



REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE OIE WORKING GROUP ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE
Paris (via Zoom), 6-9 April 2021

1 Opening

The OIE Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) (hereafter referred to as ‘the Group’) met from 6th to 9th April 2021 via an on-line application, 13:00 – 15:00 (Central European Time) on April 6th and April 9th, and 12:30 – 15: 30 (Central European Time) on April 7th and 8th, coordinated by the OIE Headquarters in Paris, France.

Dr Matthew Stone, OIE Deputy Director General International Standards and Science, welcomed the Group members and thanked them for their participation in the Group. He noted that the OIE is currently focused on the organisation of the forthcoming 88th General Session. This will be the first time the OIE has run a General Session in full virtual mode. This year there are a significant number of elections, in particular for the Director General position, the Council, and the Specialist Commissions. There is also a huge amount of activity across the Tripartite (FAO/OIE/WHO), particularly the national and global programmes under the AMR Multi Partner Trust Fund (MPTF).

2 Adoption of the agenda and appointment of the rapporteur

The agenda was adopted with a small amendment on point 3, as follows “World Veterinary Association (WVA) and World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) Lists of Essential Medicines”.

The Group was chaired by Dr Tomoko Ishibashi and Dr Donald Prater acted as rapporteur. The adopted Agenda and List of Participants are presented in Appendices I and II of this report, respectively.

3 Landscape: Tripartite, Codex update, WSAVA List of Essential Medicines, FAO action plan, EU legislation/categorisation

a) Tripartite Work on AMR

Dr Ólafur Valsson presented the work of the Tripartite on AMR. Joint Tripartite work on AMR is harmonised through the Tripartite Joint Secretariat (TJS) on AMR hosted by the WHO with Liaison Officers from OIE and FAO. A tighter collaboration with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) is being discussed. The TJS on AMR is, among other items, addressing the recommendations of the UN Interagency Coordination Group (IACG) on AMR report, and establishing and providing secretarial support to the global governance structures. The Global Leaders Group (GLG) on AMR has been established. The inaugural meeting was held in January 2021. The first regular meeting of the GLG

on AMR is scheduled for 4th–5th May 2021. The Independent Panel on Evidence, another of the global governance structures, is also advancing. Currently, the Terms of Reference are at the United Nations Secretary General for endorsement. The Partnership Platform on Action against AMR (PPAMR), the third global governance structure is currently being discussed by the Tripartite. The TJS on AMR expects to provide secretarial functions to all the three global governance structures.

The TJS on AMR is also supporting the MPTF on AMR providing funding of Tripartite country projects and global projects addressing AMR related topics (<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/AMR00>). Currently, funds have been released to four global projects on Tripartite Integrated Surveillance System on AMR (TISSA), Environment, Legal and Regulatory Frameworks, and Monitoring and Evaluation. The Monitoring and Evaluation project is led by the OIE. The TJS on AMR is in addition drafting a Strategic Framework for Tripartite work on AMR, which will underpin a three-year work plan. It was clarified that the Strategic Framework for the Tripartite is to focus on areas where the three organisations will work together, although it is in line with the strategies on AMR of each organisation and the Global Action Plan (GAP) on AMR.

The Group expressed an interest in understanding the contribution of veterinarians and those in the animal health sector in the GLG. It was also proposed that the Group members would be informed on relevant developments on Tripartite activities when relevant.

b) Codex Task Force on AMR (TFAMR)

Dr Tomoko Ishibashi and Dr Donald Prater provided an update on the work of the Codex *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force on AMR (TFAMR). The TFAMR has been discussing two tasks, first, to review and revise the Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Antimicrobial Resistance (CoP) which was adopted in 2005, to address the entire food chain, and second, to consider the development of Guidance on Integrated Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance, taking account the work of the WHO Advisory Group on Integrated Surveillance of AMR (AGISAR) and relevant OIE documents. The Task Force meeting originally planned for December 2020 has been rescheduled for 4th–8th October 2021. For each of the two tasks, an electronic Working Group and a webinar have been organised.

For the development of Guidance on Integrated Surveillance, after two rounds of comment submissions to the electronic Working Group, a webinar was organised in January 2021. The major discussion points that have not yet been resolved include:

- To what extent the surveillance of antimicrobial use should be included in the document.
- To what extent the surveillance of the plant/crop sector should be/can be developed.
- Whether there is a common understanding about the meaning of “Integrated surveillance”.

The third round for comments submission to the electronic Working Group closed last week.

