

RESOLUTION No. 38

Global action to alleviate the threat of antimicrobial resistance: progress and opportunities for future activities under the ‘One health’ initiative

CONSIDERING

1. The adoption of several Resolutions by the World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) to combat antimicrobial resistance (AMR), and in particular Resolution No. 25 of May 2009 on ‘Veterinary products’, which took into account previous Resolutions on harmonisation of requirements for registration of veterinary medicinal products, their responsible and prudent use and monitoring of AMR,
2. The adoption by the Assembly, in May 2015, of Resolution No. 26 on ‘Combating Antimicrobial Resistance and Promoting the Prudent Use of Antimicrobial Agents in Animals’ during the 83rd General Session, including the setting up by the OIE, in application of this Resolution, of a database to collect information on the use of antimicrobial agents in animals, as well as the follow up, by OIE Member Countries, of the principles of the WHO Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance, developed with the support of the OIE to promote the ‘One Health’ concept, in particular through the development of national action plans,
3. The OIE Strategy on Antimicrobial Resistance and the Prudent Use of Antimicrobials published in November 2016, in accordance with Resolution No. 36 adopted by the Assembly during the 84th General Session of the OIE (May 2016), which is based on the WHO Global Action Plan and outlines the objectives and the tactics used by the OIE to help Member Countries to combat AMR, by promoting the implementation of national action plans with a One Health approach and international standards at national level,
4. The willingness of OIE Member Countries to develop harmonised short-, medium- and long-term initiatives consistent with the OIE strategy, to combat AMR more effectively, notably through the action of OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products,
5. The organisation of regional training seminars for OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products their positive impact on the way Member Countries take into account the topics covered during these seminars,
6. That in order to promote veterinary supervision to ensure the responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in animals, it is important that veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals receive appropriate training and have relevant and updated information on AMR,
7. The measures taken by the OIE to make communication tools available to Member Countries to enable the organisation of awareness campaigns on the sanitary risks posed by AMR and on the need to adopt responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents,
8. OIE Member Countries’ wish to have standards for the analysis of samples in order to be able to determine bacterial resistance and interpret the results in the context of AMR,

THE ASSEMBLY

RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The OIE Member Countries fulfil their commitment under the Global Action Plan by applying OIE standards and guidelines, in particular those on responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents, which include specific recommendations on antimicrobials of critical importance, and the phasing out of the use of antibiotics for growth promotion in the absence of risk analysis.
2. OIE Member Countries continue their efforts regarding the collection of data on the use of antimicrobial agents in animals and send the information annually to the OIE using the questionnaire specifically developed for this purpose.
3. The Delegates of Member Countries and Focal Points interact at national level with their 'One Health' counterparts in particular with those participating in the Codex Alimentarius Commission, to ensure sustainable collaboration and coordination on the development of international standards on AMR.
4. The OIE promote approaches to reduce the need to use antibiotics by encouraging alternatives to antibiotics in particular the development of vaccines and best practice husbandry and hygiene.
5. The OIE continue to implement its work programme according to the four objectives of its Strategy on Antimicrobial Resistance and the Prudent Use of Antimicrobials, in close collaboration with its Tripartite partners, WHO and FAO, with the help of other relevant partners and stakeholders, and to promote intersectoral coordination and cooperation at regional, sub-regional and national level.
6. The OIE support Member Countries in the implementation of a national action plan and international standards, especially with regard to responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in order to combat AMR more effectively, including the prescription and delivery of antimicrobial agents by well-trained veterinarians or suitably trained persons authorised in accordance with national legislation.
7. The OIE review the List of antimicrobial agents of veterinary importance including considering the purposes for use of antimicrobial agents in animals, in particular ionophores.
8. The OIE contribute to strengthening teaching on risks related to AMR and measures to be taken to control AMR in the core training curriculum and continuing education for veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals.
9. The OIE continue to organise training seminars at regional level for OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products (5th cycle), to improve awareness of its standards, guidelines and recommendations and the systems for improving the collection of data on the antimicrobial agents used in animals.
10. The OIE complement the specific standards and recommendations on laboratory methodologies for antimicrobial susceptibility testing to determine bacterial resistance and interpret the test results in the context of AMR, working with WHO and FAO to achieve integrated surveillance.
11. The OIE put in place tools to monitor the actions undertaken to implement its strategy on AMR, while also taking into account the evaluation developed in collaboration with its Tripartite partners and the future work of the United Nations interagency group to coordinate global action to fight antimicrobial resistance effectively and sustainably.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 25 May 2017
(in view of an entry into force on 26 May 2017))