

**REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA****ORIGINAL: ENGLISH**Seventy-third sessionGaborone, Republic of Botswana, 28 August–1 September 2023Provisional agenda item 10**RESOLUTION****REGIONAL STRATEGY FOR EXPEDITING THE IMPLEMENTATION AND  
MONITORING OF NATIONAL ACTION PLANS ON ANTIMICROBIAL  
RESISTANCE, 2023–2030 IN THE WHO AFRICAN REGION**

(Document AFR/RC73/6)

The Regional Committee,

Having considered document AFR/RC73/6 entitled “Regional strategy for expediting the implementation and monitoring of national action plans on antimicrobial resistance, 2023–2030 in the WHO African Region”;

Recognizing the increasing emergence and spread of antimicrobial-resistant organisms that reverse the benefits of antimicrobials and further complicate the management of many infectious and non-infectious diseases;

Noting that despite the considerable improvement in global health, millions of people still lack access to quality services including access to effective antimicrobial medicines;

Recalling World Health Assembly resolutions WHA68.7 on the Global action plan on antimicrobial resistance, WHA72.5 on antimicrobial resistance, WHA71.1 on the Thirteenth General Programme of Work, 2019–2023 and the triple billion targets, the International Health Regulations (2005); and document AFR/RC67/10 on the Framework for health systems development towards universal health coverage in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals in the African Region;

Recognizing the need to address antimicrobial resistance to contribute to the agenda of the Declaration of Astana on primary health care<sup>1</sup> for achieving universal coverage and the Sustainable Development Goals and ensuring global health security;

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<sup>1</sup> World Health Organization. (2019). Declaration of Astana: Global Conference on Primary Health Care: Astana, Kazakhstan, 25 and 26 October 2018. World Health Organization. License: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO (<https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/328123>, accessed 3 February 2023)

Recognizing that the three pillars of primary health care (community engagement, front-line health services, and multisectoral actions on wider health determinates) are central to an effective response to antimicrobial resistance;

Considering that 1.27 million deaths<sup>2</sup> are directly attributable to bacterial resistance in sub-Saharan Africa, which is of deep concern;

Noting the uncontrolled antimicrobial overuse and misuse in humans, plants and animals across the Region and the risks posed by substandard and falsified medicines;

Acknowledging the threat posed by resistant pathogens to the continuing effectiveness of antimicrobials in the fight against disease and ensuring food security, which makes it a development issue as it jeopardizes the functioning of human, animal and plant health systems and economies;

Cognizant that Member States face challenges in ensuring that national action plans on antimicrobial resistance are endorsed, funded, implemented, and monitored,

1. ADOPTS the “Regional strategy for expediting the implementation and monitoring of national action plans on antimicrobial resistance, 2023–2030 in the WHO African Region”;
2. URGES Member States:
  - (a) to commit political will and provide leadership for the dissemination and implementation of this strategy in collaboration with various stakeholders;
  - (b) to ensure sufficient resources for the implementation of national action plans as an integral part of the national health strategy and plan;
  - (c) to conduct advocacy for the recognition of antimicrobial resistance as a national priority with domestic funding for national action plans;
  - (d) to promote the use of existing platforms and tools to build technical capacity and implement the national action plans;
  - (e) to enforce regulations and laws for appropriate use and disposal of antimicrobials;
3. URGES WHO and partners:
  - (a) to support Member States to prioritize, finalize, cost, implement and monitor national action plans on antimicrobial resistance;
  - (b) to mobilize partners to support the implementation of the strategy in accordance with the principles of sustainability;
  - (c) to support the development of an adequate workforce and multidisciplinary rosters of experts on antimicrobial resistance;
  - (d) to collaborate with research institutions to produce, disseminate and support effective use of evidence on antimicrobial resistance;
  - (e) to support the development, establishment and functionality of technical and professional networks and related health systems and services to curb antimicrobial resistance.

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<sup>2</sup> Antimicrobial Resistance Collaborators (2022). Global burden of bacterial antimicrobial resistance in 2019: a systematic analysis. *Lancet* (London, England), 399(10325), 629–655. ([https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(21\)02724-0](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(21)02724-0), accessed 3 February 2023)