The draft CoP was adopted as a draft of Step 5 at the Codex Alimentarius in November 2020. While there was broad support for adoption at Step 5, some members requested additional discussion on Principle 5 (prohibition of medically important antimicrobials for growth promotion) and Principle 7 (limitations of the use of medically important antimicrobials for prevention of disease/prophylaxis). It was noted that the entire document will be open for comment at Step 6. In February, the electronic Working Group Chair and Co-chair invited Members to provide comments on “therapeutic use”, which is a remaining issue from the

last Task Force meeting in December 2019. There will be a webinar on the CoP on 8th April 2021 with the objective to provide an update on Codex work regarding the revision of the CoP, so that members beyond the electronic Working Group members can be informed. This webinar will cover the entire document. The CoP will then go out associated with a circular letter at Step 6 and will be open for comments from Codex members and observers.

c) World Veterinary Association (WVA) and World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) Lists of Essential Medicines

Dr Jorge Pinto Ferreira updated the Group on the Lists of Essential Medicines developed by the World Veterinary Association (WVA) and the World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA). The WSAVA published a List of Essential Medicines for Cats and Dogs in 2020, which includes a footnote to the *OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance*.

There is now a new initiative from the World Veterinary Association (WVA) in collaboration with Brooke (Action for Working Horses and Donkeys), to develop a List of Essential Medicines for Livestock. Cattle, Goats/Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Horses/Donkeys, Fish, Bees and Rabbits [Large ruminants, Small ruminants, Equids, Poultry, Porcine, Aquaculture, Bees, and Rabbits], and it is expected that the list for the first species will be completed by the end of 2021. The WVA is currently looking for experts to assist them in putting this list together.

It was noted that several members from the Group are involved in these initiatives. Dr Jorge Pinto Ferreira and Dr Stephen Page are members of WSAVA's Therapeutic Guidelines Group (TGG), and Dr Stephen Page and Prof. Moritz van Vuuren are involved in the WVA's work. The WVA List of Essential Medicines should remain an agenda item for this Group, until it is published.

d) FAO Action Plan

Dr Jeffrey LeJeune informed the Group that a new FAO Action Plan is being developed for the next five years (FAO's previous Action Plan ran from 2015-2020). While the FAO has been listening to member countries opinions, the Action Plan focuses on how FAO can support countries to achieve their goals, including implementation of National Action Plans, rather than functioning as a strategy or policy document. It aligns with Tripartite activities, the GAP on AMR, and the IACG recommendations. The FAO Action Plan will contain five pillars, emphasising awareness, surveillance, best practices including appropriate use, and governance. The FAO is also developing a Food Safety Strategy which will likely include some AMR issues.

e) New EU regulations impacting use of antimicrobials in the context of overriding European initiatives

Ms Barbara Freischem provided an overview of the changing rules regarding the use of antimicrobials in animals in the EU, within the context of larger EU strategies. It was highlighted that the Farm to Fork Strategy is an element of the European Green Deal, which contains a number of policy initiatives that aim at the EU becoming climate neutral by 2050. One of the targets of this strategy is to reduce the sales of antimicrobials for farmed animals and in aquaculture by 50% (in relation to sales data from 2018).

Further information on the ongoing implementation process can be found at:

https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/health/veterinary-medicines-and-medicated-feed/imp-regs-2019_en
<https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/veterinary-regulatory/overview/veterinary-medicines-regulation>

4 Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of the OIE AMR Strategy

The OIE has undertaken, with the assistance of a consultant, the task of preparing a results framework for the OIE Strategy on AMR and the Prudent Use of Antimicrobials, that also aligns with the OIE's 7th Strategic Plan (2021-2025). It includes activities not only in the Antimicrobial Resistance and Veterinary Products (AMR&VP) Department, but also the Communications Department, and the Capacity Building Department at OIE Headquarters. The work on indicators is ongoing, but the results framework is expected to be completed in June 2021.

5 Update of *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*: revision of chapter 6.10, designate the main areas of the chapter that would benefit from an update

The Group has been requested by the OIE Code Commission to designate the main areas of Chapter 6.10 that would benefit from an update, and the best way to advance this work.

The OIE secretariat has identified the following areas that could benefit from such update:

- To ensure there is a link to the Codex Code of Practice (with mutual reinforcement), and the *OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance* (hereafter the *OIE List*).
- To expand the references to the environment.
- To consider expanding the scope of the chapter to non-food producing animals, in particular companion animals.

The Group discussed these aspects. The Group noted the content of Chapter 6.10 covers parts of the Codex Alimentarius Recommended Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance (CXC 61-2005) which is currently undergoing revision by the Codex ad hoc Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR). The TFAMR is scheduled to complete its work in October 2021. The Group shared the opinion that it would be useful to review and take into account the revision of the Codex Code of Practice during any updates to Chapter 6.10 to promote harmonisation where appropriate.

It was noted that there are many One Health concepts included in the Codex Code of Practice. Some similar references to One Health could be incorporated or taken into account in a revision of Chapter 6.10, which could include some considerations for environment. However, the Group noted that Chapter 6.10 is currently included within *Section 6 Veterinary Public Health*, and that the addition of elements relating to the environment or wider One Health concepts might take this out of the scope of veterinary public health. The Group discussed whether Chapter 6.10 is limited to food-producing animals. It was observed that the scope of the current Chapter 6.10 is not considered by the Group to be limited to food-producing animals, and therefore implicitly does already include companion animals. However, some additional references to these species may need to be included during the revision of the chapter.

