

# International perspective - Latest update on AMR guidelines and WOAAH standards



## Regional Workshop on Advancing WOAH AMR Standards in Veterinary Practice

8 – 10 April 2026, Nairobi, Kenya

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Veterinary Products and Drug  
Resistance Department

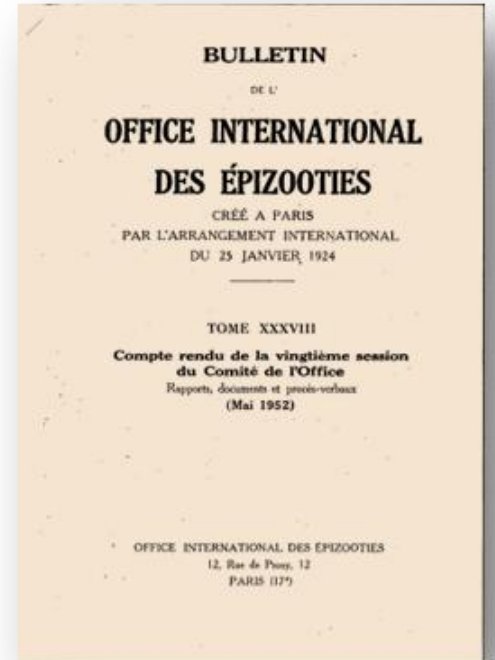




In 1952, WOAAH Members already recognized the risk of AMR to the welfare of animals when they agreed:



*'Use of antibiotics against insensitive germs or specifically resistant, utilization of too weak doses or through a too short time frame, can reveal resistant germs...harming a method that, when judiciously and correctly applied, has saved numerous human and animal lives'*



Since then, WOAAH and its partners have provided **tools**, including **guidelines**, **standards** and data to help nations optimise use in animals and manage antimicrobial resistance.

**1999**

WOAH creates an *ad-hoc* group to develop the first global AMR guidelines for animals

**1971-72**

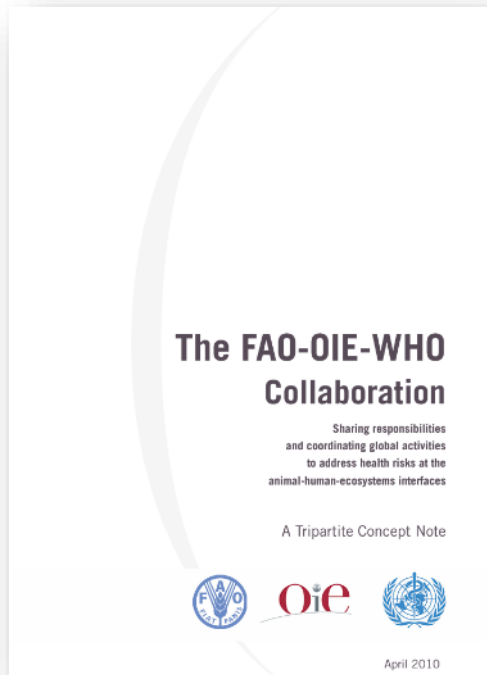
WOAH Regional Committee for Europe assesses AMU in animal production in formal sessions during their 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> conferences.



## 2009-10

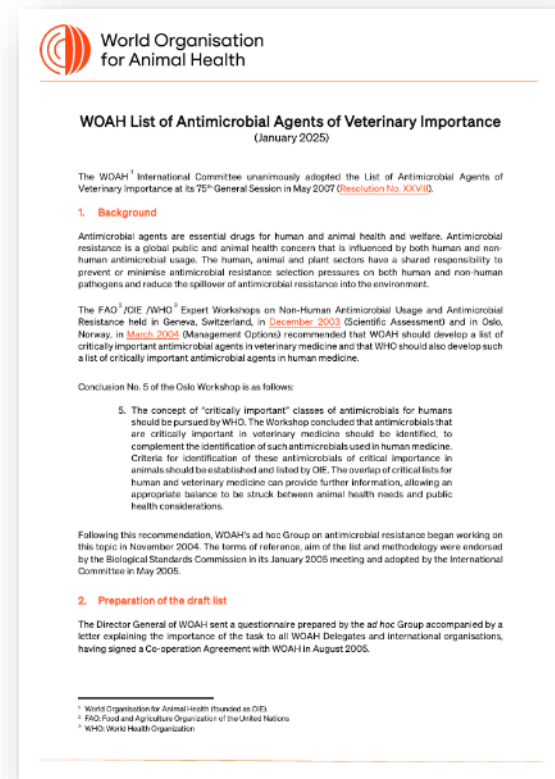
**Resolution #25** passed at the World Assembly of Delegates for the creation of national Focal Points for Veterinary Products.

The 'Tripartite' **formally agrees** to work together.



## 2006

WOAH World Assembly adopts a preliminary List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance, fulfilling the FAO, WOAH and WHO Expert Workshop of Non-Human AMU and AMR recommendations (**Resolution #25**).



## 2013

WOAH hosts 1<sup>st</sup> World Conference on AMR, which helps spur adoption of a revised list of antimicrobial agents of veterinary importance during the World Assembly of Delegates.

WOAH Members agreed to collect harmonised AMU data in animals with the view to submit them to the WOAH and to establish a global database



Resolution 26 "Combating AMR and Promoting the Prudent Use of Antimicrobial Agents in Animals"

- The OIE develops a procedure and standards for data quality for **collecting data annually** from OIE Member Countries on the use of antimicrobial agents in food-producing animals with the aim of **creating an OIE global database...**





## 2015

Global Action Plan on AMR is published by WHO, in coordination with FAO and WOAHA, while the World Assembly of Delegates agrees in Resolution #26 to collect AMU data and submits to WOAHA (ANIMUSE) based on WOAHA Standards.



GLOBAL ACTION PLAN  
ON ANTIMICROBIAL  
RESISTANCE



## 2016.b

1<sup>st</sup> UNGA Political Declaration on AMR. Countries

agreed to

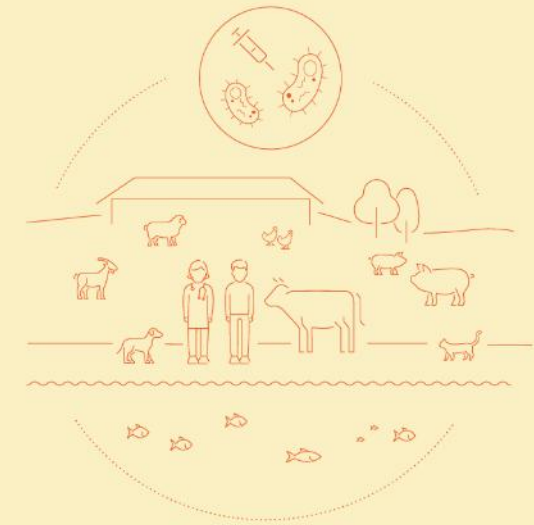
- Develop national action plans
- Mobilise sustainable financial resources
- Strengthen AMU monitoring
- Improve AMR awareness to encourage behavioral change
- Support a One Health approach

## 2016.a

WOAHA Delegates pledge to fulfill commitments under the Global Action Plan on AMR, while WOAHA launches its Global Strategy on AMR and Prudent Use of Antimicrobials.

