

# OVERVIEW OF AFRICA CDC'S EFFORTS IN STRENGTHENING ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE IN AFRICA.

**FOWZIA MOHAMED SHEIKH**

TECHNICAL OFFICER, ONE HEALTH - ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE  
AFRICA CDC.

Africa's share of the global AMR burden is ~22%, increasing to 40% by 2050

1.07M

associated annual deaths<sup>1</sup> occurred across SSA<sup>2</sup> (2019)

4.1M

potential AMR deaths in Africa by 2050

~20%

of patients across Africa have access to affordable antibiotics

~5%

Loss in GDP annually per country across Africa due to AMR

1. Deaths associated with resistance 2. Sub-Saharan Africa

Source: WHO Resist AMR Africa ([link](#)); The Lancet. The burden of bacterial antimicrobial resistance in the WHO African region in 2019: a cross-country systematic analysis. 2022. ([link](#))

# Assembly/AU/Decl.3(XXXII) Declaration On African Common Position on AMR and the The African Union Framework for AMR Control



Assembly/AU/Decl.3(XXXII)  
Page 1

## DECLARATION ON AFRICAN COMMON POSITION ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

WE, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting at the 33rd Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 9 to 10 February 2020;

**CONCERNED** that Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) is a development that is challenging and threatening the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063, related to human, aquatic, marine and terrestrial animal health, biodiversity and ecosystems, clean water, poverty, and hunger; and that drug resistance causes an estimated 700,000 deaths each year globally, and, if current trends continue, AMR could result in over 10 million deaths per year and over 100 trillion USD in lost output globally by 2050;

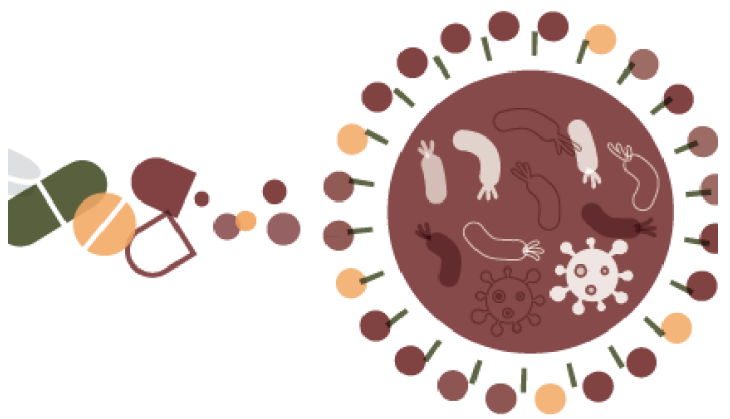
**ALSO CONCERNED** that many Africans lack access to high-quality antimicrobials, resulting in millions of preventable illnesses and deaths annually;

**COGNIZANT** that Member States face challenges in ensuring that National Action Plans on AMR are fully developed, funded, implemented, and measured, that Plans include a One Health approach and cover all sectors, and that Plans are main-streamed into universal health care, economic development, and other high development priorities;

1. **ADOPT** the African Common Position on Antimicrobial Resistance of the Ministers of Health, Population and Drug Control of the Member States of the African Union, held in Cairo, Egypt, on 1 and 2 August 2019, at the occasion of the Third Ordinary Session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Health, Population and Drug Control (STC-HPDC-3) (as annexed).



## African Union Framework for Antimicrobial Resistance Control 2020-2025



### AFRICAN UNION HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ENDORSE AFRICAN COMMON POSITION ON CONTROLLING ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

12 February 2020  
1 min read



**ADDIS ABABA, 14 FEBRUARY 2020.** At the 33rd Ordinary Assembly of the African Union, African Heads of State and Government endorsed the African Common Position on Antimicrobial Resistance Control.

The African Common Position calls on African Union Member States, regional economic communities and the African Union Commission to develop policies and programmes to improve monitoring, delay emergence, limit transmission, and mitigate harm from antimicrobial resistant organisms. It calls on Member States to finance interventions and train personnel to prevent and control antimicrobial resistance. Health Ministers of African Union Member States had endorsed the document during the Third Specialized Technical Committee (STC) on Health meeting in Cairo, Egypt, at the end of July 2019, and the Ministers of Agriculture and Environment endorsed it during their STC in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in October 2019.