The Group identified several areas of Chapter 6.10 that would benefit from an update, and to consider the following changes in future discussions for revision to this chapter:

- Article 6.10.3 Responsibilities of the Competent Authority
 - Addition of text on the role of authorities in drafting, implementing and maintaining National Action Plans.
 - Addition of text on the creation and update of prudent use guidelines.
 - Addition of text on the provision to the OIE of national quantities of antimicrobial agents used in animals.

- Article 6.10.4 Responsibilities of the veterinary pharmaceutical industry with regards to veterinary medicinal products containing antimicrobial agents
 - Addition of text on the need to guarantee the availability of authorised products on the market (i.e., to avoid or forecast drug shortages). It was noted that some aspects of this responsibility may be shared between the veterinary pharmaceutical industry and the Competent Authority, and that in particular, follow-up of drug shortages may also be included in the Competent Authority’s responsibilities.
 - Addition of text on dealing with substandard, falsified, and unregistered/unlicensed veterinary products. It was noted that some text has been added on this item to the Codex Code of Practice. This may also be an issue for considerations of surveillance or disposal.
- Article 6.10.6 Responsibilities of veterinarians
 - Addition of text referring to the *OIE List* and its recommendations.
 - Addition of text on the need for veterinarians to follow national responsible and prudent use guidelines. Consideration would need to be given as to whether such guidelines have regulatory or non-regulatory implications, the need to keep such guidelines updated, and the consideration of international standards during the development of national guidelines.
 - Modification of the wording relating to the “synergistic effect” of combinations of antimicrobial agents. It was noted that such terminology may not be current with the way in which this terminology is understood today, and that there may be other terminology that requires updating in the same section.
 - Addition of text on prophylactic and metaphylactic use of antimicrobial agents, and where such use may be appropriate in the context of veterinary medical use.
- Article 6.10.7 Responsibilities of food animal producers
 - Addition of “duration of treatment” as a required information to be included in the adequate records kept by the food animal producer of all veterinary medicinal products containing antimicrobial agents used.
 - Expansion of this article, or creation of a new article, to allow for the addition of other entities who have responsibilities for animals (for example, guardians of companion animals).
- Article 6.10.8 Responsibilities of animal feed manufacturers
 - Expansion of this article to include mention of the informal part of the feed animal industry (for example, home mixers, farm millers), and the responsibilities for these entities.

As the Group suggested delaying commencement of work on the revision until after the Codex TFAMR has progressed on the Code of Practice, the proposed starting date would be October 2021.

6 OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance in Animals

6.1. Subdivision into animal species

- Poultry – publication of the Technical Reference Document Listing Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance for Poultry

The Group was informed that the OIE List would be updated based on the work completed in developing the *Technical Reference Document Listing Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance for Poultry* (hereafter referred to as the *Poultry Technical Reference Document*). This will include the addition or removal of the abbreviation “AVI” to antimicrobial agents already on the *OIE List*, according to the conclusions listed in the Group’s October 2020 Report. Antimicrobial agents will not be removed or added to the *OIE List* at this point in time. These changes will be mentioned in the Group’s video for the OIE’s 88th General Session to inform OIE Members, and the updated version of the *OIE List* will be made public on the OIE’s website after the General Session in May 2021.

It was clarified that the *Poultry Technical Reference Document* remains available as an Appendix to the [Group's October 2020 Report](#) on the OIE's website, but is not published as a standalone document. Publication of the *Poultry Technical Reference Document* will wait until other species-specific *Technical Reference Documents Listing Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance* are also completed.

- Aquatic species and ornamental fish

Dr Dante Mateo presented the progress on the implementation of the activities suggested in the work proposal on AMR in aquaculture. The initial activities being implemented are the establishment of an AMR Aquaculture Network, the refinement of the Template of the OIE AMU data collection, and the development of a *Technical Reference Document Listing Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance for Aquatic Species* (hereafter *Aquatic Species Technical Reference Document*) as an annex to the *OIE List*.

The AMR in Aquaculture Network has 18 members from several OIE Departments, Regional Representations, the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission (AAHSC), and the Group. To date, two meetings have been held in which the implementation of the activities of the work proposal on AMR in aquaculture was discussed and other relevant ongoing activities at the OIE were shared.

For the development of the *Aquatic Species Technical Reference Document*, an *ad hoc* Group on Technical References for Aquatic Animals has been formed. It is composed of one member of the AAHSC, three members of the Group, and seven additional experts selected from a list of candidates suggested by the OIE Regional Representations, the AAHSC, and the AMR&VP Department. The deliverables of the *ad hoc* Group on Technical References for Aquatic Animals are annexes related to the main microbial diseases (and the associated pathogens) of fish and crustaceans and the antimicrobial classes used to treat them. The draft Terms of Reference (ToRs) for this *ad hoc* Group have been shared with the Group and are available in [Appendix III](#). The first meeting is expected to be in April 2021.