Strategy on Antimicrobial Resistance  
and the Prudent Use of Antimicrobials

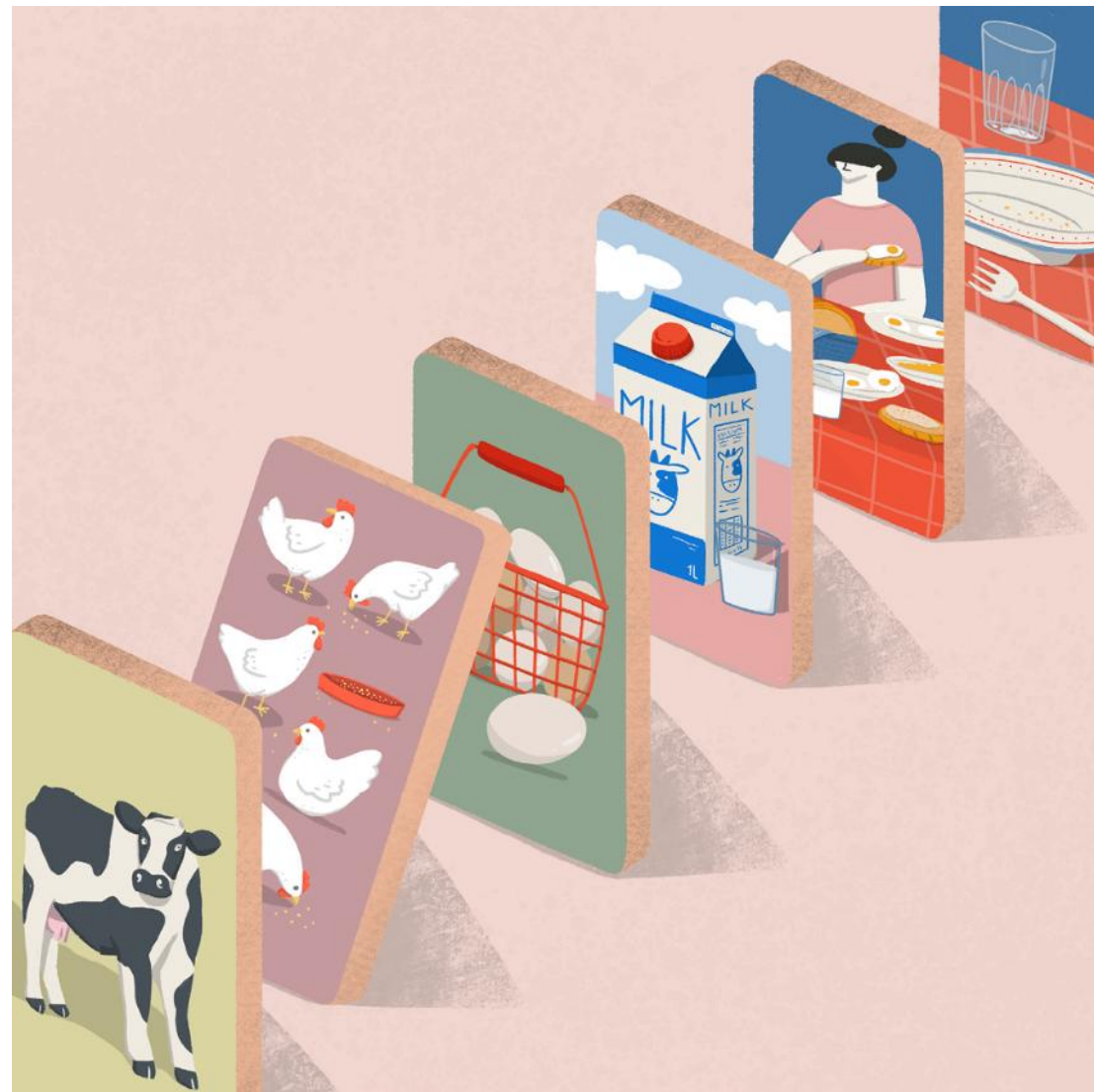
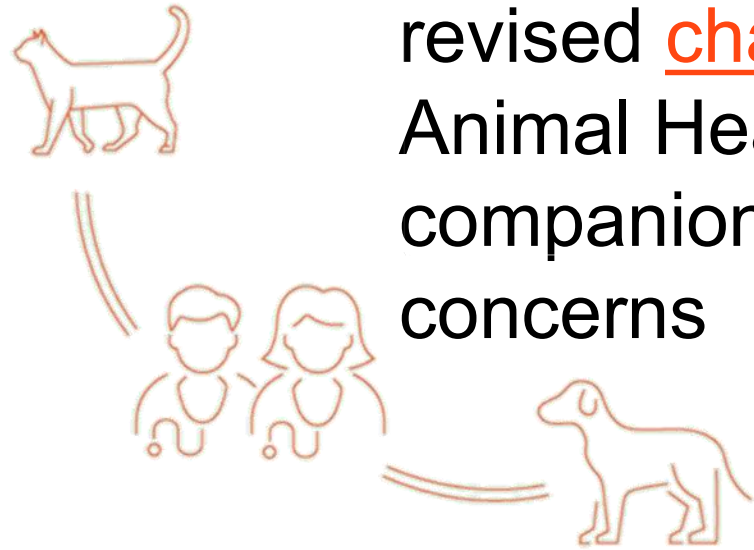
Preserving the efficacy of antimicrobials





# 2024.a

WOAH Delegates unanimously approve the revised chapter 6.10 of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code, expanding its scope to companion animals and environmental concerns



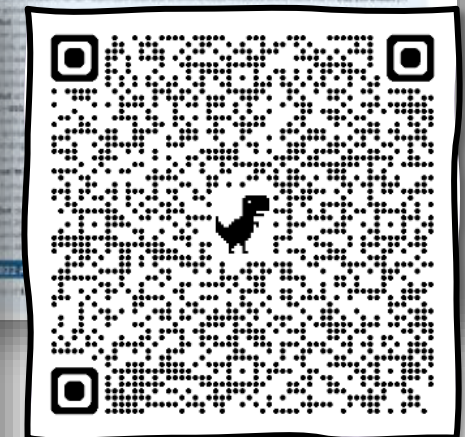
AMR is putting food security at risk

# 2024.b

WOAH launches a series of four reports, co-published with the World Bank (Sep.2024). Data from more than 200 countries estimating full toll of AMR (humans, livestock and our overall economies



Statistical analysis suggests that countries using antimicrobials for growth promotion in livestock have an estimated average of 45% higher antimicrobial use per kilogram of animal biomass than countries that do not use growth promoters. This estimate accounts for all classes of antimicrobials except ionophores. As previously reported by WOA, the use of antimicrobials as growth promoters is still a practice among 20% of its Members, with 75% of those being in the regions of the Americas, and in Asia and the Pacific.





2024.c



## The second UN General Assembly High-Level Meeting on antimicrobial resistance

- Four main commitments for animal health
- 13 commitments encompassing animal health
- 15 commitments for the AMR Quadripartite



## Four commitments for the animal health sector by 2030

As a member of the national Veterinary Services, your work plays a central role in ensuring their achievement.



### Reduced quantities of antimicrobials used in animals

*'Strive to meaningfully reduce [...] the quantity of antimicrobials used globally in the agri-food system [...] taking into account the [...] standards, guidance and recommendations of the World Organisation for Animal Health.'* (69)



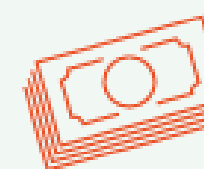
### Prudent and responsible use of antimicrobials in animals

*'Commit to ensure that the use of antimicrobials in animals and agriculture is done in a prudent and responsible manner in line with [...] the standards, guidance and recommendations of the World Organisation for Animal Health.'* (70)



### Prioritisation of prevention with a focus on animal vaccination strategies

*'Ensure [...] that animal vaccination strategies are defined with an implementation plan [...] taking into account WOA's list of priority diseases for which vaccines could reduce antimicrobial use [...].'* (72)



### Investment to ensure access to essential veterinary services

*'Invest in animal health systems to support equitable access to essential veterinary services, improve animal health and appropriate management practices to prevent infections [...].'* (73)

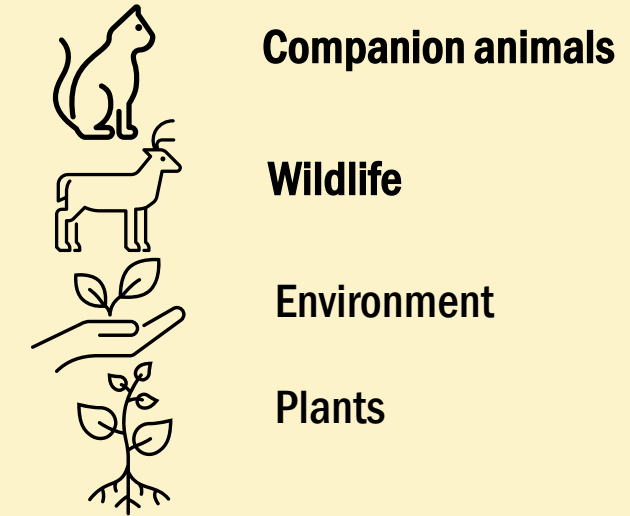
# 2026 - Global Action Plan on AMR - what is new?