"Controlling any complex problem starts with political commitment, and African leaders have emphatically recognized the need for immediate action in the human, animal, and environmental sectors," said Dr John Nkengasong, Director, Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention.

Common infections, such as pneumonia, urinary tract infections and skin infections, are becoming untreatable and dangerous due to antimicrobial resistance. Infections become drug-resistant when the organisms that cause them change over time, developing the ability to resist the drugs designed to kill them or slow their growth. Globally, antimicrobial resistance is increasing, making modern medicines less effective.

"Antimicrobial resistance is a threat to modern medical care and the health we have all come to appreciate and expect," said Dr Nkengasong. "Drug-resistant infections can affect anyone and are already causing more illness and death, threatening the gains made in modern medicine," said Merin Munda, Director, ReAct Africa and ICANS Partnership & Stakeholder Engagement Lead for Africa.

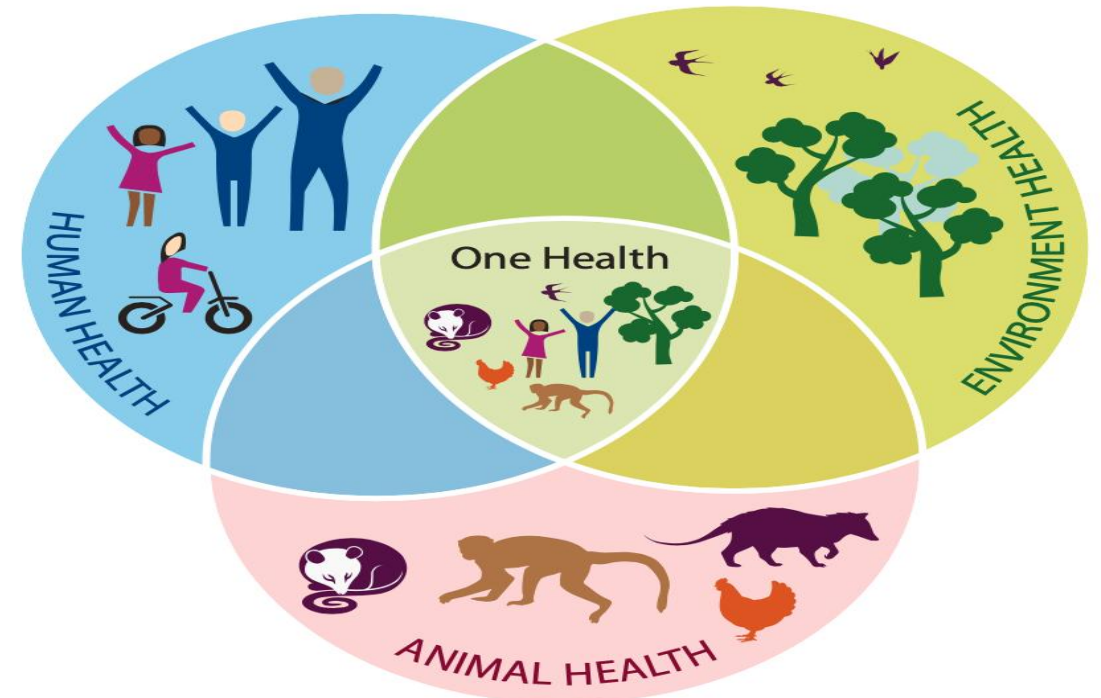
Overuse and misuse of antimicrobials in humans and animals is one of the leading causes of antimicrobial resistance. The African Common Position recommends that Member States promote appropriate use of antimicrobials and reduce availability and sale of sub-standard and fake antimicrobials. "Improving knowledge, awareness and good practices on antimicrobial use is critical," said Prof. Ahmed El-Sewally, Director, African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources.

33rd Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union, 9-10 February 2020, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

# ONE HEALTH

**ONE HEALTH – a collaborative multisectoral and transdisciplinary approach used to attain optimal health outcomes for people, animals, plants and their shared environment.**

## One Health



# One Health Priorities in Africa

## Zoonotic Diseases

**75%**

of emerging infectious diseases in humans come from animals.



- Reduction of the burden of zoonotic diseases on the continent by strengthening targeted prevention and control efforts.

## Antimicrobial Resistance

**1.27** million

deaths in 2019 were caused by AMR



- Reduction of the burden of AMR on the continent by strengthening targeted prevention and control efforts.

