



World Organisation  
for Animal Health



# Regional Workshop on Antimicrobial Resistance in Aquaculture for English-Speaking African Countries



13 - 15 August 2025  
Harare, Zimbabwe



Funded by  
UK Government



# Highlights of previous workshops –AMR in Aquaculture

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# Workshops Held

- Durban, South Africa
  - Nov 2019
- Maputo, Mozambique.
  - October 2022
- Entebbe, Uganda
  - June 2023
- Kigali, Rwanda
  - October 2023
- Arusha Tanzania
  - September, 2024



# Durban, South Africa





# Durban, South Africa

- **Purpose:** Raise awareness on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in aquaculture, Address aquatic animal disease challenges of the sub-regions and explore risk analysis tools for decision-making
- **Organizers:** OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health) in collaboration with SADC, WHO, and FAO
- **Participants:** 64 attendees from 16 SADC countries, including veterinary/fisheries officials, OIE experts, and international collaborators.
- **Focus Areas:**
  - OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code
  - Risk analysis methodologies for AMR mitigation
  - One Health approach to combat AMR in aquaculture





# Key Highlights

- **Country Insights:**

- Most SADC countries reported emerging aquaculture sectors but recognized AMR risks from intensification
- Weak enforcement of antimicrobial use (AMU) regulations highlighted.

- **Training Impact:**

- Interactive sessions (field trips, group work) improved understanding of risk assessment and biosecurity
- Post-test results showed significant knowledge gains (e.g., AMR drivers, OIE standards).

- **Challenges:**

- Limited time for technical content



# Next steps and strategic actions

- **For OIE/Tripartite:**

- Support AMR surveillance plans and lab capacity building in aquaculture.
- Develop treatment guidelines and promote vaccine use

- **SADC Countries:**

- Integrate AMR into National Action Plans (AMR-NAPs).
- Strengthen cross-sectoral communication and regulatory frameworks.

- **SADC Secretariat:**

- Finalize regional AMR framework and advocate for aquaculture inclusion in NAPs.

*"AMR requires a One Health approach—synergies between human, animal, and environmental sectors are critical."*



# Maputo, Mozambique





# Maputo, Mozambique

## Purpose:

- Revisit 2019 Durban workshop recommendations on AMR in aquaculture
- Address aquatic animal disease challenges of the sub-regions
- Advocate for WOAHA's Aquatic Animal Health Strategy (2021–2025)
- Strengthen national focal points (FPs) and fisheries officers' roles in AMR/Aquatic Health
- Demonstrate the need for reliable data as a foundation for risk management decisions

## Organizers:

- WOAHA (World Organisation for Animal Health) with SADC, AU-IBAR, FAO, and WHO.
- Hosted by Mozambique's Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development.

## Participants:

- 21 of 26 invited countries attended (e.g., Angola, Kenya, Zambia).
- 64 attendees: FPs, fisheries officers, WOAHA experts, and international partners.



# Key Outcomes

## Key Sessions:

- **AMR in Aquaculture:** Updates on surveillance, data collection, and risk analysis.
- **Aquatic Animal Health:** Disease management (e.g., Tilapia Lake Virus, EUS).
- **Field Visit:** Practical insights at an integrated aquaculture farm.

## Successes:

- Participants called for implementation of an aquatic animal health workplan on AMR and AMU
- High engagement in group work and SWOT analysis.
- Strong advocacy for WOAHA standards and One Health collaboration.

## Challenges:

- Limited progress on 2019 Durban recommendations due to COVID-19.
- Time constraints for technical content





# Strategic Actions for AMR & Aquatic Health

- **For WOAHA/Tripartite:**

- Support AMR surveillance plans and lab capacity in aquaculture.
- Develop treatment guidelines and promote vaccine use

- **For Member States:**

- Integrate AMR into National Action Plans (NAPs)
- Strengthen cross-sectoral communication (veterinary, fisheries, environment)

- **For Regional Bodies (SADC/EAC):**

- Finalize regional AMR frameworks and include aquaculture in AMR-NAPs
- Use WOAHA FPs as regional focal points for harmonized efforts.

*“Effective AMR control requires collaboration across human, animal, and environmental sectors.”*





# Kigali, Rwanda



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# Kigali, Rwanda

## Purpose:

- Strengthen AMR (Antimicrobial Resistance) strategies in aquaculture.
- Align with WOA's Aquatic Animal Health Strategy (2021–2025) and AMR-NAPs
- Foster collaboration between veterinary and fisheries sectors through a One Health approach.

## Context:

- Third in a series (Durban 2019, Maputo 2022).
- Focus on English-speaking African countries, including first-time participants (e.g., Ghana, Liberia)

## Participants:

- 25 of 28 invited countries attended (excl. Botswana, Mauritius, Sudan).
- Quadripartite partners (WHO, FAO, UNEP, AU-IBAR) and Fleming Fund represented





# Key Outcomes & Challenges

## Key Deliverables:

- **Group Work:** Identified priority interventions for AMR-NAPs (e.g., AMU monitoring and regulation, waste management, AMR surveillance systems, vaccination, best production practices with enhanced farm biosecurity)
- **Presentations:** FAO/WHO/UNEP emphasized One Health; AU-IBAR shared regional AMR workplan.
- **Successes:** Nigeria showcased advanced AMR frameworks; strong cross-sectoral engagement

## Challenges:

- Varied progress among countries in integrating aquaculture into AMR-NAPs





# Recommendations and next steps

## For Countries:

- Develop AMU regulations and biosecurity guidelines for aquaculture
- Strengthen collaboration between veterinary and fisheries departments

## • For WOAHA & Partners:

- Support AMR surveillance systems and lab capacity building
- Organize follow-up workshops with extended timelines and broader stakeholder engagement

## • For Regional Bodies:

- Advocate for funding and integrate aquaculture into AMR-NAPs
- Leverage partnerships (e.g., Fleming Fund Phase II) for technical/financial support

## Quote:

*“AMR in aquaculture demands a One Health approach—bridging human, animal, and environmental health.”*



# Action Points

- As a result of identified Gaps,
- In Eastern Africa, working with EAC, technical committee on Mutual recognition agreement and GALVmed Developed Guidelines for Use Veterinary Products in Aquatic animals



## Regional Guidelines for the Registration of Aquatic Animal medicine in EAC Partner States.





# Action Points

- Draft guidelines for use of veterinary products







*Thank  
you!*