The Group noted that when the draft *Aquatic Species Technical Reference Document* is sent to experts for their review, it would be important to ensure the inclusion of experts with a variety of backgrounds and with expertise across different aquatic species.

The Group was asked for their opinion on the addition of crustaceans (abbreviation "CRU") and ornamental fish as new species on the *OIE List*. The Group agreed to include crustaceans as a new species category on the *OIE List*, taking into account that these are food-producing animals, of significance as an aquaculture group. It was acknowledged that the number of antimicrobial agents licensed for use in these species may be limited. The Group agreed that the addition of ornamental fish would not be a priority at this time, given that the *OIE List* currently includes only food-producing species, and considering the complexity of including this category of species. However, the Group acknowledged that ornamental fish are of high importance in certain regions and proposed that if the *OIE List* is updated in the future to include companion animals or other non-food-producing species, ornamental fish could also be included.

- Swine

The Group was reminded that they had decided at their last meeting in October 2020 that swine would be the next food-producing terrestrial animal species to have a *Technical Reference Document Listing Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance* developed as an appendix to the *OIE List*.

To develop the *Technical Reference Document Listing Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance for Swine* (hereafter the *Swine Technical Reference Document*), the OIE Secretariat proposed working with a subgroup of members to develop a first draft and then inviting additional experts to establish an *ad hoc* Group (hereafter the "Swine *ad hoc* Group"), consisting of:

- a subgroup of members of the Group (Dr Barbara Freischem, Dr Donald Prater, Dr Gerard Moulin, Prof. Moritz van Vuuren, Dr Stephen Page), hereafter referred to as the “Swine subgroup”,
- and selected swine experts

The draft ToRs for the Swine *ad hoc* Group have been shared with the Group for its feedback and are available in [Appendix IV](#). A list of suggested experts for inclusion in the Swine *ad hoc* Group has been shared with the Group, and the Group was invited, without delay, to send the names of other experts for consideration, targeting a balanced geographical representation.

The process to develop the *Swine Technical Reference Document* would be the same approach as that followed for development of the *Poultry Technical Reference Document*. The OIE Secretariat would prepare documents for the Swine subgroup based on the method used for the *Poultry Technical Reference Document*. The Swine subgroup would meet to discuss and work on these documents in late April 2021, before sending the documents to additional experts in the Swine *ad hoc* Group for their input. The Group noted that consideration may need to be given to different swine age and production groups for the *Swine Technical Reference Document*, but that it was likely that a similar approach would be used as that for different poultry production groups in the *Poultry Technical Reference Document*.

- Future developments

- Bovine:
 - The Group was reminded that they had decided at their last meeting in October 2020 that bovines would be the next food-producing terrestrial animal species after swine to have a *Technical Reference Document Listing Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance* developed as an annex to the *OIE List*.
 - As for the *Poultry Technical Reference Document*, and the *Swine Technical Reference Document*, consideration would need to be given to different bovine production groups (for example, dairy and beef).
- Companion animals:
 - The Group discussed the possibility of developing the *OIE List* to include companion or non-food-producing animals, noting that the *OIE List* currently covers only food-producing animals. The Group agreed that the priority would be to address cats and dogs, given that these species are included in the AMU data collection, and noting the recommendations of the 2nd OIE Global Conference on AMR and Prudent Use of Antimicrobial Agents.
- Particular considerations for the inclusion of companion animals would be:
 - Whether to use the terminology “companion animals” or “non-food-producing animals”.
 - Certain antimicrobial agents are not approved for food-producing species but are approved for non-food-producing species.
 - Species that may be considered both as food-producing animals and companion animals (for example, horses, which are currently included in the *OIE List* as food-producing animals). A tentative proposal would be to use the same approach as the AMU data collection to allow such species to appear in two groups (food-producing and non-food-producing).
 - Off-label use of antimicrobial agents. It was noted that this may be of greater importance in companion animals, and this consideration may also be relevant for some food-producing species such as aquatic species, and small ruminant species. For these species, the decision to include only registered products may need to be reconsidered.

- The Group agreed that this work should consider WSAVA's List of Essential Medicines for Cats and Dogs, and potentially engage with the WSAVA Therapeutic Guidelines Group.
- The Group agreed to have further discussion at their October 2021 or April 2022 meeting to decide on the best approach for including companion animals in the *OIE List*.

6.2. Editorial changes

The Group was informed that there will be editorial changes to the *OIE List*. On page three of the list, an out-of-date reference to Chapter 6.9 will be updated to Chapter 6.10, and the spelling of some antimicrobial agents will be corrected. These changes will be made public along with the other changes reflecting the conclusions of the *Poultry Technical Reference Document* after the OIE's 88th General Session in May 2021.