## Food Safety

**~282** million

people experienced high levels of acute food insecurity in 2023



- Reduction of the burden caused by foodborne diseases on the continent by strengthening targeted prevention and control efforts.

## Climate Change

**14.5** million

additional deaths in 2050

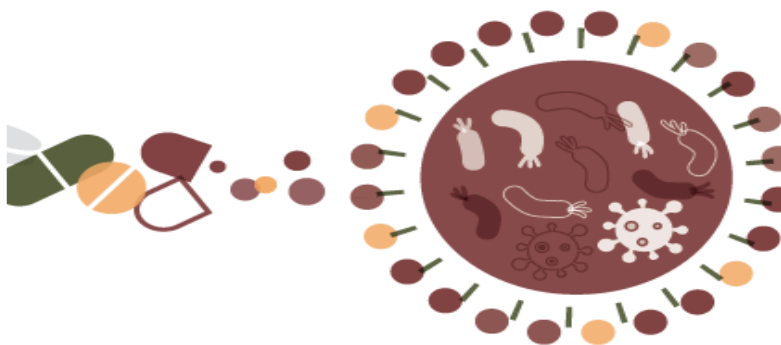


- Reduction of the health burden caused by climate change on the continent by strengthening targeted prevention and control efforts.

## MANDATE.



African Union Framework for  
**Antimicrobial Resistance  
Control 2020–2025**



### AMR Programme

Strategic goal: The reduction of the burden of AMR on the continent by strengthening targeted prevention and control efforts.

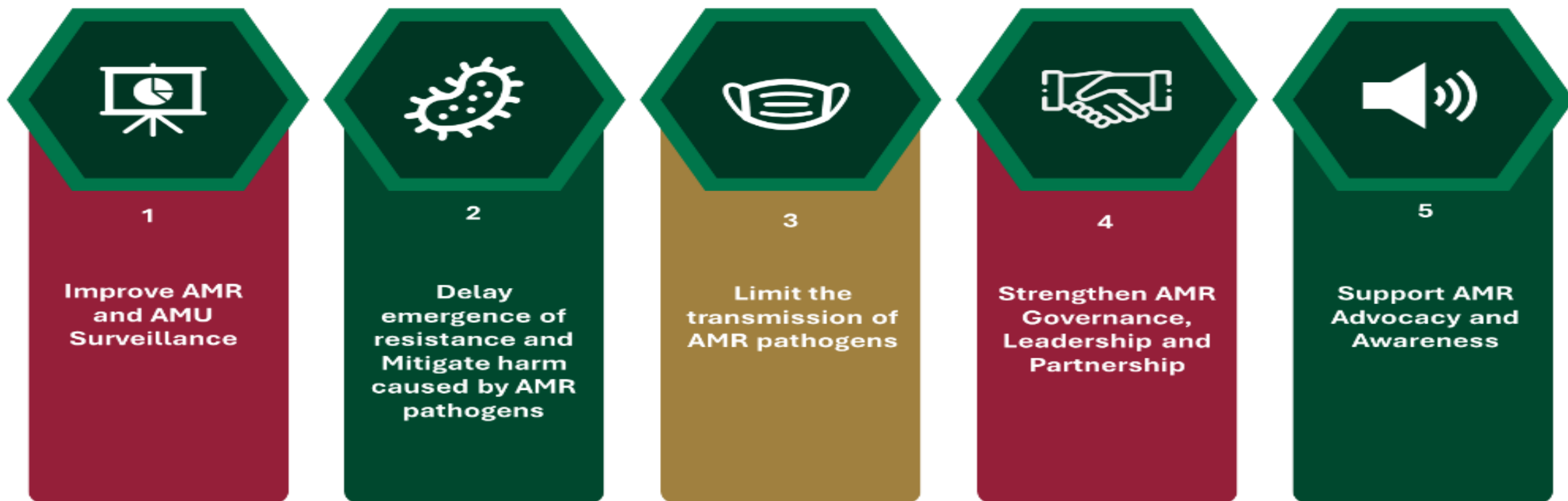


# Continental Meeting on the Review of the African Union Framework for AMR Control (2020–2025)

**Date:** 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2025

**Venue:** Africa CDC Headquarters, Addis Ababa - Ethiopia

## Strategic goals: AU Framework for AMR Control 2026-2030



# AFRICA CDC AMR SURVEILLANCE & STEWARDSHIP INITIATIVES.

- Regional Approach to AMR Surveillance system strengthening (TWGs, Regional review meetings).
- Country-Level Capacity Building.
- Exchange visits and peer to peer learning among AU member states (Ethiopia, South Sudan to South Africa)
- AMRSNET –a network of public health institutions and leaders from one health who will collaborate to measure, prevent and mitigate harms from AMR organisms.



