



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization



World Organisation  
for Animal Health  
Founded as OIE

# AMR Multi-Stakeholder Partnership Platform

## Frequently Asked Questions

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## I. General considerations

### 1. Why an AMR Multi-Stakeholder Partnership Platform?

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) – collectively referred to as the “**Quadripartite**” established the Platform pursuant to the ad hoc Interagency Coordination Group (IACG) on AMR’s 2019 report to the United Nations (UN) Secretary-General, entitled *“No time to wait: securing the future from drug resistant infections”*. This report recommended the *“establishment of a constituency-based partnership platform facilitated and managed by the Tripartite<sup>1</sup> agencies with diverse representation (e.g. governments, private sector and civil society representing human, animal, plant and environment health, as well as agriculture and food and feed production) to develop and implement a shared global vision, narrative and targets”*.

### 2. What is the Platform’s main goal?

The Platform aims to be an inclusive, international, and multi-stakeholder platform which brings together relevant stakeholders from multiple countries across the human, animal, plant, and environment interface to assist in preserving antimicrobials as lifesaving medicines and ensuring their responsible use under a One Health approach. It aims to promote a shared global vision, build consensus and encourage action to contribute to the implementation of the Global Action Plan on AMR (GAP).

### 3. What are the Platform’s objectives?

The Platform aims to:

- Promote a shared vision for action to tackle AMR by engaging all relevant stakeholders across the human, animal, plant, and environment interface to build a global vision, narrative, and targets for actions to tackle AMR.
- Information-sharing and networking by providing a venue to reach a common understanding and enable coordination of activities between the different sectors.
- Support concrete actions that substantially advance progress in containing, combatting, and ultimately reversing AMR.

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<sup>1</sup> “Tripartite” refers to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Health Organization (WHO)

Specifically, over the next two (2) years, the Platform aims to deliver the following:

| Result                                                                                                                                                                                               | Indicator                                                                         | Baseline (2022) | Target (2024)                                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Impact:</b><br>Enhanced AMR One Health governance and stakeholder engagement generates greater momentum for AMR work                                                                              | Momentum in the AMR GAP implementation and governance                             | Quadripartite   | Functioning Platform                                 |
| <b>Outcome:</b><br><br>Improved consensus among a broad range of public and private sector stakeholders to advocate for and generate concrete actions on AMR                                         | <i>Broader consensus and joint action at global, regional and national levels</i> | Quadripartite   | Increased/expanded joint action through the Platform |
| <b>Output 1:</b> The AMR Multi-Stakeholder Partnership Platform is set up, launched and attracts broad membership                                                                                    | <i>The AMR Partnership Platform is set up and operational</i>                     | 0               | 1                                                    |
| <b>Output 2:</b> The Partnership Platform Action Groups established, supporting a wide range of activities to enhance a One Health response to AMR at all levels (local, national, regional, global) | <i>No. of Plenary Sessions</i>                                                    | 0               | 2                                                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <i>No of Action Groups</i>                                                        | 0               | 5                                                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <i>No of Steering Committee meetings</i>                                          | 0               | 2                                                    |
| <b>Output 3:</b> Awareness raised on the need to raise the level of engagement and invest in tackling AMR through a OH approach at all levels                                                        | Number of awareness and Behaviour Change events/interventions                     | 0               | 5                                                    |
| <b>Output 4:</b> AMR knowledge gathered and disseminated on the challenges and opportunities to address AMR at all levels                                                                            | <i>No of knowledge products generated and shared</i>                              | 0               | 2                                                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <i>No of guidelines and relevant standards disseminated</i>                       | 0               | 2                                                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <i>No of webinars, workshops, seminars, round tables, trainings</i>               | 0               | 10                                                   |

#### 4. What are the guiding principles of the Platform?

The Platform adheres to the following guiding principles:

- Multisectoral and multidisciplinary systems approach: Recognizing that AMR is a complex and multidisciplinary One Health issue, the work of the Platform will reflect the involvement of multiple actors, disciplines, and sectors.
- Transparency and open access: The Platform will conduct its work in a transparent manner and regular updates on its priorities, work plan(s) and Plenary shall be published on the Quadripartite respective websites and/or communicated to the public in other forms, as appropriate.
- Inclusivity: The Platform will seek to achieve a balance between inclusiveness and effectiveness by ensuring that the voices of all relevant stakeholders are heard.