## UNGA Declaration Commitment # 25

Quadripartite organizations, in consultation with Member States, to update the GAP AMR by 2026 to ensure a robust and inclusive multisectoral response, through a One Health approach, that aligns with current realities to drive greater impact against AMR

The GAP established the foundations for the global AMR response

Revised GAP AMR to follow One Health approach, extending it to



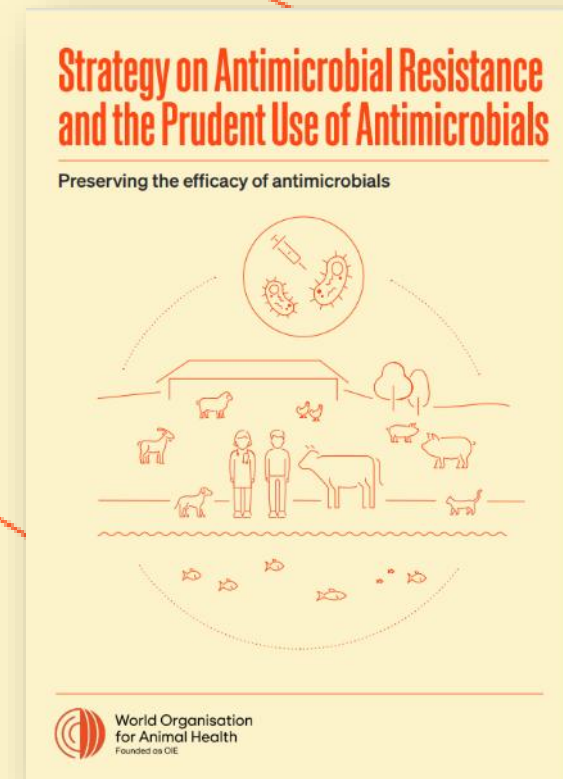
2015

Global Action Plan on AMR adopted at the World Health Assembly



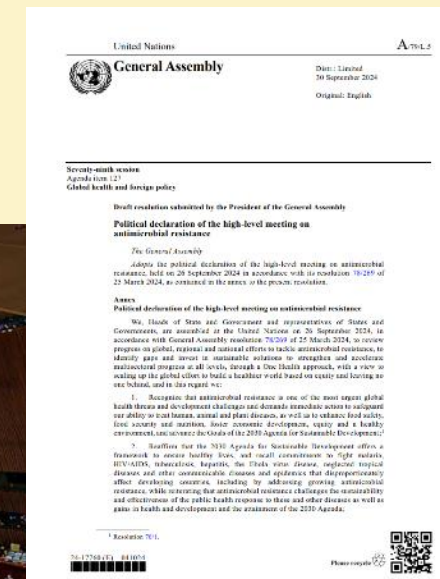
2016

WOAH adopted its Strategy on AMR in alignment with GAP



2024

UNGA HLM on AMR



## 6 Strategic Objectives

S01- Strengthen awareness & behaviour change on AMR

S02- Strengthen surveillance & diagnostic networks

S03- Intensify infection prevention to reduce need for antimicrobials

S04- Ensure equitable access, use & disposal of antimicrobials

S05- Ensure sustainable R&D investment

S06- Strengthen multisectoral governance, sustainable financing and accountability.

# Overall changes

## GAP 2015

- 1 **Improve awareness and understanding** of antimicrobial resistance through effective communication, education and training
- 2 **Strengthen the knowledge and evidence base** through surveillance and research
- 3 **Reduce the incidence of infection** through effective sanitation, hygiene and infection prevention measures.
- 4 **Optimize the use of antimicrobial medicines** in human and animal health
- 5 **Develop the economic case for sustainable investment** that takes account of the needs of all countries, and **increase investment in new medicines, diagnostic tools, vaccines** and other interventions.



## Updated GAP (2026)

- 1 **Strengthen awareness and promote appropriate social and behaviour change** to reduce AMR risks across all sectors
- 2 **Strengthen surveillance systems and diagnostic networks** to inform effective, evidence-driven AMR policies and actions across sectors
- 3 **Intensify infection prevention across all sectors** to reduce the burden of infectious diseases and the need for antimicrobials
- 4 **Ensure equitable access, appropriate use and safe disposal of antimicrobials** and health products across sectors
- 5 **Ensure sustainable investment in AMR research and innovation** across sectors
- 6 **Strengthen multisectoral governance, sustainable financing, and accountability** for a coordinated AMR responses across all sectors and at all levels