**ONLY 5 OF 15**

antibiotic-resistant pathogens prioritized by the WHO for causing the greatest threat to human health were found to be consistently tested in most countries.

Three pathogens are of immediate concern:



Enterobacteriales



Staphylococcus aureus



Pseudomonas aeruginosa

Combined lack of access and erratic use of antimicrobials magnify the crisis

**67%**

of antibiotics used in healthcare settings were skewed towards four drugs only

**AT LEAST 80%**

of total drug consumption, represented by Access drugs in all but one country as per WHO recommendation

**86%**

of WHO Essential medicine list (EML) Reserve category drugs are found neither in national EML nor documented in the country

**UP TO 34**

uncategorized antibiotics were found to be in circulation



The MAAP project, led by, and for Africans, represents the first time that large quantities of AMR and AMC data are being systematically collected, processed, and evaluated in Africa.

**MAAP REVIEWED**

**819,584**

AMR records spanning from 2016 to 2019, from **205 LABORATORIES** across **14 COUNTRIES**.

**326 hospital and community pharmacies and 16 national level datasets on antimicrobial consumption.**

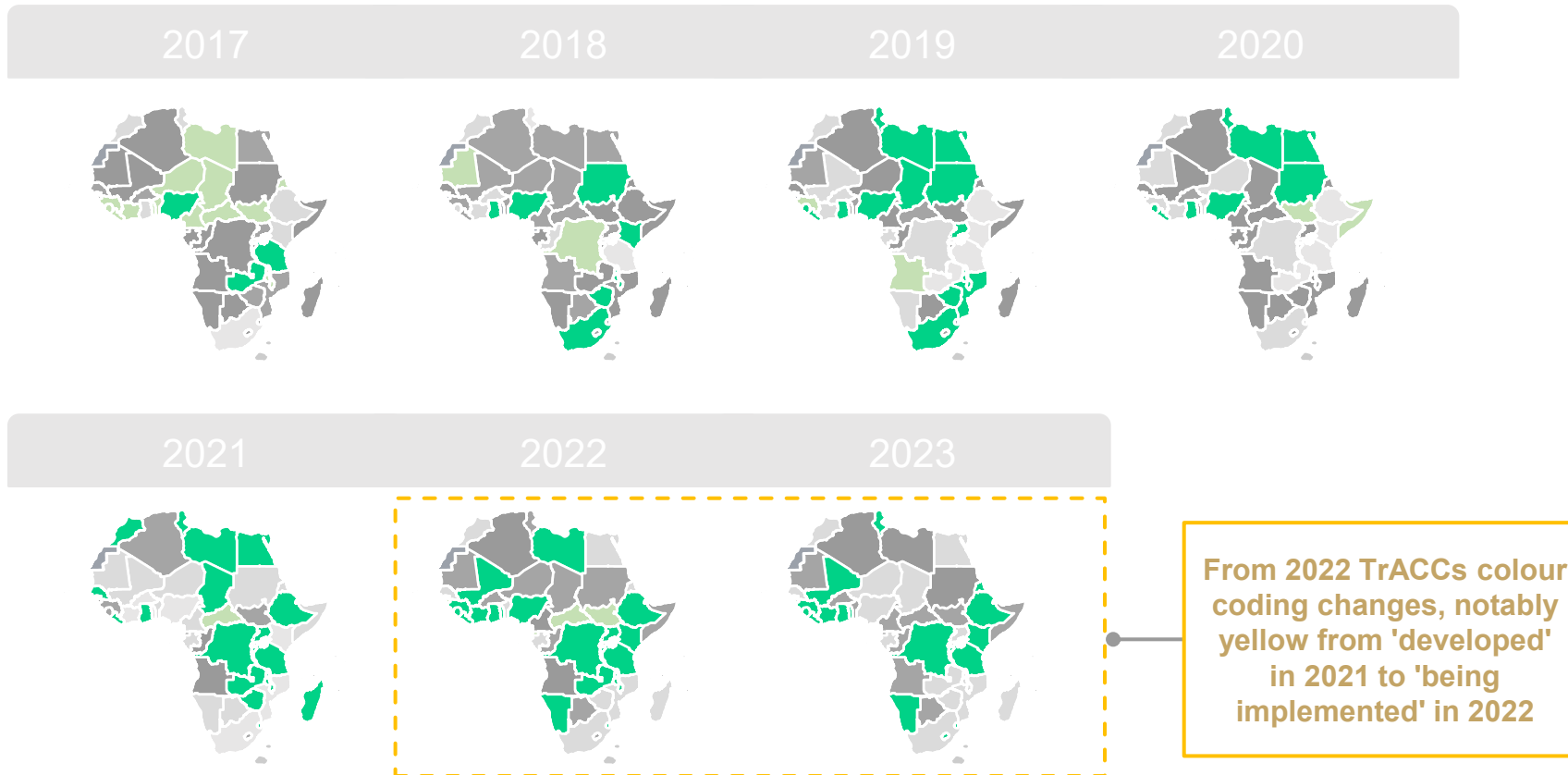
**DRI scores derived from 12 of the 14 African countries show that AMR is indeed a significant hazard. All countries assessed scored at least twice the benchmark of 25%. Their scores include:**