7 OIE Antimicrobial Use (AMU) database

7.1. Current stage

Dr Delfy Góchez provided an update on the current stage of the AMU database. The preliminary results of the sixth round of data collection were presented. As of March 31st, the OIE had received 153 submissions, of which 80% (123 out of 153) reported quantitative data. Key figures of the 6th round of data collection highlight the improvement of data reporting for some countries and trainings that were delivered virtually to participants worldwide due to the COVID-19 situation.

The 5th AMU Report presenting the results of the previous data collection round will be published in April 2021.

7.2. IT project and future changes on the annual report

Mr Mduduzi Magongo updated the group on the IT project for the AMU database. The project, which adopted the AGILE methodology, is currently in sprint 8 out of a total of 12 sprints for the development phase. Different modules were under development including the Country Portals, Calculation Module, and Administration Modules. As part of the Change Management, Mr Magongo highlighted that email templates and AMU Factsheets have been developed to promote the awareness of the project to different stakeholders.

7.3. Technical Reference Group debriefing

Dr Morgan Jeannin presented feedback of the five meetings held with the Technical Reference Group, on AMU database development. These meetings functioned as a platform for sharing of experiences to ensure an efficient transition from the collection of AMU data via an Excel template into a database system. Four major themes were discussed revolving around the evolution brought by this new data collection system:

- Change management.
- Data visualisation and analysis.
- Business Intelligence Tool.
- Future developments.

The OIE AMR&VP Department and Digital Transformation and Information Systems Department have benefited from the experience shared by the members of the Technical Reference Group to further improve the development of the AMU database.

7.4. Species/field level data future development

Dr Delfy Góchez presented the Group with considerations for the future development of the AMU data collection as part of the response to the recommendations of the 2nd OIE Global Conference on AMR and Prudent Use of Antimicrobials. These recommendations include the ability for the AMU data collection “to accommodate data submissions by animal species” and therefore, further refine the granularity of the reported data. It must be considered that species level reporting could be applied to AMU data originating from different levels of data sources. This feature was not included in the first phase of development of the AMU interactive system but should be considered for inclusion in the future development phases.

The Group suggested that it may be possible to consider using pilot projects for the collection of species level data to better understand the challenges for collecting this kind of data. The Group also noted that the collection of species-level data may raise considerations for the collection of data on legal, off-label use of antimicrobial agents (registered for either veterinary use or human use) in companion animal species. The Group noted the Recommendation in the *OIE List* that “Extra-label/off label use should be limited and reserved for instances where no alternatives are available. Such use should be in agreement with the national legislation in force.” It was proposed that this topic may be relevant for consideration during the future revision of Chapter 6.10 of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*.

Dr Morgan Jeannin reminded the Group that these recommendations also pertain to the possibility of “addition of data from field studies” in the future AMU database system. It was noted that several countries had recently asked the OIE for guidance on collecting AMU data at field level for projects at a national

level. The OIE has opened a position for Data Information Management Officer, Antimicrobial Use at field level to build on ongoing projects to explore methodological options for developing field level use monitoring programs. This role will also scope the potential for integrating field level AMU data in the OIE AMU Global Database and support OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representations in piloting AMU field level monitoring data collection methodologies.

The Group noted that terms such as “field data” and “farm level data” may require further explanation regarding the level of data (at veterinarian or farmer level) and the type of data (prescription data or use data) considered to be included. As the OIE’s exploration of this topic continues, definitions for these terms may need to be provided, potentially as part of a future revision of Chapter 6.9 of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*.

The Group agreed to continue being updated on these future developments, and that this should remain an agenda item for discussion at future meetings of the Group.

Dr Dante Mateo presented a proposal for the refinement of the OIE Template for AMU data collection related to the sub-categorisation of aquatic animals. For question 25 of the Baseline Information, related to food-producing animal species, it has been proposed to sub-categorise “fish” into “cyprinids (carps)”, “cichlids (tilapia)”, “siluriforms (catfishes)”, “salmonids (salmon/trout)”, “other (freshwater/diadromous) fish”, and “marine fish”; and “crustaceans” into “penaeids (marine shrimp/prawns)”, and “other crustaceans”. This sub-categorisation was based on their importance in terms of production. Such modification would not require Members to provide AMU data specifically for each sub-category, but only to indicate if they are included in the total AMU reported for “Aquatic Food-producing animals”. In addition, “ornamental fish” has been proposed to be added as a category of Companion animals, in question 27.

The Group agreed with this proposal and suggested having also the reporting option for all fish” that could be addressed by adding “all aquatic food producing animals”.

8 Review of the work programme

The work programme was reviewed by the Group and updated. It is available in [Appendix V](#).

9 Any other business

The Group was updated on the activity of the OIE Electronic Expert Group on Antiparasitic Resistance (EEG APR). The EEG APR is developing a document on “prudent and responsible use of anthelmintics”. A draft of this document is under preparation for publication in the second half of 2021 and will be informed by responses to questionnaires on antiparasitic resistance that were sent to Focal Points for Veterinary Products in all OIE Regions in 2020 and 2021. Any future development on antiparasitic resistance could be discussed further in future meetings of the Group.

