Bi-regional (Africa, Asia) AMR Policy Workshop
Speakers & Moderators

Day 1 | 12 April 2022

Session 1: Re-thinking the drivers of AMR emergence and spread

Prof. Aanensen is Director of the Centre for Genomic Pathogen Surveillance and Senior Group Leader in Genomic Surveillance at the Big Data Institute, University of Oxford. He is also Director of the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) funded Global Health Research Unit on Genomic Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance, working with partners in the Philippines, Colombia, Nigeria and India to implement genomic surveillance and data linking to routine phenotypic and epidemiological data for priority pathogens. His work focuses on data flow and the use of genome sequencing to untangle pathogen dynamics, and the epidemiology and surveillance of microbial pathogens.

Moderator:
Prof. David Aanensen
Big Data Institute, Oxford University

Prof. Collignon is an Infectious Diseases physician and microbiologist at the Canberra Hospital. He is also a Professor at the Australian National University Medical School. He is active in many research and public health advocacy issues dealing with different infections and their risks. Particular interests are antibiotic resistance (especially in Staph), hospital acquired infections (especially blood stream and intravascular catheter infections) and resistance that develops through the use of antibiotics in animals. He has been and continues to be an active member of many national and international committees, including those of the Australian Quality and Safety Commission. He has been appointed to many of the expert committees of the World Health Organization (WHO) on the issue of antibiotic resistance and the use of antibiotics.

Keynote Speaker:
Prof. Peter Collignon
Australian National University

Session 2: One Health 'Integrated Analysis': Challenges and Options for LMICs

Dr. Ólafur Valsson, Deputy Head of the Antimicrobial Resistance and Veterinary Products Department of at Head Quarters of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), Paris, France. AMR liaison to WHO and FAO, representing OIE in the Joint Tripartite Secretariat on AMR. Dr Valsson has wide experience in the veterinary field as private practitioner, District Veterinary Officer and Deputy Director for an intergovernmental organisation, responsible for food & feed safety, animal health & welfare in terrestrial and aquatic animals. He graduated in veterinary science from the Royal Veterinary University of Copenhagen, Denmark and holds a post-graduate Masters of Science (MSc) in Tropical Animal Health from the Institute for Tropical Medicine in Antwerp, Belgium.

Moderator:
Dr. Ólafur Valsson
OIE

Dr. Gérard Moulin is a microbiologist by training. He is Research Director in the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety (ANSES) and Deputy Director of the National Agency for Veterinary Medicinal Products (Anses-ANMV). Dr Moulin's main areas of activities are antimicrobial resistance, pharmacokinetics and residues of antimicrobials, Veterinary pharmaceutical legislation, benefit/risk analysis. He is involved in the Veterinary and Human French action plans on antimicrobial resistance. He is currently Chair of the AMEG (Antimicrobial expert group) at the European Medicine Agency and of two working groups that prepares advices for establishing a list of antimicrobials reserved to humans and a list of antimicrobials that can be banned or subject to restrictions when used off-label. He is also the French representative for the ESVAC network (European Surveillance of Antimicrobial Consumption).

Presenter:
Dr. Gerard Moulin
ANSES, France

Session 3: Brief informational sessions

Dr. Holy Akwar is a Research Scientist and the One Health Lead on the RADAAR project. He has more than 15 years of experience in infectious disease epidemiology, working in the Canadian health portfolio and Low and Middle-Income countries (LMICs) in Africa and Asia. His work involved disease prevention and control as well as development and implementation of surveillance systems. At FAO, he worked on evaluation of epidemiology capacity of LMICs and capacity development in applied veterinary epidemiology for front-line professionals. Holy holds a PhD in Epidemiology from University of Guelph, specialized in Antimicrobial Resistance at the animal-human-environment interface, a DVM from Ahmadu Bello University, and enterprise risk management from Sprott School of Business. He is a member of the WHO – Technical Advisory Group on Vaccines against AMR and a member of the American College of Epidemiology.
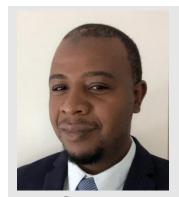
Host:
Dr. Holy Akwar
IVI

