

Regional Meeting on Prevention and Containment of Antimicrobial Resistance: Chiang Mai, Thailand : 8-11 June 2010

Recommendations and conclusions

The participants appreciated the WHO Regional Strategy on Prevention and Containment of Antimicrobial Resistance and the initiative taken by WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia. The following recommendations were also made:

For Member States in the South-East Asia Region

Member States should:

- (1) Establish a national alliance against antimicrobial resistance with all key stakeholders as its members. The implementation of national efforts to prevent and contain antimicrobial resistance should be through a multisectorial National Steering Committee headed by senior most health executive and facilitated through advisory/expert groups.
- (2) Designate a National Focal Point for Antimicrobial Resistance in the Ministry of Health.
- (3) Institute appropriate surveillance mechanisms in health and veterinary sectors to generate reliable and actionable epidemiological information including baseline data and trends on antimicrobial resistance, utilization of antimicrobial agents and impact on economy and health through designated National and Regional Reference Centres
- (4) Discourage non-therapeutic use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary, agriculture and fishery practices as growth-promoting agents.
- (5) Develop national standard treatment and infection control guidelines and ensure their application at all levels of health care and veterinary services through training, continuous educational activities and establishment of functional drugs and therapeutic committees and hospital infection control committees in health facilities (with focus on proven, cost-effective interventions such as isolation, hand washing etc).
- (6) Undertake operational research for better understanding of the technical and behavioural aspects of prevention and control of antimicrobial resistance and utilize the outcomes of these research studies/interventions in policy and programme development/improvement in national context.
- (7) Launch educational and awareness programmes for communities and different categories of health care professionals
- (8) Strengthen communicable diseases control programmes to reduce disease burden and accord priority to discipline of infectious diseases in medical education and health services

For the World Health Organization

WHO should:

- (9) Undertake advocacy with national authorities to establish national alliances against antimicrobial resistance;
- (10) Develop and disseminate generic protocols to facilitate generation of comparable epidemiological data on antimicrobial resistance and utilization of antimicrobials
- (11) Facilitate cooperation between various players (Govt agencies, professionals, academia, NGOs, INGOs etc) to enhance synergy between their actions and to obviate duplication of efforts.
- (12) Develop generic IEC material to create awareness amongst communities and obtain their active participation in fight against AMR
- (13) Through its WHO Collaborating Centre on AMR, collate and share global data and regional experiences on all aspects of antimicrobial resistance. The WHO CC should be supported to act as Regional Clearing Centre and to coordinate multicentric studies in the Region.
- (14) Document and disseminate experiences gained within the Region and lessons learnt in combating AMR
- (15) Support operational research on various aspects of antimicrobial resistance; and
- (16) Organize regional meetings on a regular basis for exchange of experiences within the Region.