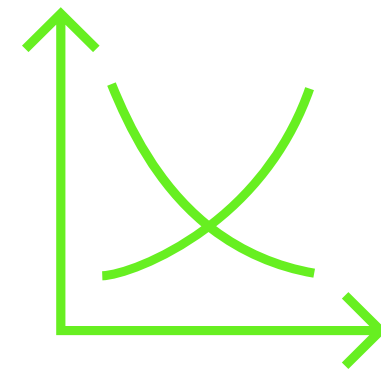


# Current WOAHA strategy on AMR – Four Pillars



INCREASE  
AWARENESS &  
UNDERSTANDING

STRENGTHEN  
SURVEILLANCE &  
RESEARCH



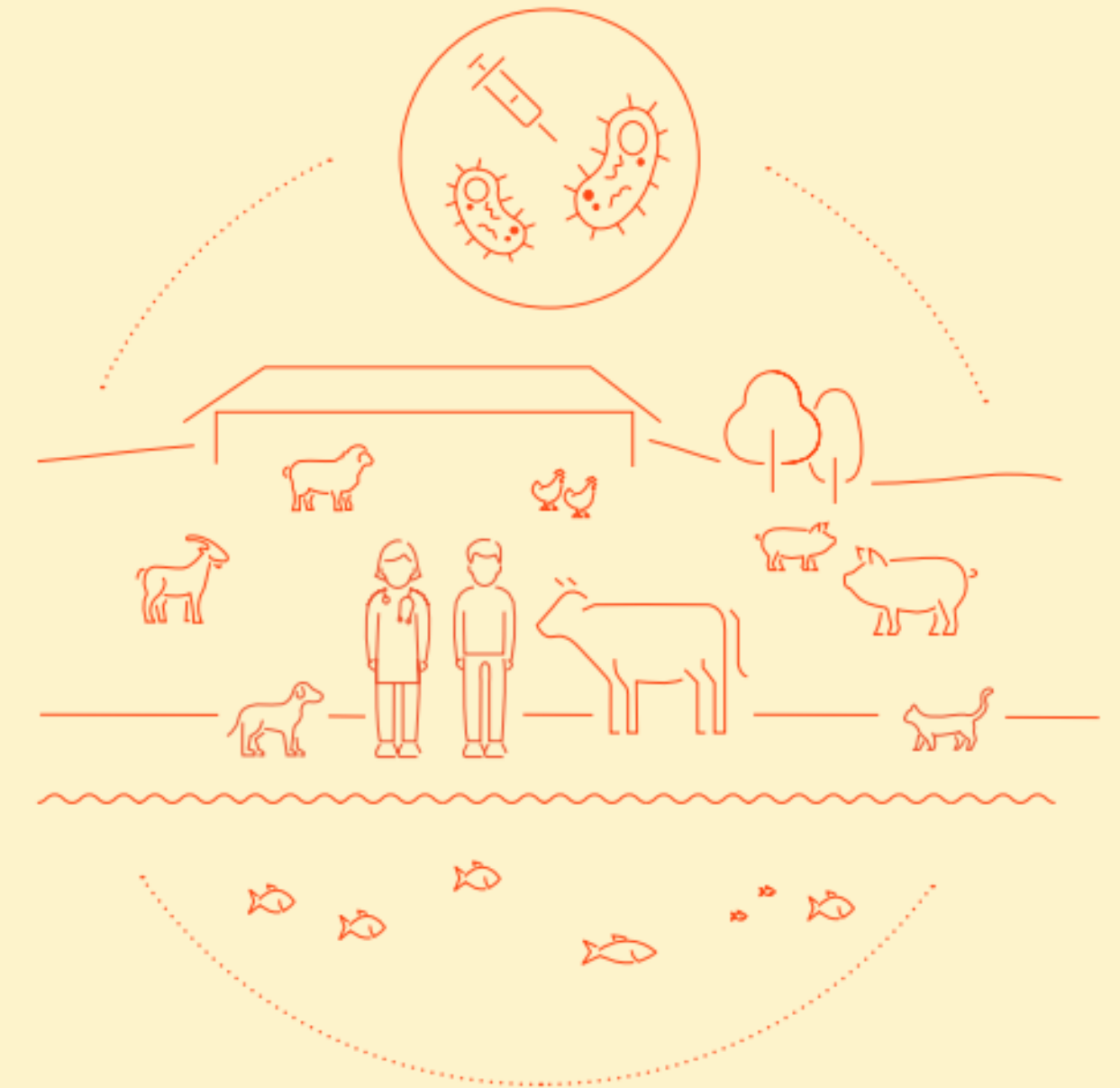
SUPPORT  
GOVERNANCE &  
BUILD CAPACITY

IMPLEMENT  
STANDARDS



## Strategy on Antimicrobial Resistance and the Prudent Use of Antimicrobials

Preserving the efficacy of antimicrobials



# 1. Improve awareness and understanding on AMR

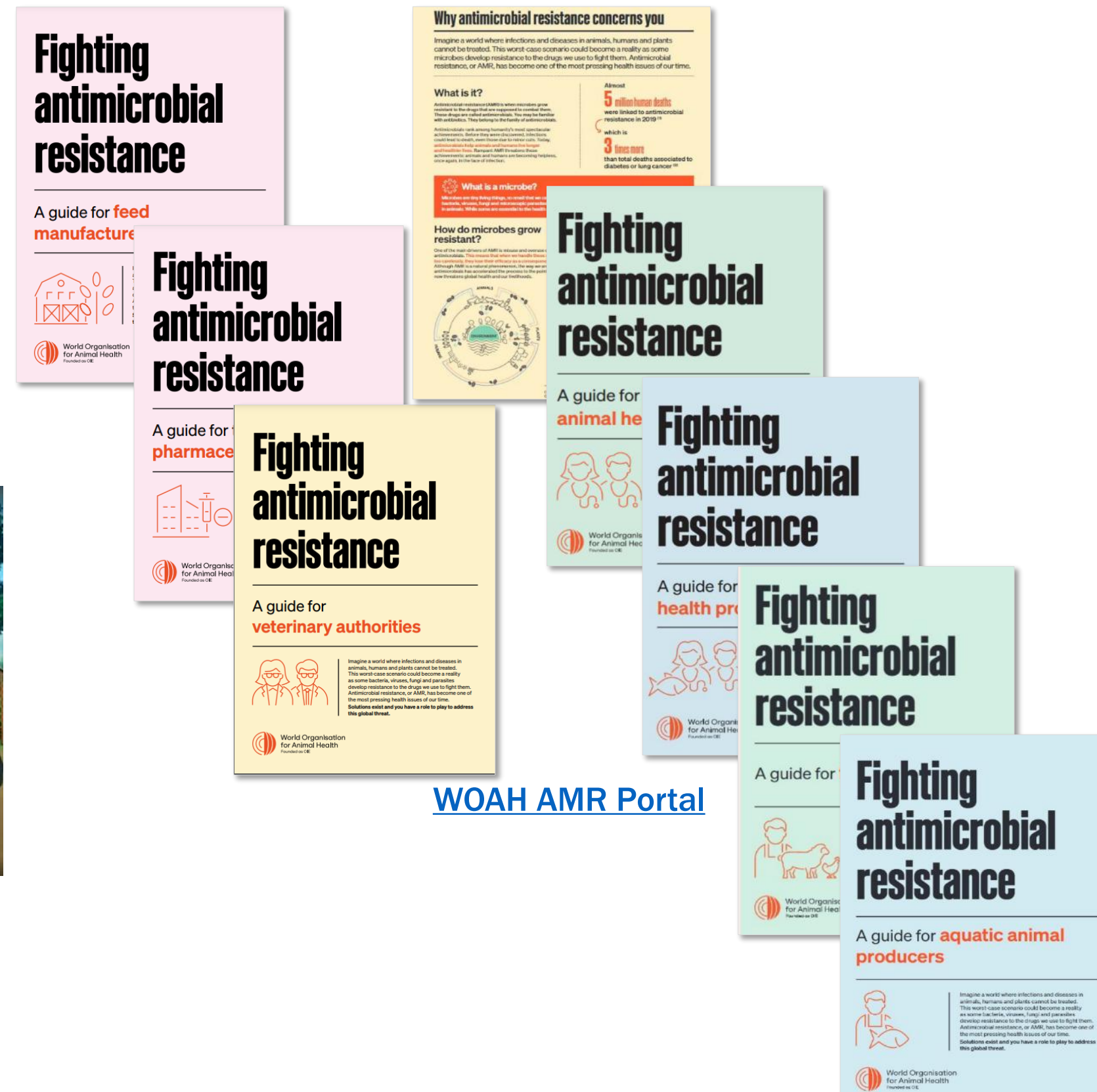
- From veterinarians to the public: **everybody** has a role when addressing AMR
- Use of language and media that is adequate to the target audience and country context
- It is important to use common terminology across sectors



[WOAH Fighting AMR: Responsible AMU](#)



[WOAH chicken farming & AMR](#)



[WOAH AMR Portal](#)



Sketching Antimicrobial Resistance  
Thirty stories, One Health

Part of the campaign Sketching Antimicrobial Resistance led by EU-JAMRAI 2.