BURKINA FASO	KENYA	TANZANIA
<b>64.0%</b>	<b>56.20%</b>	<b>56.10%</b>
CAMEROON	MALAWI	UGANDA
<b>68.60%</b>	<b>74.10%</b>	<b>69.0%</b>
ESWATINI	NIGERIA	ZAMBIA
<b>64.80%</b>	<b>65.90%</b>	<b>60.80%</b>
GABON	SENEGAL	ZIMBABWE
<b>65.20%</b>	<b>79.80%</b>	<b>66.60%</b>



# While ~80% of African countries developed and are implementing NAPs, lack of funding persists

## Country Progress on National Action Plans on AMR (2017–2023)



In 2023, 45 African countries have AMR National Action Plans in place, but none report financial provisions for implementation in national plans and budgets

Note: Legend matches previous slide

Source: WHO Global Database for Tracking Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Country Self-Assessment Survey (TrACSS)

# AFRICA'S HEALTH SECURITY AND SOVEREIGNTY AGENDA

## 5 Pillars



## Africa's Health Financing in a New Era

Concept Paper | April, 2025

## FINANCING TO ADDRESS ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE



Information note of the Global Leaders Group on Antimicrobial Resistance. July 2021.

### GLOBAL LEADERS GROUP ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

#### KEY MESSAGES

1. There is inadequate financial support currently available for the sustainable implementation of national action plans on antimicrobial resistance, particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Increased investment is urgently needed to support countries to deliver on national action plans.
2. There is a strong economic case for investing in containment of antimicrobial resistance but robust estimates of the costs and benefits of implementing national action plans on antimicrobial resistance are needed to galvanize investment. The response to antimicrobial resistance also needs to be integrated into national pandemic preparedness and response plans.
3. Ongoing investment by governments, global/regional/national/bilateral/multilateral financing and development institutions and banks and private investors to build and bolster human health, animal health, food, plant and environmental eco-systems is crucial to tackling antimicrobial resistance and achieving sustainable development, with particular emphasis on infection prevention and control.
4. More financial support and incentives are needed for increased, effective and affordable innovations across all sectors and stakeholders (including the private sector) to secure a sustainable pipeline for new antimicrobials (particularly antibiotics), vaccines, diagnostics, waste management tools and safe and effective alternatives to antimicrobials, and to ensure equitable access to them.
5. The 2021 Call to Action on Antimicrobial Resistance commits signatories to work towards sufficient and sustainable funding for antimicrobial resistance-specific and antimicrobial resistance-sensitive actions across One Health, including as part of Covid-19 recovery plans and achieving universal health coverage, the Tripartite organizations and UNEP, and other relevant UN and multilateral organizations, including the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) on AMR, as well as integration of antimicrobial resistance into the UN Financing for Development agenda.

#### 1. The World Bank has made strikingly clear the economic case for investing in containment of antimicrobial resistance.