## II. Membership

#### 5. Who can become a Member of the Platform and what are Clusters?

Membership is open to applicant entities from the following sectors:

- a) governments, UN entities and Specialized Agencies, global and regional intergovernmental organizations;
- b) international and regional financial institutions, and philanthropic donors;

- c) civil society organizations and networks;
- d) academic and research organizations; and
- e) private sector entities.

The Platform's members are represented by nominated individuals. Individuals can only become involved in the Platform through representing a member from one of the above membership sector categories. There is no mechanism for individual persons to become members, but individuals may be invited to participate as Observers in the Plenary or in Action Groups.

Official representatives may also identify alternates specialized in human, animal, plant and environment health who can attend on their behalf technical meetings, such as those of Action Groups and/or Clusters.

After being accepted, new Members of the Platform are designated into Stakeholder Clusters. Clusters are stable groups of Members representing different sectors and their views, experiences, best practices, and contributions of the sectors they represent. There are five (5) Clusters within the Platform (ref. point 19).

### **6. How membership work?**

Interested stakeholders can apply via an online application form available on the Platform webpage. The application is received by the Platform's Coordinating Team, who reviews it and takes the decision based on the information provided in the form and in accordance with the rules, policies, and regulations of the Quadripartite organizations. The decision is communicated to the applicant by the Coordinating Team. The membership is free and voluntary.

### **7. Is there any limitation in the number of Members?**

There is no limitation in the number of members, the Platform aims to be inclusive and encourage participation of a broad array of stakeholders coming from different disciplines, sectors, regions, and countries.

### **8. Why join the Platform and what are the advantages of membership?**

The Platform is an inclusive and collaborative coordination mechanism which brings together relevant stakeholders across the human, animal, plant, and environment interface at the global level. It is a place where a shared global vision can be discussed, and actions can be taken together to contribute to the implementation of the Global Action Plan on AMR (GAP).

The Platform therefore allows each member to make its voice heard at the international level but also within his/her own sector of activity enabling to have an impact on the priority actions for preserving antimicrobials as lifesaving medicines and ensuring their responsible use under a One Health approach. It allows also to create international, multi-sectorial and multi-disciplinary networks facilitating the exchange of information and establishment of synergies between stakeholders for the common goal of combatting AMR.

### **9. What is the role and place of the civil society and their networks in the Platform? How can they have equal voice with other stakeholders, such as the private sector entities?**

While the platform aims at promoting a shared global vision, build more consensus, and take action to contribute to the implementation of the Global Action Plan on AMR (GAP), civil society and their

networks have the opportunity to make their voices heard and to contribute to actions. The Platform adheres to guiding principles such as Inclusivity. The Platform will seek to achieve a balance between inclusiveness and effectiveness by ensuring that the voices of all relevant stakeholders are heard. To ensure broad representation across the One Health spectrum relevant to AMR, members of the Platform will be categorized into five Clusters including the one representing civil society organizations and networks. The representation of each Cluster will be foreseen in the Steering Committee and actively encouraged in the Action Groups.

### **10. How does the Platform intend to value research and academic institutions and networks?**

While this Platform aims at promoting a shared global vision, building more consensus, and taking action to contribute to the implementation of the Global Action Plan on AMR (GAP), research and academic institutions have the opportunity to share their work, reinforce their networking and contribute to actions. Information-sharing will also be supported by a virtual platform designed to promote exchange and collaboration.