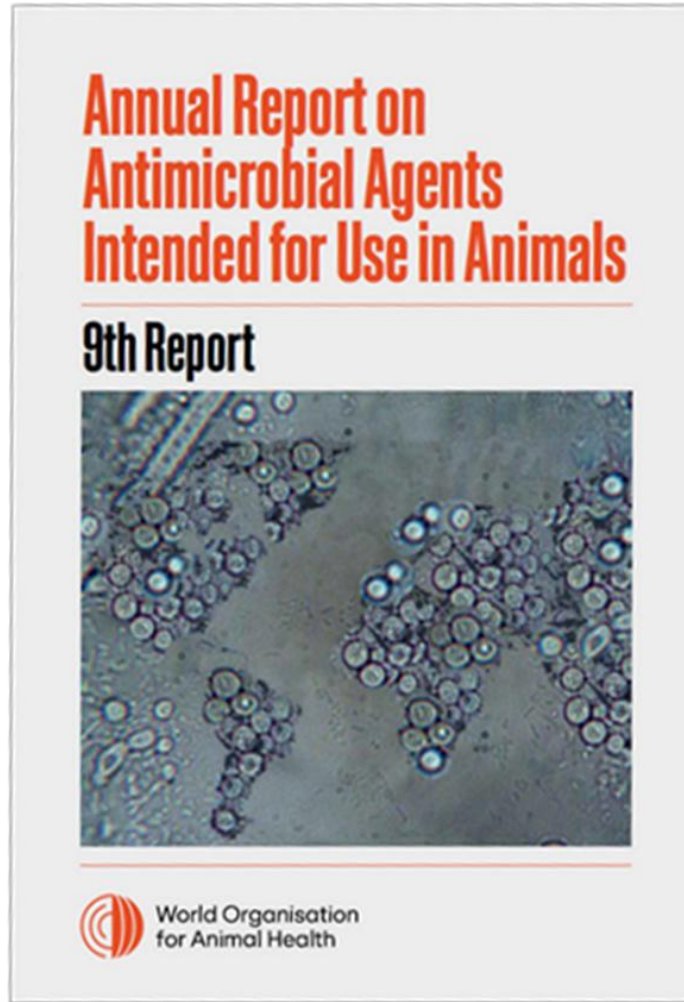
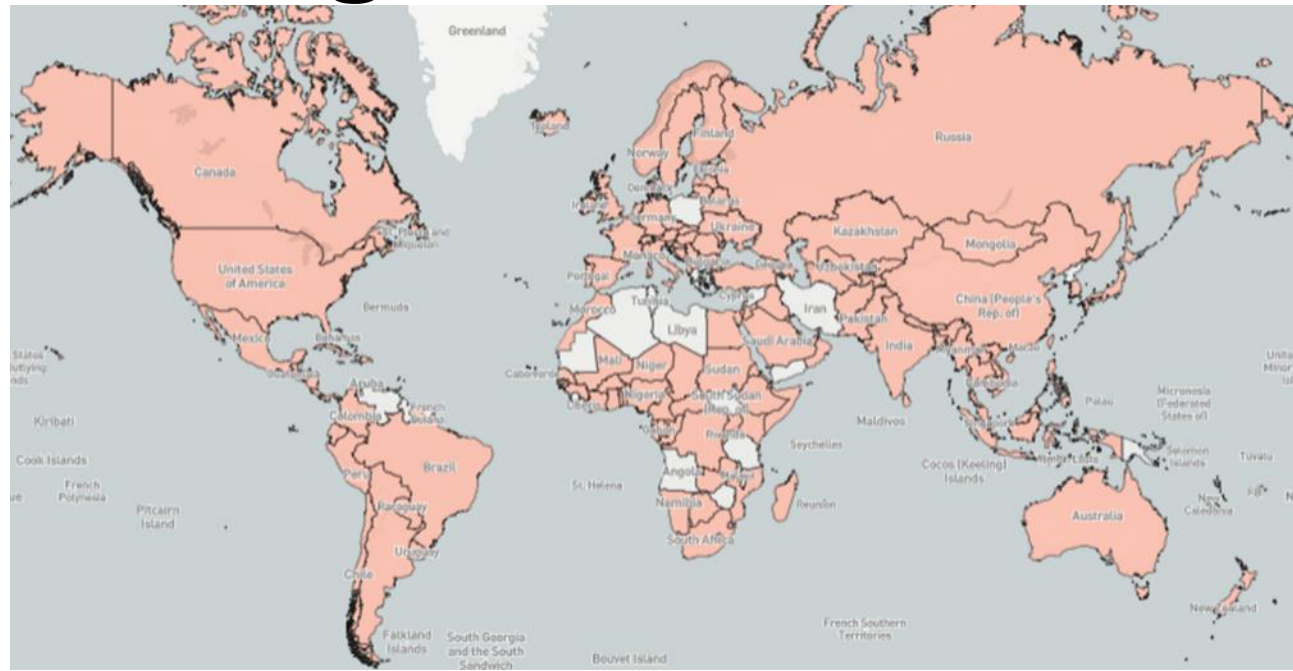




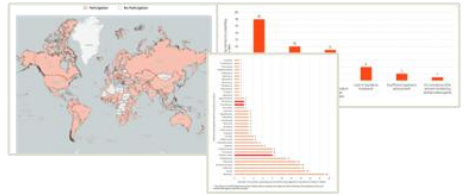
# 2. Strengthen knowledge through surveillance and research

## ANIMUSE Global Database

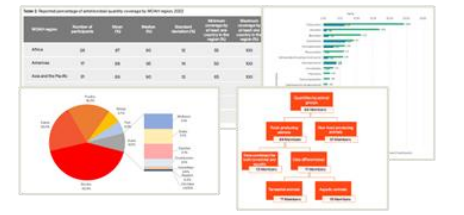
### Collecting AMU Data since 2015



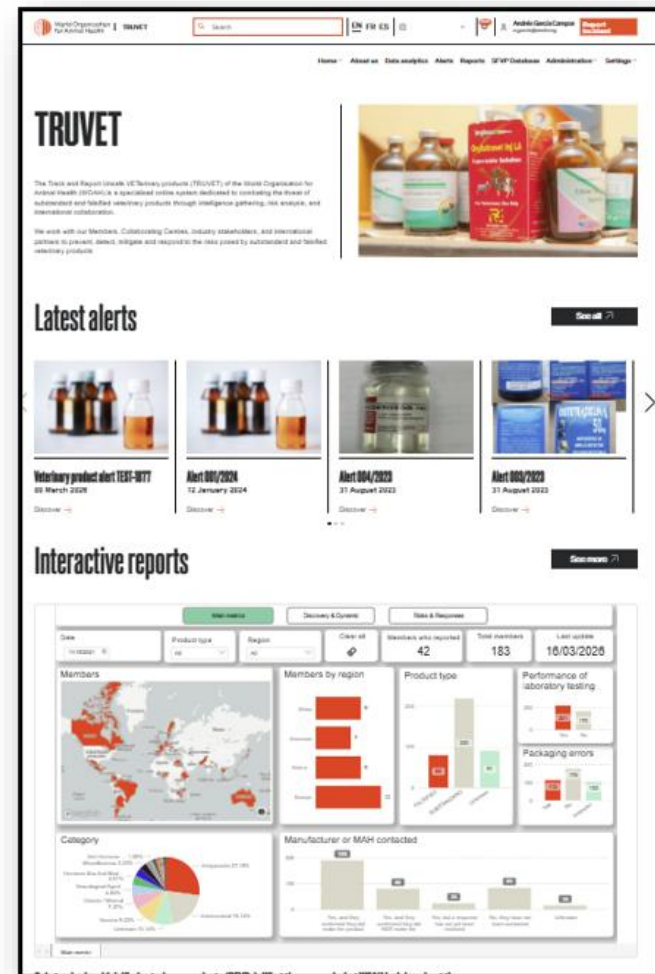
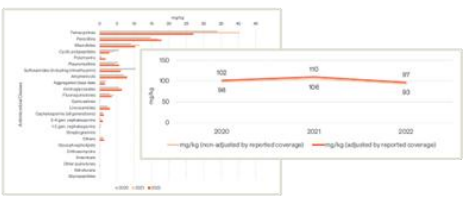
Results of the Ninth Round (157 Participants)



2022 Analysis of Antimicrobial Quantities (107 Participants)



Trends from 2020 to 2022 (85 Participants)



Published in May 2025



## TRUVET – Track and Report Unsafe VETerinary products

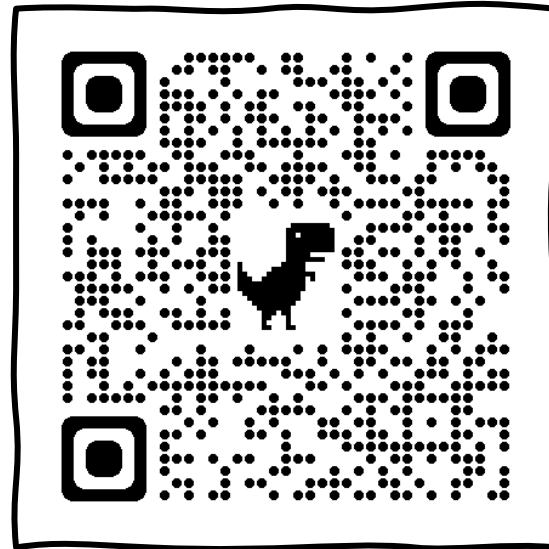


# VACCINES in food-producing animals – Disease Prioritisation Lists

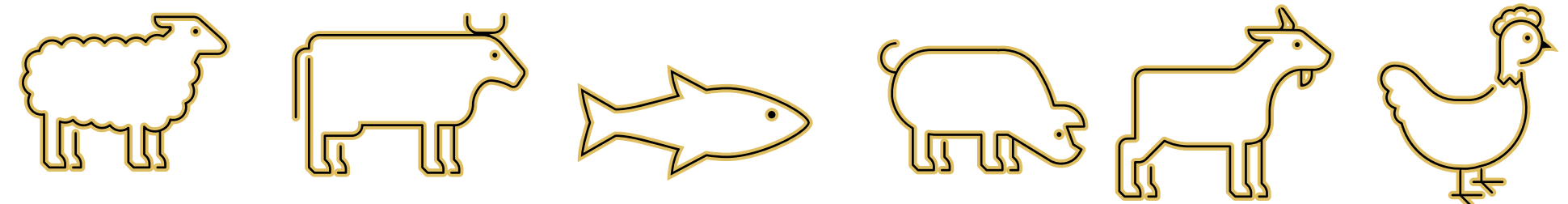
**Oie** WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH  
Protecting animals, preserving our future