Investing in containment of antimicrobial resistance is considered to be a high-yield development investment with estimated returns far outweighing the costs. Without investment, the economic impacts of antimicrobial resistance are expected to lead to a rise in extreme poverty and a significant annual reduction in global GDP in a high-impact antimicrobial resistance scenario. World Bank estimates suggest that the world stands to lose 3.8 percent of its annual GDP by 2050.<sup>1</sup>

#### 2. Robust estimates of the costs of implementing national action plans on antimicrobial resistance are needed to galvanize investment.

Existing estimates of the costs of antimicrobial resistance containment measures and national action plan implementation have been provided by the O'Neill Review on Antimicrobial Resistance in 2016 and the World Bank in 2017. These estimates range from US \$4-9 billion annually,<sup>2,3</sup> but experts have suggested that these figures may considerably underestimate the true cost of responding to antimicrobial resistance in a One Health context. By comparison, in 2020 there was an estimated need of US \$26 billion and US \$15 billion to respond to HIV and TB respectively, of which almost US \$20 billion (in 2019 for HIV) and nearly US \$7 billion (in 2020 for TB) was available.<sup>4,5</sup> More robust cost and benefit estimates are needed to galvanize investment in the response to antimicrobial resistance.

#### 3. Antimicrobial resistance is currently not a financing priority for many LMICs.

For many countries, the benefits of containing antimicrobial resistance may not be perceived as immediate or tangible compared to other development priorities. COVID-19 fiscal constraints may also lead to a reduction in the financing of antimicrobial resistance programmes across sectors in coming years.<sup>6</sup> Incorporating antimicrobial resistance

## SCALING SOLUTIONS AND FINANCING FOR ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE MITIGATION

Summary brief from high-level side event during the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, June 2025

On 2 June 2025, the International Centre for Antimicrobial Resistance Solutions (ICARS) and ReAct Africa hosted a high-level roundtable on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference.

This by-invitation-only event was held in person and brought together representatives from international organisations, governments, civil society, funders, multilateral development banks, and the private sector to discuss future actions to slow down the increasing burden of AMR globally.

Deliberations focused on translating growing political commitments, such as the 2024 United Nations (UN) Political Declaration on AMR<sup>1)</sup> and the Pandemic Agreement<sup>2)</sup> into local and global impactful interventions. Emphasis was placed on integrating AMR into broader development agendas using a One Health approach and on identifying sustainable funding mechanisms for AMR mitigation.

To drive momentum from the discussions, the Hamburg Joint Statement on AMR was released immediately following the roundtable. Supported by 15 participating stakeholders, including the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of France and Denmark, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, Africa CDC, and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the statement reflects a shared commitment to collaborative global action against AMR.

1. World Bank (2023). 'Drug-Resistant Infections: A Threat to Our Economic Future.' Available [\[link\]](#) (Pgs. xx, xviii and 22)  
2. World Bank (2017). 'Drug-Resistant Infections: A Threat to Our Economic Future.' Available [\[link\]](#) (Pg. xx)  
3. The Review on Antimicrobial Resistance (2016). 'Tackling drug-resistant infection globally: Final report and recommendations.' Available [\[link\]](#) (Pg. 90)  
4. UNAIDS (2021). 'End inequalities: End AIDS: Global AIDS Strategy 2021-2026.' Available [\[link\]](#) (Pg. 120)  
5. WHO (2020). 'Global Tuberculosis Report 2020.' Available [\[link\]](#) (Pg. 120)  
6. Wellcome (2020). 'The Global Response to AMR: Momentum, success, and critical gaps.' Available [\[link\]](#) (Pgs. 15 and 52)



**Partnerships for African Vaccine Manufacturing (PAVM) Framework for Action**



Republic of Rwanda | African Union

**Signing Ceremony of the African Medicines Agency (AMA) Headquarters Agreement**

10 June 2023 | Kigali-Rwanda

INSIDE DEVELOPMENT | GLOBAL HEALTH

**Rwanda chosen to host the African Medicines Agency**

By Sara Jerving // 18 July 2022

Global Health | Trade & Policy | Institutional Development | Democracy, Human Rights & Governance | African Union Commission (AU)

**INAUGURAL MINISTERIAL WORKING GROUP MEETING AT THE FIRST MANUFACTURERS MARKETPLACE FOR AFRICAN UNION MEMBER STATES ON THE PROPOSED LEGAL INSTRUMENT FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE AFRICAN UNION POOLED PROCUREMENT MECHANISM**