Dr Maria Szabo also provided responses from the EEG on APR to questions raised by the Group at their October 2020 meeting. She informed the Group that the document on “prudent and responsible use of anthelmintics” will be limited to helminths at a first step, although other parasitic species may be considered for future work, and that the OIE does not have a definition for antiparasitic agents at this time.

10 Date of next meeting

The proposed date of the next meeting is October 26th – 28th 2021.

11 Adoption of report (online)

The Group adopted the draft report via online consensus.

.../Appendices

MEETING OF THE OIE WORKING GROUP ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

Paris (via Zoom), 6-9 April 2021

Agenda

Day 1 (April 6)

1. Opening
2. Adoption of the agenda and appointment of rapporteur
3. Landscape: Tripartite, Codex update, WVA List of Essential Medicines, FAO action plan, EU legislation/categorisation
4. Monitoring and Evaluation (M & E) of OIE AMR Strategy
5. Update of *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*: revision of chapter 6.10, designate the main areas of the chapter that would benefit from an update

Day 2 (April 7)

6. OIE List of antimicrobial agents of veterinary importance in animals
 - 6.1. Subdivision into animal species:
 - i. Poultry – publication of the *Technical Reference Document Listing Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance for Poultry*
 - ii. Aquatic species and ornamental fish
 - iii. Swine
 - iv. Future developments:
 - Bovine
 - Companion animals
 - 6.2. Editorial changes

Day 3 (April 8)

7. OIE Antimicrobial Use (AMU) database
 - 7.1. Current stage
 - 7.2. IT project and future changes on the annual report
 - 7.3. Technical Reference Group debriefing
 - 7.4. Species/field level data future development
8. Review of the work programme
9. Date of next meeting
10. Any other business
11. Adoption of report (online)

Day 4 (April 9)

12. Brainstorming on future orientations
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Paris (via Zoom), 6-9 April 2021

List of Participants

MEMBERS

Dr Tomoko Ishibashi (Chair)

Director, International Standards Office
 Food Safety Policy Division
 Food Safety and Consumer Affairs Bureau
 Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
 Government of Japan
 1-2-1 Kasumigaseki
 Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8950
 JAPAN
tomoko_ishibashi240@maff.go.jp

Dr Gérard Moulin

Directeur de Recherches, adjoint au Directeur de l'ANMV
 Agence Nationale du Médicament Vétérinaire
 Agence nationale de sécurité sanitaire de l'alimentation,
 de l'environnement et du travail
 14 rue Claude Bourgelat
 Parc d'Activités de la Grande Marche
 Javené CS 70611
 35306 Fougères Cedex, FRANCE
 Tel: (33) (0) 2 99 94 78 78
 Fax: (33) (0) 2 99 94 78 99
gerard.moulin@anses.fr

Dr Donald Prater

Associate Commissioner for Imported Food Safety
 Office of Foods and Veterinary Medicine
 U.S. Food and Drug Administration
 10903 New Hampshire Avenue
 Silver Spring, MD 20993
 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Donald.Prater@fda.hhs.gov

Prof. Moritz van Vuuren

Emeritus Professor in Microbiology
 Vice-Chair: Ministerial Advisory Committee on Antimicrobial Resistance
 Postnet Suite 64, Private Bag X10
 Raslouw 0109
 SOUTH AFRICA
moritz@icon.co.za

Dr Fajer Al Salloom

Vice-President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East
 Chief Pharmacy & Veterinary Diagnostic Lab
 Animal Control & Health Directorate
 Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning
 P.O.Box 251, Manama
 BAHRAIN
fajer103@hotmail.com - fsalman@mun.gov.bh

Dr Stephen Page

Director, Veterinary Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology
 Advanced Veterinary Therapeutics
 PO Box 905, Newtown NSW 2042
 AUSTRALIA
swp@advet.com.au - stephen.page@sydney.edu.au

Ms Barbara Freischem

Head of Department
 Surveillance and Regulatory Support
 Veterinary Medicines Division
 European Medicines Agency
 Domenico Scarlattilaan 6
 1083 HS Amsterdam
 THE NETHERLANDS
barbara.freischem@ema.europa.eu

OBSERVERS

Dr Jeffrey LeJeune

Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department C-294,
 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
 Viale delle terme di Caracalla
 00153 Rome
 ITALY
Jeffrey.Lejeune@fao.org

Dr Jorge Matheu

Team Lead
 Department of Global Coordination and Partnership
 WHO – World Health Organization
 20 avenue Appia, 1211 Geneva 27
 SWITZERLAND
matheujo@who.int