Original: English  
April 2015

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE OIE AD HOC GROUP ON PRIORITISATION OF DISEASES  
FOR WHICH VACCINES COULD REDUCE ANTIMICROBIAL USE IN ANIMALS<sup>1</sup>  
Paris, 21 – 23 April 2015



| Key syndrome                             | Primary pathogen(s) (disease)  | Antibiotic use | Commercial* vaccine exists | Major constraints to use of vaccine / vaccine development   | Vaccine research priority |
|--|--|----------------|----------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Systemic (Broilers)                      | <i>Escherichia coli</i> (Yolk sac infection, airsacculitis, cellulitis)          | High           | Yes                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Omphalitis: secondary bacterial infection – not a disease one can immunize against</li> <li>• Strain coverage limited</li> <li>• Airsacculitis, cellulitis: vaccines available, e.g. live aerosol vaccine. However, Serotype coverage limited and field efficacy variable</li> </ul> | High                      |
|  | <i>Infectious Bursal Disease virus</i> (secondary bacterial infections)          | Medium         | Yes                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issues with vaccine application</li> <li>• Short window of opportunity to vaccinate</li> <li>• Maternal antibody interference</li> </ul>   | Medium                    |
| Systemic (Breeders, Layers)              | <i>Escherichia coli</i> (airsacculitis, cellulitis, salpingitis and peritonitis) | High           | Yes                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strain coverage limited</li> </ul>   | High                      |
| Enteric (Broilers, Breeders, and Layers) | <i>Clostridium perfringens</i> , type A (necrotic enteritis)                     | High           | Yes                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Toxoid vaccine for layers providing only short-lasting passive immunity</li> <li>• Research needed to achieve active immunity.</li> <li>• Improved and/or more convenient (mass vaccination) vaccine needed for broilers</li> </ul>  | High                      |
|  | Coccidiosis (secondary bacterial infections)                                     | High           | Yes                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of cross-protection</li> <li>• Strains must be matched to infectious agent</li> <li>• Current vaccines are not attenuated and can produce low dose infection</li> <li>• Sub-unit vaccines have not been successful</li> </ul>   | High                      |
|  | <i>Infectious Bronchitis virus</i> (secondary bacterial infections)              | Medium         | Yes                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issues with strain matching and strain coverage</li> <li>• High mutation rate of virus</li> </ul>  | Medium                    |

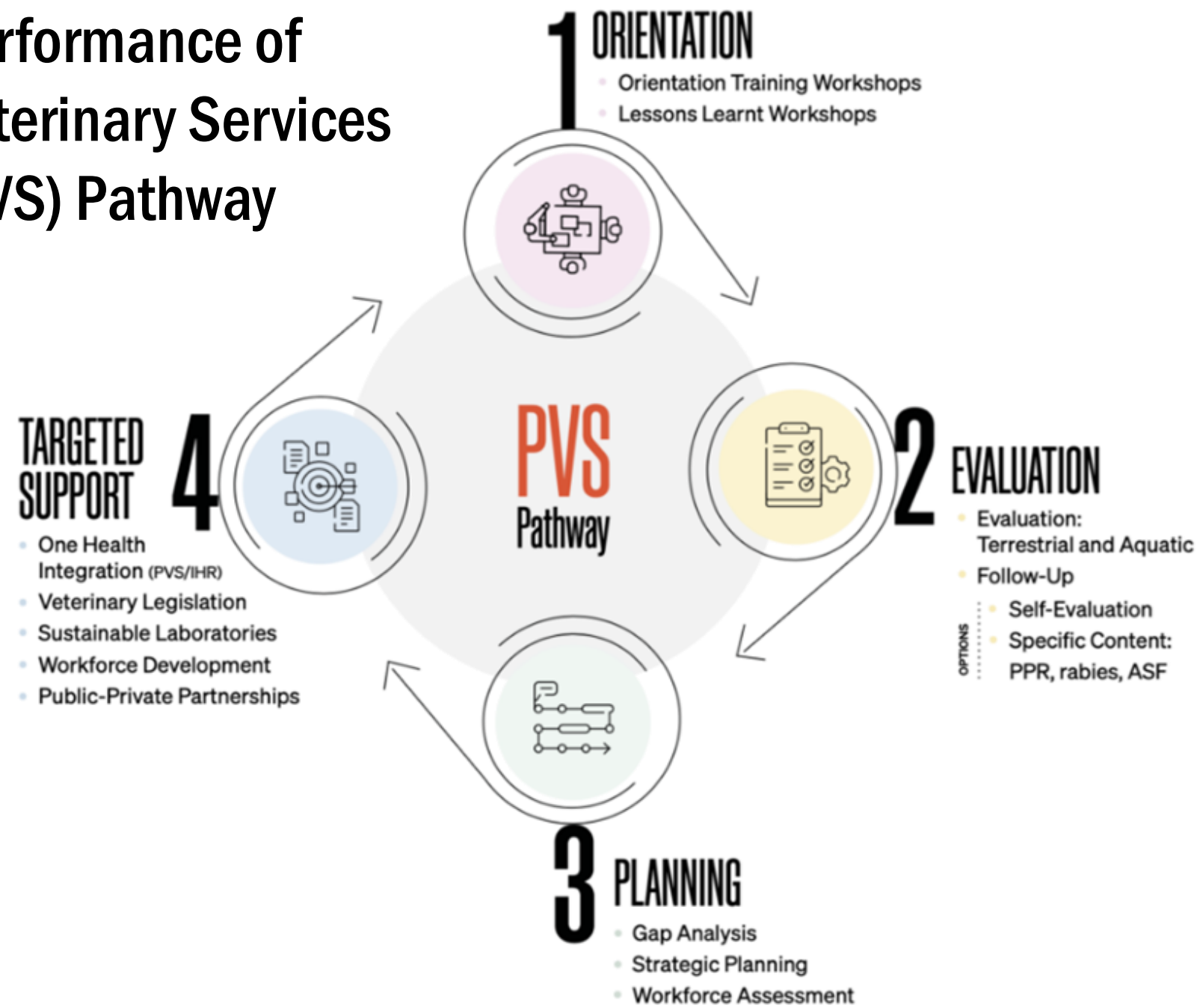


Vaccines prevent infections and reduce the spread of superbugs



# 3. Support good governance & build capacity

## Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) Pathway



## Online training modules

16 CPs

CP8 dedicated to Veterinary Products

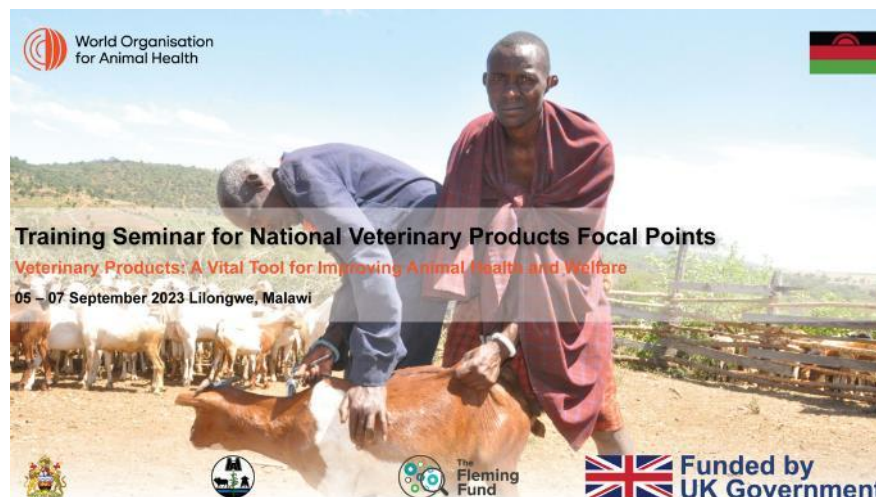
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CP11 dedicated to OH