Dr. Arno Muller is a technical officer within the Antimicrobial Resistance Division at WHO headquarters, leading the team responsible for surveillance of the use of antimicrobials. He graduated from the University of Besançon, France, and obtained a Msc and PhD degrees in life science. Over the past 20 years, he has been working in the area of antimicrobial resistance, especially in the field of surveillance of the use of antimicrobials. In 2010, he became consultant for two EU-led surveillance networks on antimicrobial consumption in humans and animals respectively ESAC-Net and ESVAC. He contributed on the consolidation of the databases, analyses and development of surveillance strategies of both surveillance networks with its double expertise. In 2016, following the adoption of the WHO Global Action Plan on AMR, he joined the organization in the essential medicines department to lead the work on the surveillance of the use of antimicrobials. In 2020, he integrated the newly created antimicrobial resistance division as the team lead on surveillance of antimicrobial use and is part of the Global Antimicrobial Resistance and Use Surveillance System (GLASS).

Presenter:
Dr. Arno Muller
WHO

Presenter:
Anafi Mataka
ASLM

Mr. Anafi Mataka is a Project Lead at the ASLM. He is a diagnostics expert with 17 years of experience ranging from the front line of health service delivery as a laboratory scientist to managing national, regional and international laboratory strengthening programs in limited-resource settings. Anafi provides leadership to several projects that include building laboratory and epidemiology workforce capacity for Antimicrobial Resistance in Africa and Asia; all ASLM education activities implemented under the ASLM academy; the accelerated adoption and implementation of technologies including SARS-CoV-2 antigen rapid diagnostic testing and community testing for COVID -19. He also actively works within the flagship Laboratory Systems Strengthening Community of Practice (LabCoP)'s, fostering knowledge exchange, co-creation and joint learning among country teams across the continent and global experts. Before ASLM, Anafi worked for the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation as a country implementation manager introducing new point of care diagnostics for HIV Early Infant Diagnosis in Lesotho. In addition, he has served in the government ministries of health of Zimbabwe, Botswana and Eswatini.

Session 1: Panel discussion: Policy Implications and Recommendations from the GRAM, CAPTURA, and MAAP Projects

Moderator:
Prof. Sabiha Essack
University of KwaZulu-Natal

Prof. Sabiha Essack is the South African Research Chair in Antibiotic Resistance and One Health and Professor in Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. She is Vice-Chair of the WHO Strategic and Technical Advisory Group for Antimicrobial Resistance and senior implementation research advisor to the International Centre for Antimicrobial Resistant Solutions (ICARS) in Denmark. Sabiha's current research interests include evidence-informed strategies for the prevention and containment of antibiotic resistance, molecular epidemiology, health policy and health systems strengthening in the context of AMR and antimicrobial stewardship.

Panelist:
Dr. Catrin Moore
St George's, University of London

Dr. Catrin Moore's research focuses on antimicrobial resistance. Dr. Moore has been in the University of Oxford for over twenty years in the Global health arena, her DPhiL examining S. aureus and humans susceptible to severe disease using molecular techniques was based in Oxford and Thailand and was a member of the first team to sequence S. aureus. Dr. Moore joined the Big Data Institute in May 2018, where she lead the Oxford Global Burden of Disease (GBD) group on the Global Research on AntiMicrobial resistance (GRAM) project. Partnered with the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) in Seattle and Tropical Medicine in Oxford, they analysed global data to produce health metrics and geospatial maps on antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The seminal paper estimating the global burden of AMR was published in January 2022. She begins a new position at St George's University of London in April 2022 working on a new project which will work closely with researchers in a number of LMICs: the Antimicrobial Resistance, Prescribing, and Consumption Data to Inform Country Antibiotic Guidance and Local Action (ADILA) project collaborating and empowering local researchers to use their own data.