OIE PARTICIPANTS

Dr Matthew Stone

Deputy Director General
m.stone@oie.int

Mr Ben Davies

Chargé de mission
 AMR-VP
b.davies@oie.int

Dr Maria Szabo

Chargée de mission
 AMR-VP
m.szabo@oie.int

Dr Ólafur Valsson

Chargé de mission
 AMR-VP
o.valsson@oie.int

Dr Elisabeth Erlacher-Vindel

Head
 Antimicrobial Resistance and
 Veterinary Products Department
 (AMR-VP)
e.erlacher-vindel@oie.int

Dr Dante Mateo

Chargé de mission
 AMR-VP
d.mateo@oie.int

Mr Mduuzi Magongo

Chargé de mission
 AMR-VP
m.magongo@oie.int

Dr Rebecca Hibbard

Chargée de mission
 AMR-VP
r.hibbard@oie.int

Dr Jorge Pinto Ferreira

Deputy Head
 AMR-VP
j.p.ferreira@oie.int

Dr Delfy Gochez

Chargée de mission
 AMR-VP
d.gochez@oie.int

Dr Morgan Jeannin

Chargé de mission
 AMR-VP
m.jeannin@oie.int

Dr Yukitake Okamura

Scientific Officer for International
 Standards
 Standards Dept
y.okamura@oie.int

OIE AD HOC GROUP ON TECHNICAL REFERENCES FOR AQUATIC ANIMALS

Terms of Reference

Purpose

The purpose of the OIE *ad hoc* Group on Technical References for Aquatic Animals is to develop a complementary appendix/annex to the OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance based on up-to-date information on the current use of authorised antibiotics for aquatic animals.

Background

The first OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance was adopted by the OIE World Assembly of OIE Delegates in May 2007. The List was further updated and adopted in May 2013, May 2015, May 2018 and May 2019 by the World Assembly. The List was discussed at the 2nd OIE Global Conference on Antimicrobial Resistance and Prudent Use of Antimicrobial Agents. Among the recommendations to the OIE arisen from the participants was to continue the development of the List, including its sub-division in the different animal species.

The task of sub-dividing the List was delegated to the Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance. It has been recommended that the sub-division of the List by animal species will constitute “Annexes” of the main List. This sub-division is undertaken by Technical Reference *ad hoc* Groups. A first exercise has been recently done for the antimicrobial agents used in poultry including the development of a methodology that could apply to other species. The second group to be addressed are the species under the category of “aquatic animals”.

Objectives

The document will provide relevant information, without serving as a treatment guideline, complementing the current OIE List of Antimicrobials of Veterinary Importance. This document is expected to be achieved by further testing of the methodology used to establish the "Technical Reference Document Listing Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance for Poultry”.

By identifying antimicrobial agents used in aquatic animals, it can contribute to the development and update of national treatment guidelines, advice on prevention and best practice management, risk management, and risk prioritisation to minimise and contain AMR.

The document to be produced will be focused on crustaceans and fish, taking into account the information available in the existing the OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance.

It is acknowledged that the situation of antimicrobial agents in aquaculture is very diverse in different regions for licensing, availability, off-label use and the general information provided in the document will need to be interpreted in light of the local context.

Aquatic species-related recommendations stated in the OIE Standards and Guidelines (namely on the OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance) will be considered alongside the document to be produced.

Deliverable

The output is expected to be a table or a chart and annexes that complements the OIE List of Antimicrobials of Veterinary Importance and should include classes of antimicrobials, use patterns and relevant pathogens/diseases in the main species, as follows:

- Main table, an updated version of the OIE List of Antimicrobials of Veterinary Importance, targeting PIS species (fish and crustaceans only)

- Annex 1: List of major pathogens and diseases affecting the main aquatic animal species (fish and crustaceans only)
- Annex 2: Antimicrobial classes used to treat aquatic animal infections (based on Annex 1)

The Technical Reference *ad hoc* Group should draft explanatory text to support the table or chart also recognising challenges such as variations among countries in:

- the availability of data;
- the distribution of aquatic animal populations and diseases with respect to the need for different antimicrobial classes;
- production, systems, environments and management practices;
- access to different antimicrobial classes, vaccines and other tools.

It should be noted that the table is not intended to be used as a treatment guideline.

Prerequisites

The Group members should:

- Sign the OIE Undertaking on Confidentiality of information;
- Complete the Declaration of Interest Form;
- Understand that the membership of the Group may be retained between its meetings to ensure continuity of the work.

Timelines

18 months to complete the work

Recommended working plan

Electronic meetings with additional physical meetings if necessary and feasible.

Sources of information

- OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance
 - Existing treatment guidelines
 - Literature search
 - Existing marketing authorisations for the species
 - Expert advice
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OIE AD HOC GROUP ON TECHNICAL REFERENCES FOR ANTIMICROBIAL USE IN SWINE

Terms of Reference

Purpose

The purpose of the OIE *ad hoc* Group on Technical References for Antimicrobial Use in Swine (Swine Reference Group) is to develop a complementary Annex to the OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance based on up-to-date information on the current use of authorised antimicrobial agents for pigs.