CP15 dedicated to aquatics

|                               |  |                        |                                     |
|-------------------------------|--|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| CP 1<br>WOAH and its Partners | CP 2<br>Quality and management of VS/AAHS      | CP 3<br>Risk analysis  | CP 4<br>Laboratory services         |
| CP 5<br>AH management         | CP 6<br>EMERGENCY PLAN<br>Emergency management | CP 7<br>Animal welfare | CP 8<br>Veterinary products         |
| CP 9<br>Emerging risks        | CP 10<br>Partnership                           | CP 11<br>One Health    | CP 12<br>Trade                      |
| CP 13<br>Food safety          | CP 14<br>Economics of AH                       | CP 15<br>Aquatics      | CP 16<br>Wildlife health management |

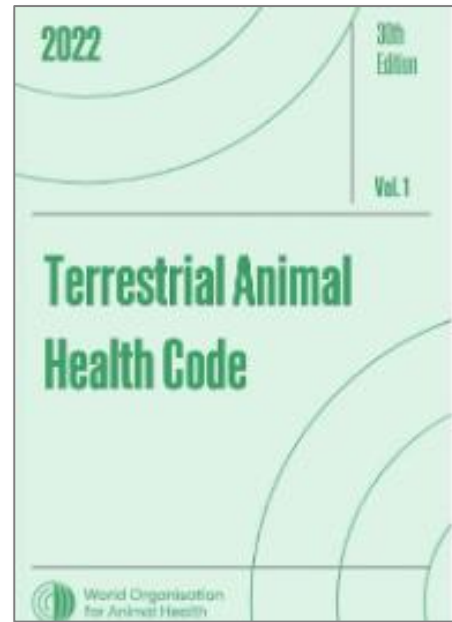
## Focal Points for Veterinary Products training seminars





# 4. Encourage implementation of international standards

## Terrestrial Animal Health Code



- Ch.6.7. **Introduction** to the recommendations for controlling antimicrobial resistance
- Ch.6.8. Harmonisation of national AMR **surveillance and monitoring** programmes (updated in May 2018)
- Ch.6.9. **Monitoring of the quantities and usage patterns** of antimicrobial agents used in food-producing animals (Agreement on definitions)
- Ch.6.10. **Responsible and prudent use** of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine
- Ch.6.11. **Risk analysis** for AMR arising from the use of antimicrobial agents in animals

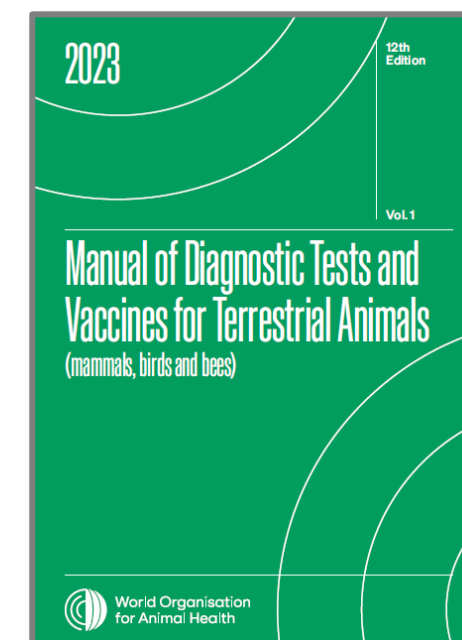
## Aquatic Animal Health Code



- Ch.6.2. Principles for **responsible and prudent use** of antimicrobial agents in aquatic animals
- Ch.6.3. **Monitoring of the quantities and usage patterns** of antimicrobial agents used in aquatic animals
- Ch.6.4. Development and harmonisation of national AMR **surveillance and monitoring** programmes for aquatic animals
- Ch.6.5. **Risk analysis** for AMR arising from the use of antimicrobial agents in aquatic animals