Panelist:
Dr. Marianne Holm
IVI

Dr. Marianne Holm is a medical doctor and epidemiologist and currently leading the department of epidemiology and public health research at the International Vaccine Institute in Seoul. For the past 3 years she has been responsible for the coordination and implementation of two Fleming Fund Regional Grants (CAPTURA and EQASIA) working with local governments and healthcare institutions to build capacity for AMR surveillance in low- and middle- income countries in the Asian region.

Panelist:
Dr. Pascale Ondoa
ASLM

Dr. Pascale Ondoa joined ASLM in December 2016 as its Director of Science and New Initiatives. Dr. Ondoa worked in academic research at the Institute of Tropical Medicine from 2002 to 2009. Between 2010 and 2016, she served as a senior scientist at the Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development (AIGHD), University of Amsterdam. Her work covered the research and implementation aspects of various projects looking at HIV drug resistance in sub-Saharan Africa, exploring ways to mitigate barriers to laboratory test uptake, and addressing gaps in laboratory systems resources in African countries. Dr. Ondoa holds a medical degree (MD) from the University of Yaoundé, Cameroon, and a doctoral degree (PhD) in Biomedical Sciences (Virology) from the University of Antwerp.

Session 2: REFLECTIONS: Mobilizing Domestic Resources for AMR Interventions

Moderator:
Tom Pilcher
Fleming Fund, DHSC, UK

Tom Pilcher is the Head of Country Coordination for the Fleming Fund with the Global Health Security Team of the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC, UK). Tom Pilcher currently leads the Fleming Fund's diplomatic engagement on over 20 countries in Africa and Asia. Tom Pilcher also oversees the programme's regional grants and the Global Research on AMR (GRAM) Project, which recently published the first comprehensive account of global AMR burden. Tom Pilcher has previously worked in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in Africa and Latin America. He also worked in Scottish Government as a health policy advisor.

Panelist:
Dr. Nithima Sumpradit
MOPH, Thailand

Dr. Nithima Sumpradit is a senior pharmacist and the head of research and development unit at the Medicines Regulation Division, Food and Drug Administration, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand. She serves as a focal point for Thailand's National Strategic Plan on AMR, secretary team for the National Policy Committee on AMR, programme manager of the Royal Thai Government and WHO Country Cooperation Programme on AMR, and initiator of the Antibiotics Smart Use project. Her areas of interest are medicine use behavior of health professionals and patients, drug regulation, and antimicrobial resistance.

Panelist:
Dr. Mirfin Mpundu
ReAct Africa

Dr. Mirfin Mpundu is a public health specialist, Director of ReAct Africa and the Partnership & Engagement Lead for the International Centre for Antimicrobial Resistance Solutions (ICARS). He has over 25 years' experience in international global health. He currently supports countries in the African region with AMR National Action Plan development and implementation. He also supports WHO Afro, OIE & Africa CDC on AMR Policy and country member support. His expertise and interests include global health security, international health policy and diplomacy health systems strengthening, implementation research, pharmaceutical R&D and UHC. He has published and co-published several papers on the subjects of AMR, quality of medicines and access to medicines in LMICs. An advocate for action on AMR and equitable access to healthcare for all.

Panelist:
Dr. Yewande Alimi
African Union/CDC

Dr Yewande Alimi (DVM, MPH) is the Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Program Coordinator at Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, Africa Union. Dr Alimi is a trained Veterinary Surgeon and holds a master's degree in Public Health (International Health) from the University of Nottingham (United Kingdom). Drawing on a range of experience including veterinary medicine, public health policy and research, Dr Alimi currently leads the implementation of the Africa CDC Framework for AMR Control in Africa Union member states. She also co-leads the African Union Taskforce on AMR. Additionally, she leads One Health activities and the development and implementation of one health programs within Africa CDC, across the African Union organizations, and member states.

