

OIE Statement – EAAD – 15 November 2018

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a serious global threat. Prevention of AMR in farming is critical to human health, as well as to food safety, food security, animal health and animal welfare.

Antimicrobials are used around the world to control and treat infections in animals and humans, but their overuse and misuse puts their efficacy at risk. Unprecedented movements of people, animals, goods and food worldwide enable resistant pathogens to populate the planet with ease.

In this context, The Tripartite (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), World Health Organization (WHO)) are collaborating with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to ensure the development and implementation of global strategies and measures designed to control the development and spread of AMR, and contribute to the fulfilment of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) establishes [international Standards](#) and guidelines and provides assistance and leadership to Member Countries to strengthen Veterinary Services and capacities to support their implementation at the national level. The OIE is implementing its [Strategy on Antimicrobial Resistance and the Prudent Use of Antimicrobials](#), by improving awareness and capacity through monitoring and training, in line with the Global Action Plan on AMR developed by the WHO in collaboration with FAO and OIE.

From 29 to 31 October 2018, during [the 2nd Global Conference on Antimicrobial Resistance and Prudent Use of Antimicrobial Agents in Animals](#), the OIE hosted global leaders in animal health to discuss new ideas and solutions to the global rise of antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

The conference was attended by more than 500 participants, including representatives from OIE's 182 Member Countries, international partners (such as FAO, WHO, World Bank, and the United Nations Interagency Coordination Group on AMR), as well as representatives from the meat, dairy, poultry, egg, aquaculture and pharmaceutical industries, civil society and academia. A prominent theme of the discussions was the need for cross-sector, national level coordination through national action plans to prevent the development and spread of antimicrobial resistance. Conference speakers included Ministers, Deputy Ministers and State Secretaries from countries across the world, including Morocco, Germany, Senegal, Thailand, Japan, Norway, Botswana, Serbia, and Uzbekistan.

The engagement of participants, country representatives and the OIE resulted in recommendations which represent the common commitment of all animal health stakeholders to tackling AMR, while ensuring the sustainability of livestock production and the maintenance of terrestrial and aquatic animal health and welfare. To strengthen international collaboration and coordination, the recommendations engage all stakeholders in surveillance and monitoring of antimicrobial use and resistance, to strengthen the economic case for sustainable investment, build national capacities of Member Countries, encourage priority research initiatives, and expand communication activities within national action plans to involve all stakeholders.

To support these efforts, the OIE has developed and released the WE NEED YOU communication campaign this week to help stakeholders protect the efficacy and availability of antimicrobials by promoting the actions to be implemented by each players. The complete toolkit, built on the basis of the OIE international Standards, is now available on the WE NEED YOU campaign website at www.oie-antimicrobial.com.

We all have a role to play to ensure antimicrobials are handled with care. It is by working together that we will tackle this global threat.

Explore the tools and discover what role each animal health stakeholder can play:



Resources:

- OIE AMR website: www.oie-antimicrobial.com
- [OIE Portal on dedicated to WAAW and Tripartite activities: www.oie.int/waaw](http://www.oie.int/waaw)
- [OIE international Standards for controlling antimicrobial resistance](#)