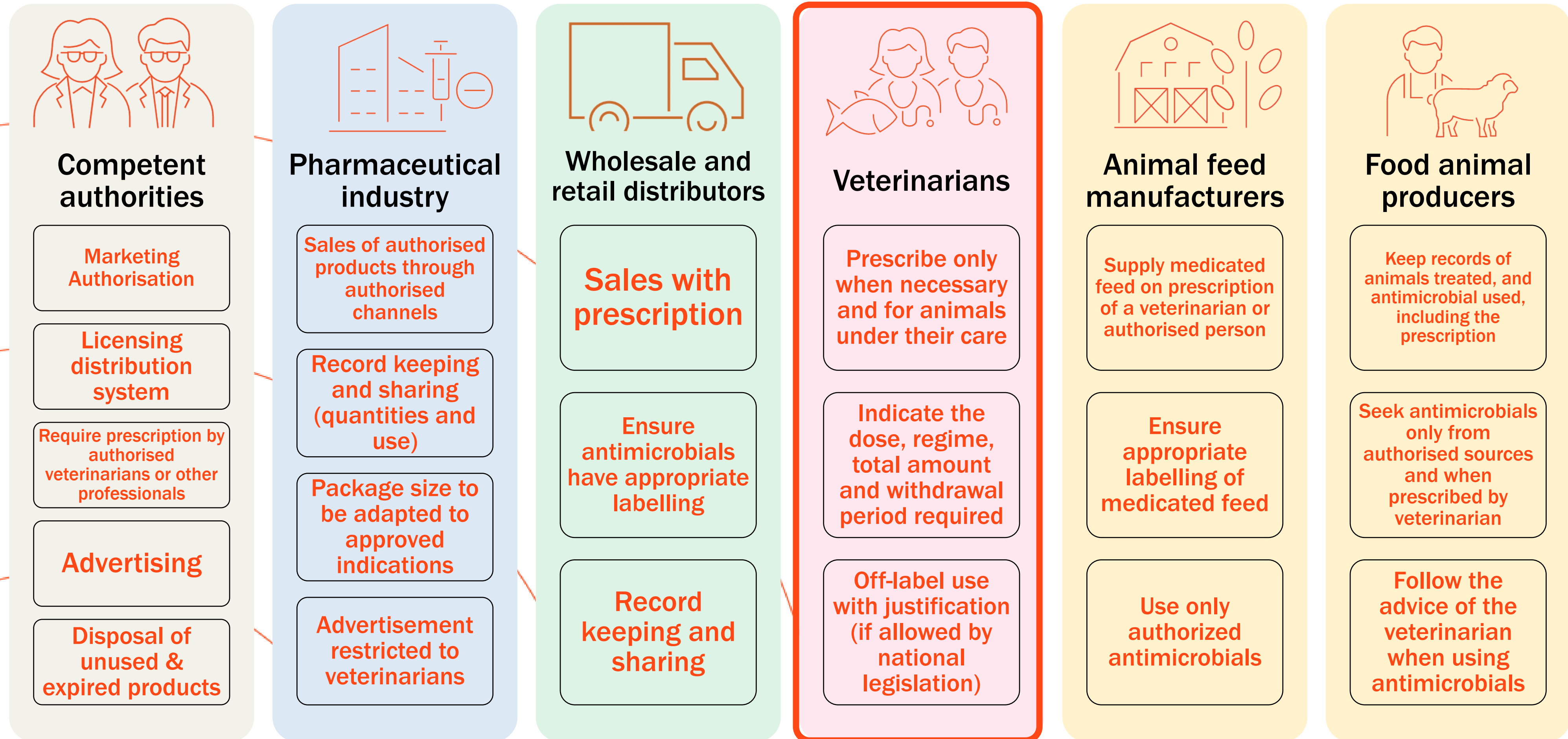


## Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals

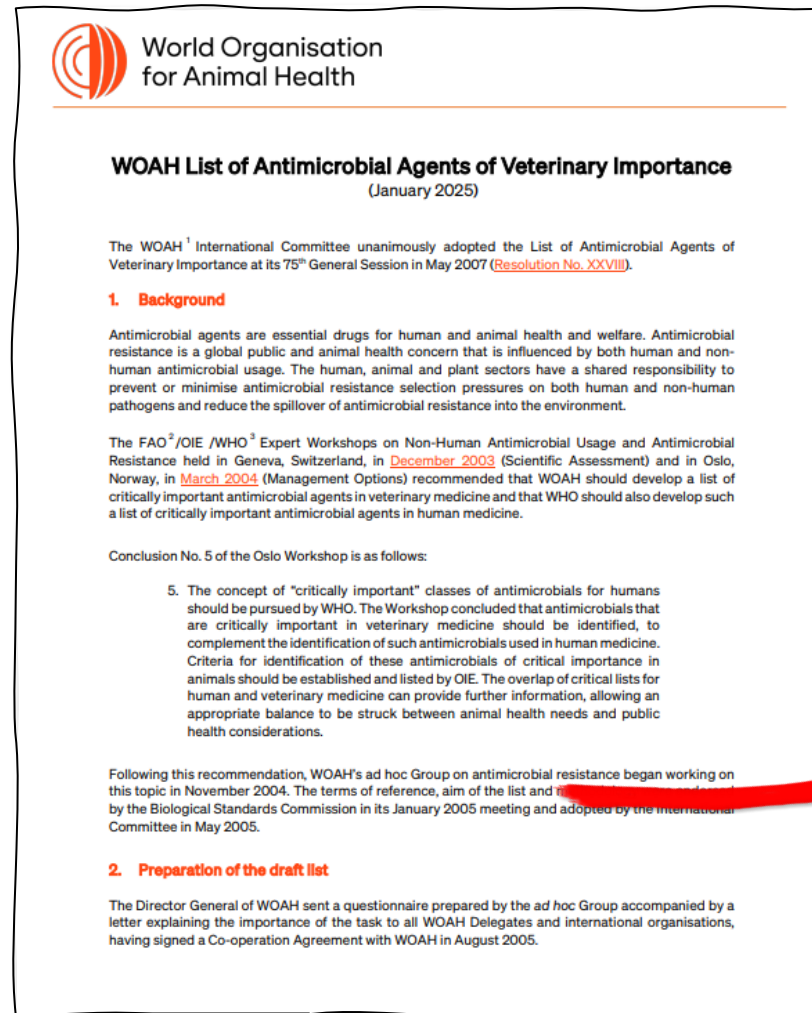


- Ch. 2.1.1 Laboratory methodologies for bacterial **antimicrobial susceptibility testing**

# Responsibilities of (not exhaustive) :

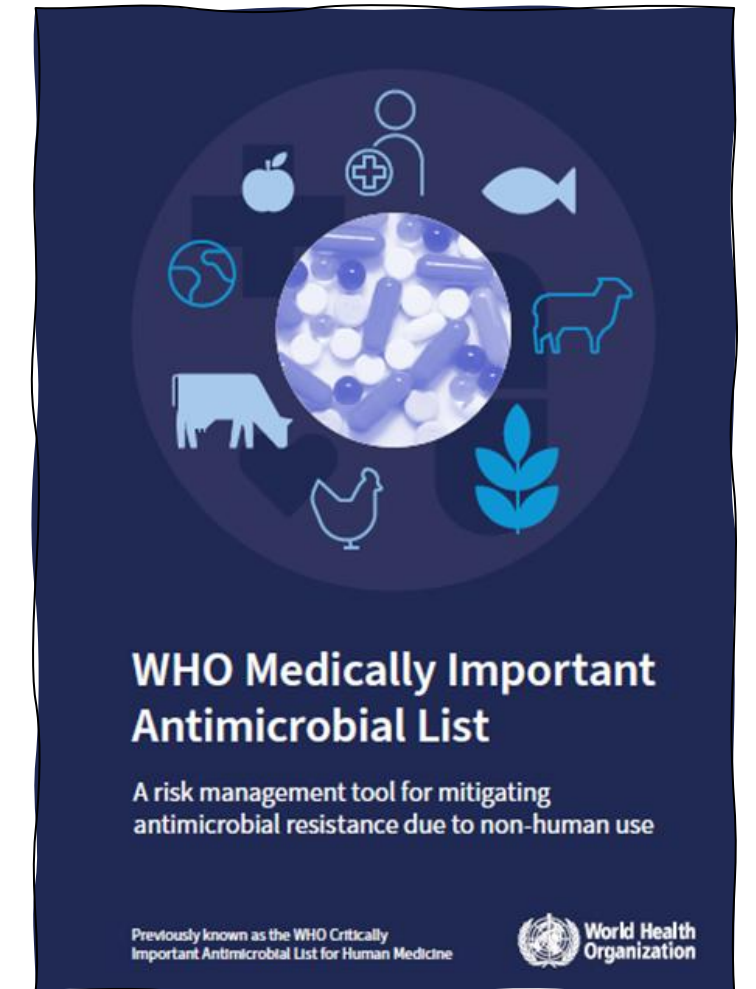


## Technical document - WOAH's list of antimicrobial agents of veterinary importance (January 2025)



Among the VCIA in the OIE List, some are considered to be **critically important both for human and animal health**; this is currently the case for Fluoroquinolones and for the third and fourth generation of Cephalosporins. Colistin has been moved in 2016 to the WHO category of Highest Priority Critically Important Antimicrobials. Therefore these two classes and Colistin should be used according to the following recommendations:

- Not to be used as preventive treatment applied by feed or water in the absence of clinical signs in the animal(s) to be treated;
- Not to be used as a first line treatment unless justified, when used as a second line treatment, it should ideally be based on the results of bacteriological tests; and
- Extra-label/off label use should be limited and reserved for instances where no alternatives are available. Such use should be in agreement with the national legislation in force; and
- Urgently prohibit their use as growth promoters.



### Highest Priority Critically Important Antimicrobials (HPCIA)

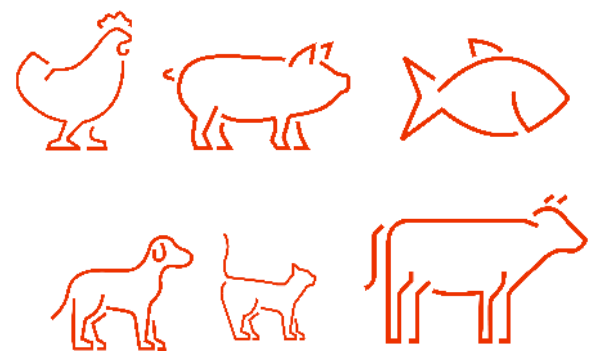
Cephalosporins  
(3rd & 4th Generation)

Fluoroquinolones

Colistin (Polymyxin E)

Phosphonic acid derivatives

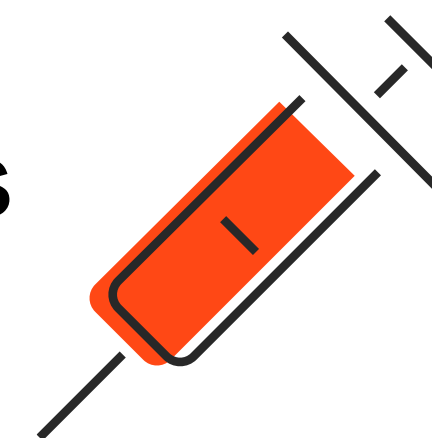
Finalised :



## WOAH calls to **urgently prohibit their use as growth promoters**



- **Standards are ever evolving documents that need to be evidence-based**
- **Standards and guidance for AMR need to be aligned across sectors to ensure an aligned, intersectoral One Health response to AMR**
- **Countries and all stakeholders need to be aware of their roles and responsibilities for a coordinated response to AMR**
- **Strengthening disease prevention in the animal health sector is key to keep animal populations healthy and to prevent AMR**
- **We all have a role to play!**
- **However... the animal sector remains seriously underfunded in LMICs which seriously undermines implementation of disease prevention measures and R&D**





# THANK YOU

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