## **III. Operating mechanisms**

### **11. Who runs the Platform?**

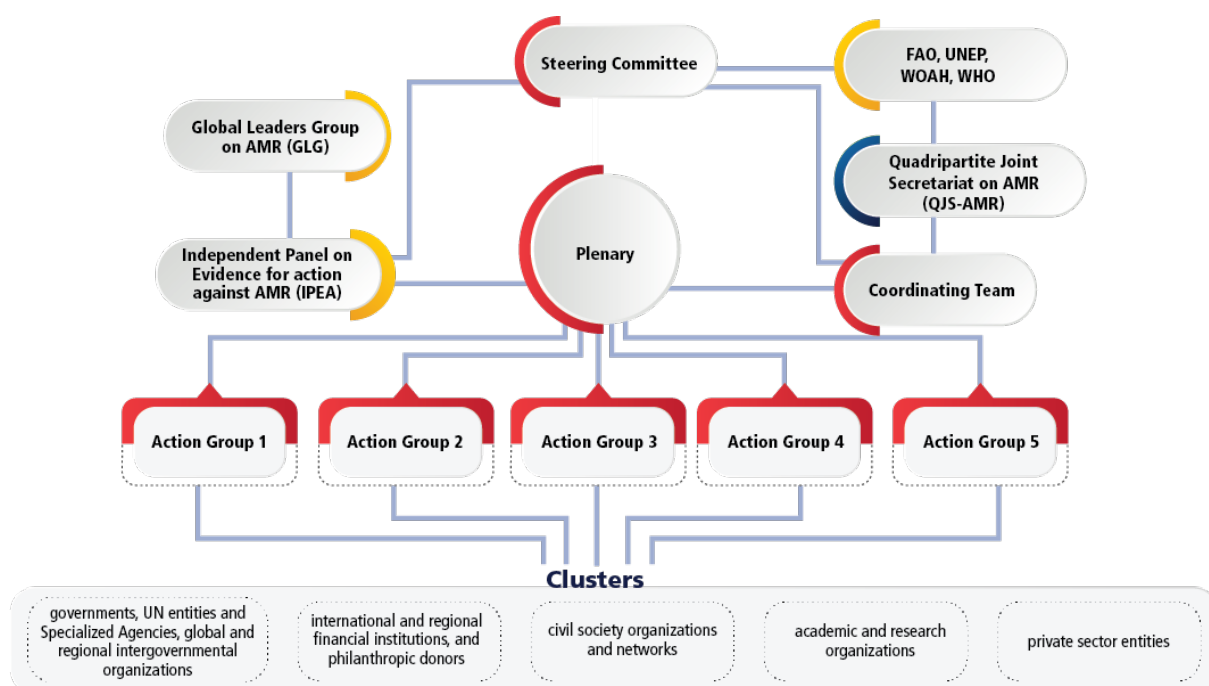
The Platform is a voluntary, collaborative coordination mechanism facilitated by the Quadripartite Organizations (FAO, WHO, WOA and UNEP) and is hosted by FAO. It is composed of members from a wide range of sectors, disciplines, and regions, who are organized in Clusters, form Action Groups to jointly work on specific themes and priority areas and have their representatives in the Steering Committee, which provides guidance and overall direction to the Platform.

### **12. What is the structure of the Platform?**

The Platform's Operating Mechanisms include the following structures (ref. picture 1):

- a) The Plenary, a central forum, where members of the Platform debate, coordinate, and exchange best practices and lessons learned. All Members of the Platform meet once a year in the Plenary session.
- b) The Steering Committee, composed of representatives of the Quadripartite, Clusters and Action Groups, coordinates the activities of the Platform and facilitates the implementation of its priorities, plans, and proposals, as agreed by the Plenary.
- c) Actions Groups, as the mechanisms that encourage cross-sectoral collaboration, are proposed by Members in order to work on specific themes and priority areas of AMR.
- d) Clusters, as mechanisms to represent sectors, are composed of members designated into five (5) Clusters (ref. point 19).
- e) The Coordinating Team is composed of the nominated Quadripartite officers and project-funded personnel. It is accountable to the Quadripartite Joint Secretariat on AMR (QJS-AMR) and provides day-to-day management and support to the Platform.

Picture 1: Platform's operating mechanisms



### 13. What does the Plenary do and who attends it?

The Plenary is the Platform's central forum and enables its members to debate, coordinate, and exchange best practices and lessons learned. Members in particular:

- discuss and agree on the Platform's priorities, plans and proposals.
- consider progress made by the Clusters and Action Groups towards the achievement of the Platform's objectives; and
- make recommendations for review, amendment, or additions to the Operating Mechanisms to achieve the effective implementation of the Platform's objectives.

### 14. Is the Platform a virtual space or will it also have face to face meetings?

The Platform is a hybrid space with Plenary sessions open to all members which may be held in-person, virtually, or in a hybrid format, as appropriate, as well as a web presence enabling exchange of information and collaboration.

### 15. Could a non-member of the Platform attend to the Plenary or Action Groups meetings?

The Coordinating Team may, occasionally, invite external individuals to attend sessions of the Plenary or Action Groups. These Observers may be invited either in their personal capacity, or as representatives from governmental institutions/intergovernmental organizations or non-state actors, on such conditions that the Coordinating Team may agree. Observers may not participate in decisions of the Plenary but may otherwise take part in sessions of the Plenary.

### 16. What is the role of the Steering Committee and what is its composition?

The Steering Committee coordinates the activities of the Platform and facilitates the implementation of its priorities, plans, and proposals, as agreed by the Plenary. The Steering Committee holds at least two meetings a year, which may be in person, hybrid or virtual, as appropriate.