Background

The first OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance was adopted by the OIE World Assembly of OIE Delegates in May 2007. The List was further updated and adopted in May 2013, May 2015, May 2018 and May 2019 by the World Assembly. The List was discussed at the 2nd OIE Global Conference on Antimicrobial Resistance and Prudent Use of Antimicrobial Agents. Among the recommendations to the OIE provided by the participants was to continue the development of the List, including its sub-division in the different animal species.

The task of sub-dividing the List was delegated to the Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance. It has been recommended that the sub-division of the List by animal species will constitute “Annexes” to the main List. This sub-division is undertaken by species-specific *ad hoc* Technical Reference Groups. A first exercise has been recently completed for the antimicrobial agents used in poultry, including the development of a methodology that could apply to other species. The second animal species to be addressed is under the category of “aquatic animals”, to be followed by swine, the focus of these Terms of Reference.

Objectives

The document to be developed under these terms of reference will provide relevant information, without serving as a treatment guideline, complementing the current OIE List of Antimicrobials of Veterinary Importance. This objective is expected to be achieved by further testing of the methodology used to establish the “Technical Reference Document Listing Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance for Poultry”.

By identifying antimicrobial agents used in swine, the resulting document can contribute to the development and update of national treatment guidelines, advice on prevention and best practice management, risk management, and risk prioritisation to minimise and contain AMR.

The document to be produced is focused on swine under the ‘SUI’ designation in the OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance, as antimicrobials listed in the document may not all be available or appropriate for use in all swine production categories.

It is acknowledged that the situation of antimicrobial agents in swine production is very diverse in different regions with respect to licensing, availability, off-label use and therefore the general information provided in the document will need to be interpreted in light of the local context.

Swine-related recommendations stated in the OIE Standards and Guidelines (namely on the OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance) will be considered alongside the document to be produced.

Deliverable

The output is expected to be a table or a chart with annexes that complements the OIE List of Antimicrobials of Veterinary Importance and should include classes of antimicrobials, use patterns and relevant pathogens/diseases in the main species, as follows:

- Main table, an updated version of the OIE List of Antimicrobials of Veterinary Importance, targeting “SUI”
- Annex 1: List of major pathogens and diseases affecting swine
- Annex 2: Antimicrobial classes used to treat swine infections (based on Annex 1)

The *ad hoc* Swine Reference Group should draft explanatory text to support the table or chart also recognising challenges such as variations among countries in:

- the availability of data;
- the distribution of swine populations and diseases with respect to the need for different antimicrobial classes;
- production systems, environments and management practices;
- access to different antimicrobial classes, vaccines and other management strategies.

It should be noted that the table is not intended to be used as a treatment guideline but may inform the development of treatment guidelines.

Prerequisites

The Group members should:

- Sign the OIE Undertaking on Confidentiality of Information;
- Complete the Declaration of Interest Form;
- Understand that the membership of the Group may be retained between its meetings to ensure continuity of the work.

Timelines

18 months to complete the work

Recommended working plan

Electronic meetings with additional physical meetings if necessary and feasible.

Sources of information

- OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance
 - Existing treatment guidelines
 - Literature search
 - Existing marketing authorisations for the species
 - Expert advice
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Updated Work Programme for the OIE Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance

Subject	Issue/Action	Status	Timeline
OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance, subdivision by species	poultry subdivision pilot exercise, including development of pilot methodology	completed	April 2021
	adaptation/application of the methodology to swine	future work	April 2022
	consideration of other species: completed an initial discussion on prioritisation	completed	
	swine	in progress	April 2022
	aquatics	in progress	October 2022
	bovine	future work	tbd
	discussion on other animal species [small ruminants, camels,...]	future work	October 2021
	discussion on the addition of companion animals	completed	April 2021
	development of a workplan for the addition of companion animals	future work	October 2021
review of the Main OIE List	future work	October 2022	
OIE Global AMU database	transition of data collection from spreadsheet to a database system, expert advice	IT project ongoing	October 2021
	refinement of the numerator, denominator (biomass), and reporting	ongoing	
	having a quantitative reporting option on species level	future work	April 2023
Field level data	reflection on obtaining field level data	ongoing; pilot project in countries	October 2022
OIE work on antiparasitics	oversight	ongoing	
<i>OIE Terrestrial and Aquatic Code</i> chapters related to AMR	update of the Chapters: TAHC 6.10	in progress	October 2023, tbc
Alternatives to Antimicrobials (ATA)	information on categorisation of products	future work	
	review of related existing information in the <i>OIE Manual</i>	future work	
Substandard and falsified products	be updated on progress of existing and ongoing work by OIE (directly or indirectly linked including PVS) and by other international bodies	ongoing	
Monitoring and Evaluation framework for the OIE Strategy on AMR	near completion		October 2021

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