

156th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Washington, D.C., USA, 22-26 June 2015

CE156.R4
Original: Spanish

RESOLUTION

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PLAN OF ACTION ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

THE 156th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

Having reviewed the *Plan of Action on Antimicrobial Resistance* (Document CE156/17),

RESOLVES:

To recommend that the 54th Directing Council adopt a resolution in the following terms:

PLAN OF ACTION ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

THE 54th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Taking into account Resolution CD41.R14 (1999) on emerging and reemerging infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance, and Document CD51/15, Rev. 1, Add. I (2011) on the containment of antimicrobial resistance;

Aware of the importance of maintaining antibiotics as essential drugs that significantly help reduce morbidity and mortality from infectious diseases, particularly in persons in conditions of vulnerability, such as immunocompromised patients, cancer patients, transplanted patients, patients admitted to intensive care units, and, in general, anyone suffering from an infectious disease;

Keeping in mind regional achievements and challenges in the surveillance and containment of antimicrobial resistance, which serve as a starting point for preparing the Plan of Action on Antimicrobial Resistance for 2015-2020;

Recognizing that antimicrobial resistance is a health threat that requires a multisectoral response and that the government's steering role is, consequently, fundamental for success;

Recognizing that, to achieve timely access to effective, quality antimicrobial drugs and ensure their proper use in human health, current national approaches must be reviewed;

Based on the spirit of Pan-Americanism, the Millennium Development Goals, universally and regionally binding human rights instruments, and with a view to reducing the impact of infectious diseases and successfully maintaining the effectiveness of antimicrobial drugs, including antiviral, antifungal, antibacterial, and antiparasitic drugs,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the *Plan of Action on Antimicrobial Resistance* and its implementation in the context of the conditions of each country.
2. To urge Member States, considering their own context and priorities, to:
 - a) renew their commitment to support the establishment of action plans that consolidate achievements and make it possible to design and implement concrete actions to contain antimicrobial resistance;
 - b) allocate the resources needed to adequately develop and implement their action plans:
 - i. available, trained human resources to support surveillance and monitoring of the proper use of antimicrobial drugs, stimulate intersectoral dialogue, and promote citizen and community participation, as well as collaboration within and outside the health sector;
 - ii. financial resources that ensure the sustainability of the Plan of Action and that enhance the capacities of public health laboratories, access to and adequate use of antimicrobial drugs, and intersectoral collaboration;
 - c) establish platforms for dialogue and multisectoral action to address the integrated monitoring of resistance, regulated use of antimicrobial drugs, and promotion of research and development; and to promote intersectoral participation (public and private sectors, other ministries—in particular agriculture—and civil society, among others) in order to make the most of resources and achieve synergies supporting the containment of resistance;
 - d) take urgent action to promote the appropriate use of antimicrobial drugs, considering a comprehensive approach to the process of using education and communication to promote the responsible use of antimicrobial drugs by individuals and consumers;

- e) establish systems for the detection and monitoring of antimicrobial resistance, with quality management that ensures the suitability of laboratory data, as well as the integration of information from other sectors and information on the use of antimicrobial drugs;
 - f) stimulate and support research and development to combat antimicrobial resistance, including academia and the private sector, in order to develop new, practical ideas that extend the shelf life of antimicrobials and stimulate the development of new diagnostic tools and antimicrobial drugs;
 - g) appropriately allocate and use resources to achieve the objectives of the *Plan of Action on Antimicrobial Resistance* for 2015-2020;
 - h) establish mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Plan.
3. To request the Director to:
- a) ensure that all the corresponding entities in the Pan American Sanitary Bureau (PASB) and the country offices provide committed and coordinated support to the countries' efforts to contain antimicrobial resistance;
 - b) collaborate with the Member States in the implementation of this Plan for 2015-2020, in accordance with their needs, by taking a multidisciplinary and intersectoral approach and taking into consideration health promotion, human rights, gender equality, and universal health coverage;
 - c) promote the implementation of this Plan of Action and ensure its transversality across PASB's departments and the different subregional and national contexts and priorities, and through collaboration with and among the countries in the design of strategies and the exchange of capacities and resources;
 - d) allocate sufficient resources for the Bureau's work, in line with the Organization's budget planning; and continue advocating for the active mobilization of resources and promoting partnerships to support the implementation of this Resolution;
 - e) consolidate and expand collaboration with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) to combat antimicrobial resistance, in accordance with the "One Health" initiative;
 - f) monitor and evaluate the implementation of this Plan of Action and submit a periodic progress report to the Governing Bodies on any limitations in the implementation of the Plan and any necessary adaptations to new contexts and needs.

(Second meeting, 22 June 2015)