COMMUNIQUÉ: OCTOBER 2023

News / Press Releases

**Africa CDC and AUDA-NEPAD Established Diagnostic Advisory Committee (DAC) to Harmonize regulatory processes for Invitro Diagnostics (IVDs) and to accelerate access to diagnostics for the health security of the continent**

75+

Participants

20+

AU Member States

15+

Partner Orgs

45

Speakers & Facilitators

12

Structured Sessions

6

Thematic Areas

6 thematic areas covered:

- Governance & Stewardship
- Sustainable Financing
- Diagnostics & Innovation
- Regulatory Acceleration
- Manufacturing & Supply Chains
- Continental Coordination

# Three Continental AMR Access Priorities – Validated by 20+ Member States

01

## Governance & Stewardship

- Institutionalize multisectoral AMR coordination committees
- Secure high-level political endorsement for AMR as health security priority
- Strengthen surveillance, data systems & evidence for stewardship
- Streamline regulatory, quality & customs processes
- Mobilize sustainable domestic financing for AMR NAPs

02

## Diagnostics & Innovation

- Map & modernize laboratory networks and LIS infrastructure
- Invest in human capacity and regional centres of excellence
- Foster innovation, technology transfer & partnerships
- Standardize diagnostics in clinical protocols and procurement forecasts
- Use diagnostic data for policy, guidelines & investment planning

03

## Financing, Procurement & Manufacturing

- Advance local and regional manufacturing through PPPs
- Pilot pooled procurement at REC level with ~18% savings potential
- Regulatory & quality systems strengthening under AMA/AMRH
- Mobilize blended finance with Afreximbank, AfDB, IFC
- Develop AI-enabled supply chain forecasting systems



# Three-Phase AMR Access Roadmap: 2026–2035

**PHASE I**  
**Fast-Track**  
*2026-2028*

- Operationalize AMR Access Taskforce within Africa CDC
- Identify 5-7 exemplar Member State pilot countries
- Launch 3 REC-level flagship pilots (LIS interoperability, reagent hubs, pooled procurement)
- Design Continental AMR Access Dashboard prototype
- Engage DFIs for blended finance design

**PHASE II**  
**Scale & Institutionalize**  
*2028-2030*

- Scale pilots across all RECs with harmonized frameworks
- Operationalize regional QC labs & mutual recognition under AMA
- Launch Continental AMR Financing Mechanism
- Embed AMR indicators in Africa Health Security Scorecard
- Formalize Regional Manufacturing Clusters

**PHASE III**  
**Consolidate & Sustain**  
*Post-2030*

- Transition hubs to self-sustaining manufacturing ecosystems
- Institutionalize predictable domestic financing for AMR access
- Establish continental brand for quality-assured African AMR products
- Integrate roadmap into AU Agenda 2063 & New Public Health Order
- Maintain Continental Access & Innovation Observatory

**The AMR Access Roadmap is Africa's blueprint for moving from policy consensus to structured, financed implementation.**

Abuja 2026 Ministerial Summit – formal Framework endorsement

Phase I pilots launch – exemplar countries & REC-level hubs

Continental AMR Financing Mechanism operationalized



## Presidential Declaration on Advancing Local Manufacturing of Health Products in Africa

*Adopted by Heads of State, Ministers of Health & Partners · Margins of 39th AU Summit*

1

### Local Manufacturing as Continental Priority

Declared a strategic pillar for Africa's health security and sovereignty agenda under the AHSS.

2

### Operationalise the APPM

'Buy African' tool via demand aggregation, market shaping & long-term offtake arrangements for African manufacturers.

3

### Mobilise Sustainable Financing

Finance local manufacturers including establishment of the APPM Capital Fund.

4

### Skills, Innovation & Technology Transfer

Increase investment through partnerships and Africa CDC Regional Capacity & Capability Networks.

5

### Extraordinary Summit – Nairobi, Q2 2026

Chaired by H.E. President William Ruto, AU Champion on Local Manufacturing. Co-hosted by Africa CDC.

