OIE SUB REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE DATABASE ON ANTIMICROBIAL AGENTS INTENDED FOR USE IN ANIMALS IN EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

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Introduction

- Eritrea is lying between latitudes 12 0 30′ and 17 0 50′N and between longitude 36 0 26′ and 43 0 08′E. It has a land area of 124,432 square kilometres. The country is bordered Ethiopia to the South, Sudan to the west and Djibouti to the southeast and the Red Sea to the east.
- The country has six administrative regions with a central government system composed of several ministries with departments.

Map of Eritrea



Livestock Population

- Animal rearing is an integral part of agricultural production in Eritrea with an estimated livestock population of 1.9 million cattle, 4.5 million goats, 2million sheep, 0.3 million camels and 2.5 million backyard poultry.
- The livestock sub-sector contributes some 16.9% of the GDP and 20-30% of commodity exports.

AMR National Action Plan

- The development of the AMR National Action Plan (NAP) in the One Health Approach was initiated with the inclusion all relevant stakeholders.
- A Multi-Sectoral Committee and a Secretariat were established to steer the process of the development of the NAP The Committee is co-chaired by the Director General of Medical Services of the Ministry of Health (MOH), and the Advisor to the Minister of Agriculture with membership from the MOH, Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), and Ministry of Land, Water and Environment (MOLWE), Ministry of Marine Resources (MoMR) and the UN agencies (WHO, and OCHA)OCHA(Office of Coordination for Humanitarian affairs).
- FAO were also involved. on the behalf of the OIE the national CVO OIE delegate was present.

National Action Plan

- From the Multi-Sectoral Committee four technical working groups in line with the strategic objectives of the Global Action Plan (GAP) on AMR e were established and assigned specific tasks related to the strategic objectives of the GAP on AMR.
- The AMR Secretariat composed of focal persons from the MOH, MOA, and WHO collates and synthesizes the reports of the technical working groups and submits them to the Multi-Sectoral Committee for its consideration.
- Multidisciplinary and multisectoral technical working group at national level is an accelerator for action against antimicrobial resistance.
- The multifaceted components of AMR require coordination across several sectors and a multitude of stakeholders representing human health, animal health, agriculture, and environment - 'One Health' approach
- Political commitment

National Action....

- In Eritrea antimicrobial resistance was not a priority in the past decade. Hence, activities conducted on awareness and educational programs on AMR that target students, health, veterinary and environmental professionals and the general public were limited.
- In the education system AMR is not addressed adequately at all levels. It is addressed partially and inadequately in the colleges as part of the pharmacology course

National Action....

■ This implies that graduates are deployed to the workplace without having adequate knowledge of AMR. There are further no in-service training programs on AMR to bridge the gap.

AMR - Agriculture Sector

- In the veterinary clinics prescription is based on the history and clinical investigation conducted by Animal health professionals.
- The main bottleneck in clinical services is also an updated list of medicines

Antimicrobial resistance activities in Eritrea

- The use of Anti microbial in all veterinary clinics is common as the routine Veterinary services include treatment of sick animals suspected for any bacterial infection. In this case the use of anti microbial can result in bacterial resistance due to overdose and under dose following incorrect regimen and duration. This situation is a growing threat to the efficacious treatment of bacteria, viruses, parasites and fungi.
- The Ministry of Agriculture has the responsibility to strengthen the human and material capacity to carry out Veterinary activities all over the country, and hence International organization like who, OIE, FAO, AU IBAR, and few other Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as ICRC (International committee Red Cross) are involved in the provision of veterinary drugs, equipment and technical support

Activities.....

- Continued availability and efficacy of existing anti microbial are essential. Headlining these valuable medicines responsibly and prudently according to the OIE standards. This will help maintain their efficacy marketing and authorization and availability for animal Health.
- The world Health organization is a leading institution in the fight against Antimicrobial resistance.
- This institution has brought together all the concerned institutions and organized the programs for developing the National Action plan for AMR, which at present has established a draft of National action plan waiting for approval to conduct consensus building to acknowledge the public to conduct the activities proposed for the proper use of Antimicrobials

Procedures on the procurement of Drugs and Biologics

- Routine activities in the supply of Veterinary products.
- At present we request a list of drugs, Vaccines & instruments to be procured. This request is submitted to the procurement office where the bidders are invited to participate in the bid and provide their offer.
- Latter the offered documents of drugs vaccines and instruments are evaluated by the Animal Health Experts. However the Veterinary service has a list of drugs and vaccines but does not have legally registered suppliers

Activities

Currently the Regulatory services Department is preparing draft legislation for Registration, procurement and distribution of drugs. The veterinary services is well aware of the AMR situation and is issuing some guidelines in the proper use of drugs.

Currently is trying to use contact animal and farmer in clinics

AMU activities with veterinarians and farmers

- Termination of mass deworming campaigns and prudent use of Ivomec
- Antimicrobial sensitization campaign was conducted at the national level.
- There is a plan to review the Drugs and biological products regulation
- National drug list is available and drugs are purchased based on the national list.

Challenges

- Circulation of counterfeit, substandard and falsified medicines
- Weak regulatory systems
- Inappropriate prescribing practices
- Substandard infection prevention and control practices

Thank You Very Much For Your Attention!