Advancing the One Health response to Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)
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One Health and AMR

Dr. Azegele Allan, OGW
Deputy Director of Veterinary Services
One Health recognizes that the health of humans, animals and ecosystems are interconnected.

It involves applying a coordinated, collaborative, multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral approach to address potential or existing risks that originate at the animal-human-ecosystems interface.

Source: Upper Midwest Agricultural, Safety and Health Center, USA.
Antimicrobial Resistance

Antimicrobial agents are medicines used in humans, animals and plants for both prevention and treatment of infectious diseases.

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) occurs when disease causing microorganisms such as bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites are no longer responsive to previously effective antimicrobial agents.

AMR is a global concern for both the Public Health and Agriculture Sectors.
WHO, FAO, and OIE unite in the fight against Antimicrobial Resistance

THE FACTS
Antimicrobial agents:
- are essential to treat human and animal diseases;
- should thus be considered as a public good.
Some microbes have demonstrated full or partial resistance to different antimicrobial agents. It is an inevitable consequence of antimicrobial use both in humans and animals. This phenomenon called antimicrobial resistance, AMR, is an increasing global concern for human and animal health.

The need for a ‘One Health’ approach
Addressing the rising threat of AMR requires a holistic and multisectoral (‘One Health’) approach because antimicrobials used to treat various infectious diseases in animals may be the same or be similar to those used in humans. Resistant bacteria arising either in humans, animals or the environment may spread from one to the other, and from one country to another. AMR does not recognize geographic or human/animal borders.

A public good to protect
The discovery of antibiotics and their development to treat bacterial infections in humans and animals was one of the most important achievements of the 20th Century. Since antibiotics were first commercially produced, initially for use in human medicine and subsequently in veterinary medicine, their use has been associated with the risk of emergence of AMR. At the same time as the world has observed accelerated emergence of resistance, the discovery and development of new antimicrobial drugs has slowed down. The effectiveness of the existing antimicrobials should therefore be preserved as much as possible.

AMR does not recognize geographic or human/animal borders

AMR jeopardizes progress on health outcomes
Through a ‘One Health’ platform that embraces interdisciplinary collaboration and communication, the government undertakes to implement this policy in all aspects to safeguard human and animal health and the environment.

Dr. Cleopa Mailu, EGH
Cabinet Secretary
Ministry of Health

Mr. Willy Bett, EGH
Cabinet Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Fisheries & Blue Economy
Implementation

- AMR is one of the most complex public health challenges the world has faced—interdependent factors.
- No single organization or government or sector can solve AMR.
- Deliberate coordination and collaboration between key stakeholder groups, such as government, civil society and the private sector,
Governance and Coordination Structure

National Antimicrobial Stewardship Interagency Committee (NASIC) - Steering Committee

NASIC - Technical Committee

AMR Secretariat - coordinating body, with representation at all levels

National technical working groups

County Antimicrobial Stewardship Interagency Committee (CASIC)

County technical working groups
Multi-Sectoral Collaboration

Deliberate coordination of different stakeholder groups by Government

**Multiple Sectors**
- Health
- Agriculture
- Trade
- Education
- Environment
- Finance

**Multiple Disciplines**
- Civil society organizations
- Private sector
- Professional associations
- Academia
- Industry associations
Conclusion

- **Political** commitment and leadership are critical to drive the AMR agenda, mobilize and allocate resources appropriately, and get action.

- **Resources**: collaboration takes time and money

- **Governance mechanisms**: no one-size-fits-all approach

- **Practical management** to keep the collaboration going
Thank you