# 60%

of Africa's health products produced locally by 2040

**KE Nairobi, Kenya · Q2 2026**

### Extraordinary Summit on African Health Products Manufacturing

*Chaired by H.E. President Ruto  
AU Champion on Local Manufacturing*

# High level political advocacy for IPC and WASH in Africa

Assembly/AU/Decl.3(XXXIII)  
Declaration On African Common  
Position On Antimicrobial  
Resistance

Increase the proportion of  
healthcare facilities implementing  
infection control and prevention  
programmes and antimicrobial  
stewardship programmes  
(Recommendation 3(a));

Increase access to clean water,  
sanitation, and hygiene in  
healthcare facilities, farms,  
schools, households, and  
community settings  
(Recommendation 3(c));



**DECLARATION ON AFRICAN COMMON POSITION ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE**  
THIRD ORDINARY SESSION OF THE SPECIALISED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, POPULATION AND DRUG CONTROL (STC-HPDC-3) CAIRO, EGYPT 29 JULY - 2 AUGUST 2019

**RECALLING** the commitments, strategies, and guidance from international organizations, intergovernmental organizations, and Member States regarding Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and the highest level commitment shown by Africa's Heads of State and Government to improve the health of Africans, including:

- Agenda 2063, the Africa We Want
- The Africa Health Strategy, 2016-2030
- Annual Health Strategy for Africa, 2018 - 2030
- African Union Framework for Antimicrobial Resistance Control, 2030-2025
- African Centres for Disease Control Framework for Antimicrobial Resistance Control, 2018-2023
- Declaration of Heads of State on Accelerating Implementation of International Health Regulations in Africa (2017)
- Political declaration of the High-Level Meeting of the UN General Assembly on AMR (2016)
- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Antimicrobial Framework for Action of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group
- The WHO Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance
- The FAO Action Plan on AMR
- The OIE Strategy on Antimicrobial Resistance
- International Health Regulations IHR (2005)
- Abuja Declaration and Africa Scorecard on Domestic Financing for Health
- Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA)

**ACKNOWLEDGING** that addressing AMR requires action by governments, international organizations, private sector, academia, and civil society across human, animal, and environmental health sectors; and that African Union organs have begun implementing programs to address AMR, including the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), African Union Pan-African Veterinary Vaccine Centre (AU-PANVAC), Inter-African Phytosanitary Council (AU-IPASC), and AU Pan-African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign;

**RECOGNIZING** that antimicrobials are a resource shared by humans for the benefit of human, animal and plant and that AMR represents an immense global



## The scope of potential actions to address AMR is broad, necessitating a clear theory of change for the AU to drive impact

### Objective

### Supporting role of the African Union

**1** Address AMR drivers in the African context

**A** Advocate for increased support for prevention (e.g., IPC, WASH, vaccines) and **access measures (e.g., affordable diagnostics, medicines, and vaccines)**

**B** Support programs that strengthen health systems and regulatory frameworks, with a defined focus on AMR (e.g. build AMR awareness into existing programs such as PHC, UHC)

**2** Build evidence and improve reporting

**C** Create guidelines to measure a harmonized list of core indicators, across countries over time

**D** Create regular points of engagement for information sharing and exchange peer learnings

**3** Mobilize and coordinate resources


**E** Support advocacy efforts to elevate AMR on national, regional, and international agendas, and create accountability for the implementation of NAPs

**F** Identify and strengthen AMR funding opportunities (regional and international) to ensure **predictable, equitable, and sustainable access across countries**



# Progress: Leadership and Advocacy



 **Ministry of Health Zambia**  
10 June · 🌐

**Parliamentarians Convene to Address Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)**

Parliamentarians convened for a critical meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) governance. The objective of this meeting is to actively engage lawmakers in recognizing and advancing their pivotal role in the fight against AMR in Africa. Parliamentarians are instrumental in shaping national responses through effective advocacy, the enactment of responsive legislation, and the mobilization of resources to s... [See more](#)



**African Youth Antimicrobial Resistance Alliance Task Force  
Position Statement on AMR**

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**AMPLIFYING AFRICA'S  
PRIORITIES AND KEY ASKS  
FROM UN MEMBER STATES  
ON ANTIMICROBIAL  
RESISTANCE**

**AFRICAN YOUTH  
POSITION STATEMENT**  
For the United Nations General Assembly High-Level Meeting on AMR to be held on September 26, 2024.





THANK YOU

Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC),  
P.O. Box 3243, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Ring Road, 16/17,  
Tel: +251 (0) 11 551 77 00, Fax:+251 (0) 11 551 78 44

[www.africacdc.org](http://www.africacdc.org)

    @africacdc