The AMR Stakeholder Network within the European Commission Health Policy Platform

Terms of Reference

About the AMR Stakeholder Network

The AMR Stakeholder Network brings together organisations and individuals committed to tackling Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) at national, regional and European level, covering all dimensions of the ‘One Health’ approach.

Established in 2017, under the auspices of the European Commission’s Health Policy Platform, the network, led by the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA), aims to ensure that AMR remains high on the EU agenda during the 2020-2024 mandate of the European Commission, advocating for well-coordinated and resourced actions at EU level and in the Member States, aligned with the global work led by the World Health Organization, UN agencies and other actors.

Stakeholder Networks are networks approved by the European Commission on a specific key health policy area and operate within the Health Policy Platform. The AMR Stakeholder Network was set up to follow up on the Joint Statement and Call to Action on AMR, which urges EU policy-makers to effectively implement the EU One Health Action Plan against AMR.

The Network’s objectives

1. ensure that AMR with a One Health approach remains high on European Union policy agenda, and that it is recognised that AMR needs to be considered in a wide range of decision making
2. support the implementation of National Action Plans (NAP) of Member States through increasing EU support and resources and build consensus on the key EU priorities for tackling AMR
3. Advocate for the EU to be a strong leader in Europe and globally in the fight against AMR

The Network’s goals - Roadmap to action

The work of the Network is based around 5 key strategies and targets to tackle AMR, as defined by the Roadmap for Action on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in the 2019-2024 mandate.
The Network Members call for the implementation of 5 key strategies and targets to tackle AMR:

1. Set targets and performance indicators
2. Put prevention at the heart of AMR policy-making
3. Help countries mobilise resources for better implementation of national AMR policies
4. Close the existing collaboration gap between civil society and EU policy-makers
5. Tackle the environmental dimension of AMR in the framework of the European Green Deal

Governance and Structure

The AMR Stakeholder Network is hosted by European Public Health Alliance (EPHA), which will appoint the Network Coordinator, who is responsible for managing, coordinating and liaising with the AMR Stakeholder Network members and partners at European level. The Coordinator acts in an independent and transparent way to ensure implementation of these Terms of Reference and smooth coordination of all activities agreed by the Network.

Membership

The Network welcomes both institutional and individual members who wish to join efforts and work together for reducing AMR across Europe. Members should:

- contribute to reaching the goals, objectives and targets of the Network
- support the further development of the Network
- actively contribute to the work/activities of the Network.

The Network is open to follow a dialogue with external organisations by organising AMR Dialogue Platform events.

Roles and responsibilities

The AMR Stakeholder Network Coordinator:

- the smooth functioning of the Network, including organisation of internal and external Network meetings; facilitating members' active participation in the network’s activities
- the governance of the Network, including handling new membership applications and the approval process
- Liaising with AMR Stakeholder Network members in a transparent and independent way to ensure representation of all opinions and to facilitate consensus on positions and planning;
- Formulating proposals for advocacy actions, joint initiatives, statements, open letters, campaigns as agreed by the Network members
- Co-hosting the Secretariat for the MEP Interest Group on AMR with Health Care Without Harm (HCWH) Europe

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Ensuring an open and fair dialogue with interested, external organisations by organising AMR Dialogue Platform events (see below).

**Institutional AMR Stakeholder Network members:**

- May participate in internal and external Network meetings and events
- Have the right to vote, including in the procedure for the selection of new members
- Should actively and constructively participate in the work of the Network
- Should communicate and disseminate Network activities: joint statements, open letters, policy briefings etc.

**Individual AMR Stakeholder Network members:**

- May participate in internal and external Network meetings and events
- Should actively and constructively participate in the work of the Network
- Should communicate and disseminate Network activities: joint statements, open letters, policy briefings etc.

**Selection criteria**

- Institutional members should be registered in the EU transparency register
- Members of the Network cannot act as representatives or on behalf of other entities and or individuals
- Members should have relevant expertise and knowledge in the area of AMR
- Institutional members should officially endorse the *Roadmap for action on antimicrobial resistance (AMR)*

**Selection process**

- Each application will be subject to the selection process.
- Applicants should submit their application to EPHA by completing the application which will include basic information about the applicant (type of organisation, country and website, transparency register number, short presentation of their expertise and knowledge in the area of AMR, motivation to join the Network).
- The AMR Stakeholder Network coordinator will verify that applicants fulfill the membership criteria.
- Only applicants approved by existing AMR Stakeholder Network members can become members.
Silence procedure

The Coordinator will present the application to the Network in writing. Institutional members can raise motivated concern in written form to EPHA *(breaking the silence)*. Only institutional members can break the silence procedure and participate in voting procedures. If the silence procedure is broken, a vote will take place. Institutional members that break the silence procedure need to communicate the reasons for their decision to EPHA in writing.

If no institutional member expresses concern about the application within 10 working days, the applicant will be considered as a member on the 11th working day and the Coordinator will inform the Network accordingly.

Voting procedure

A vote can take place via electronic procedure. Institutional members shall be provided with at least 10 working days to cast their votes. The application is successful if 2/3 majority of the votes cast approve the application.

The Coordinator will inform the applicant about the outcome of the selection process.

AMR Dialogue Platform events

AMR Dialogue Platform events should aim to facilitate an open and fair dialogue between Stakeholder Network members and other interested organisations having relevant knowledge and expertise on AMR. For example, stakeholders who do not fulfill the membership criteria are welcome to enter into a mutually beneficial dialogue and be invited to AMR Dialogue Platform events.

Background information

Key documents endorsed by Network member organisations:

- EU Health Policy Platform - Joint Statement on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) February 2018
- EU Health Policy Platform - Call to Action on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) February 2018
- Roadmap for Action on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

Website: https://epha.org/amr-stakeholder-network/

Acting AMR Stakeholder Network Coordinator

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