The Steering Committee is composed of:

- a. one (1) representative from each Quadripartite organization;
- b. one (1) member from each of the five (5) Clusters;
- c. one (1) member from each of the Action Groups; and
- d. a chairperson, appointed by the Steering Committee

The Steering Committee will appoint a chairperson who serves and represents the interests and is accountable to all the Members of the Platform. The Chairperson of the Steering Committee chairs the meetings of the Steering Committee and sessions of the Plenary.

### **17. How does election to the Steering Committee work?**

To become a member of the Steering Committee, the Platform's member should be nominated by its Cluster or Action Group and then, appointed by the Coordinating Team. The Steering Committee members representing the Clusters and Action groups will be appointed for a four (4) year term. If the Action Group terminates its function before the end of the four years period, the representative will cease its functions. The works of the Steering Committee could be exceptionally observed by resource partners.

### **18. What is the role of the Coordinating team and who is it composed of?**

The Coordinating Team is composed of a representative from each of the Quadripartite organizations, as well as project-funded personnel. It is hosted by FAO on behalf of the Quadripartite and is accountable to the Quadripartite Joint Secretariat on AMR (QJS-AMR). The Coordinating Team, under the leadership of the QJS-AMR, provides day-to-day management of the Platform and operational and administrative support to the Plenary, Clusters, Action Groups, and the Steering Committee.

### **19. What are Clusters? What is their role?**

Clusters are stable groups of Members representing different sectors and their views, experiences, best practices, and contributions of the sectors they represent. Members of the Platform are designated into five (5) Clusters as follows:

- a) governments, UN entities and Specialized Agencies, global and regional intergovernmental organizations;
- b) international and regional financial institutions, and philanthropic donors;
- c) civil society organizations and networks;
- d) academic and research organizations; and
- e) private sector entities.

Clusters' functions will include to:

- a. represent the interests of the Cluster in the Platform.
- b. prepare and deliver Clusters' positions during Plenary sessions and Action Groups meetings.
- c. nominate, through the Coordinating Team, representatives of the Clusters in each of the proposed Action Groups.
- d. ensure appropriate representation in the Steering Committee.

### **20. How are Clusters decided on and formed?**

Following their membership application, members of the Platform will be categorized into five Clusters. They can belong to one Cluster only. Networks seeking membership of the Platform may have mixed membership across multiple sectors. In this case, the application can indicate a rationale for membership to a particular Cluster. The final decision on the applicant's Cluster membership will be made by the Coordinating Team.

## 21. How will the Platform ensure cohesion between different stakeholders' Clusters?

Several mechanisms will support cohesion between clusters such as Action Groups and Steering Committee. Action Groups are the main drivers of the Platform activities. They are established based on the support obtained from several Clusters. Additionally, the Steering Committee will coordinate the activities of the Platform and support the functioning of the Clusters and Action Groups. The Platform will also develop an internal communications strategy to enable ongoing multi-directional dialogue between members of the Platform, Clusters, Action Groups, and the Steering Committee.

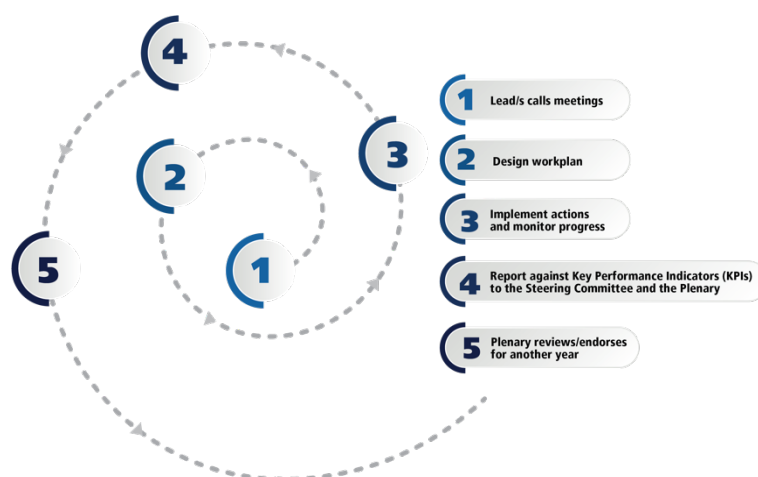
## 22. How are Action Groups decided on? What do Action Groups do?

