, monitoring and regulatory frameworks on the preservation, use and sales of antimicrobial medicines for human and animals;
- **Mobilizing** adequate and sustained funding and human resources to support the development and implementation of the national and state action plans on AMR;
- **Initiating** and **sustaining** activities to raise awareness and knowledge about AMR, to engage and encourage behavioural change in different audiences; promote evidence-based prevention, infection control and sanitation programs in alignment with the *Swachh Bharat Abhiyan*, *Kayakalp* and *Swachh Swasth Sarvatra* initiatives of the Government of India; and
- **Addressing** AMR in a mission mode; duly involving research institutes, civil society, industry, small- & medium-sized enterprises and encouraging public-private partnerships in alignment with *Make in India*;

**Call** on all stakeholders including WHO, FAO, other UN agencies/partners, civil society and other multisectoral stakeholders to support the development and implementation of the national and state action plans on AMR;

**Recommend** the establishment of a National Authority for Containment of AMR (NACA) to provide oversight and monitoring to ensure sustained effective national action on AMR as part of India's initiatives towards managing this public health challenge.



New Delhi | 19 April 2017

Joint Declaration endorsed by the Ministries of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, AYUSH, Chemicals and Fertilizers, Consumer Affairs Food and Public Distribution, Drinking Water and Sanitation, Environment Forest and Climate Change, Finance, Food Processing Industries, Health and Family Welfare, Human Resource Development, Information and Broadcasting, and Science and Technology, at the Inter-Ministerial Consultation on Antimicrobial Resistance.