Panelist:
Patrick Mubangizi,
Mott Macdonald
(E&S Africa Region)

Patrick Mubangizi is a team leader for the Fleming Fund at Mott MacDonald in East and Southern Africa and has been steering the grants implementation in Antimicrobial Resistance in seven countries in the subregion. Patrick has more than 20 years' experience in implementation of projects on access to essential medicines, medicines regulation and other related issues in the health sector in Sub Saharan Africa. He has wide experience in public, private and non-profit fields with particular strength in building networks, health policy analysis working with national governments and evaluating programs. Previously he worked as a team lead for Health Action International, Africa, in Nairobi Kenya covering 22 African countries with a collaboration program on Increasing Access to Essential Medicines in Africa with the WHO Essential Drugs and Medicines Policy Department (WHO/EDM). Patrick is a qualified Pharmacist with post graduate degrees in management and finance. He is also a Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants of UK.

Session 1: More than Just About Money: A Journey from Patient to Policymaker

Dr. Katinka de Balogh is a veterinarian specialized in tropical animal production and health in France and in Veterinary Public Health (VPH) in the Netherlands. She worked for 9 years in Africa and in 1997 she started to work as a lecturer in VPH and international coordinator at the veterinary faculty in Utrecht, the Netherlands. For the last 20 years, she has worked at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Rome, Italy and Bangkok, Thailand in various position, leading the VPH activities of the organization and currently as FAO Investment Centre focal point on One Health establishing close linkages with the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Envionment Programme ad various International Financing Institutions.

Moderator:
Dr. Katinka de Balogh
FAO-HQ

Dr. Nichola Naylor is a Senior Infectious Disease Modeller/Health Economist at the UK Health Security Agency (formerly Public Health England) and an Honorary Research Fellow within the Global Health Economic Centre at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. She works on a range of nationally and internationally funded projects estimating the economic burden of AMR and AMR-associated interventions. After completing a Bachelor of Economic Science and an MSc in International Health Policy (Health Economics) her focus turned to applying economics specifically to the context of AMR, where she has since worked for the past eight years. Nichola conducted her PhD (at Imperial College London) on the cost of antibiotic resistant and susceptible E. coli infections, subsequently undertaking a post-doc position at LSHTM on how to evaluate interventions related to AMR and antibiotic usage from more of a One Health perspective, working with the International Livestock Research Institute, with whom continued collaboration occurs.

Presenter:
Dr. Nichola Naylor
LSHTM

Session 2: Strengthening Country Capacities to Translate AMR Data and Evidence into Effective Policies

Satyajit is the Principal Investigator and the Policy & Advocacy Lead for the RADAAR Project. He comes with nearly 30 years of hands-on experience in strategy development and implementation of large-scale socio-behavioral change, risk communication, and policy advocacy initiatives, including in conflict and complex emergency settings. He has previously worked with WHO, FAO, and UNICEF on several flagship and large-scale initiatives such as Ebola Virus Disease Preparedness/Outbreak Response; HPV vaccine introduction; Cholera outbreak response; Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR); International Health Regulations (IHR); the H1N1 Pandemic and Avian Influenza prevention and control campaigns; the Stop TB campaign and the Global Polio Eradication initiative.

Presenter:
Satyajit Sarkar
IVI

Tanja Kuchenmüller leads the Evidence to Policy and Impact unit in the Research for Health Department/Science Division at World Health Organization Headquarters. Until July 2020, she led and coordinated the Knowledge Management, Evidence and Research for Policy-Making unit at the WHO Regional Office for Europe, encompassing the following regional networks and initiatives: the Evidence-informed Policy Network Europe, Health Evidence Network, European Health Research Network and other health research and evidence-informed policy-making related areas, such as the European Advisory Committee on Health Research.

Presenter:
Tanja Kuchenmüller
WHO