In the first year of the Platform's operation, up to five (5) Action Groups may be set up. This number may increase, if capacities of the Platform allow. Applications for the establishment of an Action Group must be presented by a group of at least three (3) Members of the Platform, ideally representing two (2) or more Clusters. Applications shall be presented in the form approved by the Coordinating Team, and must include, at least, the proposed name, purpose, intended activities, timeframe, expected results and deliverables, work plan, Members of the Platform and proposed lead. The Coordinating Team may propose amendments to the application and will develop, for the Steering Committee's endorsement, a proposal for the approval of new Action Groups. Upon its positive review, the Steering Committee will inform the applicant and the Plenary of the new Action Group established. Actions Groups will not commence any activities prior to the Steering Committee's endorsement of its proposal (ref. Picture 2 Action Groups).

### Step 1: Establishment of Action Groups



### Step 2. Work process within Action Groups



## 23. Who attends and who leads Action Groups?

Any member of the Platform may propose an Action Group to implement agreed activities on specific AMR topics and subtopics. Actions Groups will be open to all members of the Platform. Applications for

the establishment of an Action Group must include Members of the Platform and proposed lead. Members will designate a representative and one or more alternates to participate in the Action Groups meetings and activities. Action Groups may incorporate interested members at any time. Members must disclose any potential conflict of interest they may have in relation to the work of the Action Group when joining and any time if their situation changes. Action groups will cease its functions upon completion of their objectives in accordance with their work plan.

### **24. What is the difference between Clusters and Action Groups?**

Clusters are groups of stakeholders representing one sector (i.e., civil society), while Action Groups are groups of stakeholders coming from different sectors and disciplines and working on specific themes or areas of interest. While Action Groups are working on specific cross-sectoral topics and areas, Cluster can convene meetings and discuss sectoral issues, if so desired.

### **25. What are the linkages with the regional and country One Health and AMR networks? How does the Platform intend to avoid duplication and promote shared objectives?**

Action Groups are the main drivers of the Platform activities. Members of the Platform are invited to propose actions and initiatives within the Action Groups that can support the implementation of NAPs at country level or of the GAP at global level. They are equally encouraged to ensure feedback on their engagement within the Platform at their country/regional level to enable dialogue, cross-fertilization and knowledge sharing with stakeholders that are not members of the Platform but are involved in and work on tackling AMR through the One Health approach. The Quadripartite organizations (FAO, UNEP, WHO, and WOA) support and facilitate the platform and ensure its smooth functioning and linkages with the GLG and other AMR governance structures, and via their regional and country presence. To drive progress at country level, the Platform will also have strong linkages with the AMR Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF), established and managed by the Quadripartite which is currently supporting projects in more than 12 countries.

## **IV. Resource mobilization**

### **26. Who funds the Platform, and can members apply for funding for AMR activities?**

Consistent with its nature as a voluntary, collaborative coordination mechanism, members of the Platform are not required to make any financial contributions to the Platform and undertake activities utilizing their own resources. Each member of the Platform will bear its own costs for participating in the Platform, including the travel and per diem costs for attending any in-person Plenary sessions or other meetings related to the Platform. A mechanism to financially support a certain category of members (e.g., civil society from LMICs) will be decided upon when the Steering Committee forms. The Quadripartite may financially contribute to activities undertaken by Members of the Platform, subject to the availability of resources, and through mutually agreed joint trust funds – or other appropriate joint funding mechanisms – in accordance with their respective rules, regulations, policies, and procedures. Members of the Platform and key partners are encouraged to support the Platform through the existing funding mechanisms, such as the AMR Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) or via contributions channeled through the Quadripartite Organizations.

## V. Monitoring and evaluation

### **27. What monitoring and evaluation strategy will the Platform's and its Action Groups have to track progress? How will the success of the Platform be evaluated?**

The performance of the Platform against its intended objectives will be continually monitored by the Quadripartite through the Coordinating Team following the established logical framework and in strong alignment with the existing Quadripartite monitoring and evaluation systems and frameworks (i.e., Global Database for the Tripartite Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Country Self-assessment Survey (TrACCS), AMR Multi-Partner Trust Fund (AMR MPTF), Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) to ensure coherence of actions. The work of the Coordinating Team will be guided by a yearly work plan developed based on the Platform's logical framework, set priorities, needs and commitments reflected in the Platform's Terms of Reference and Operating Rules with clear responsibilities, deliverables and timeline. An annual report of the Platform's performance against objectives in general or specifically agreed strategy and work plans will be prepared by the Coordinating Team and submitted to the Steering Committee and Plenary. Regular updates will also be provided on the Platform priorities, work plan(s) and Plenary via external communications.

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