



## AMR INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKSHOP

### REPORT

**Report from the workshop held on 17 November 2015 at the Ministry of Social Affairs Health and Women Rights, Paris, France**

#### **Background:**

It is the will of the French authorities to extend their national plan to combat resistance to antibiotics and reinforce the fight against Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) across many disciplines, ranging from biomedical science in humans, animals, and the environment to social science.

The Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance (JIAMR) brings together 21 Member States aiming to pool national research efforts to tackle AMR, and to better align national and European strategies in order to reduce duplication and fragmentation and to increase the impact of individual efforts.

As is the case in most countries, multiple ministries and agencies are involved in the area of AMR with different funding mechanisms and scientific remits. The aim of this workshop was to bring these ministries and agencies together to discuss AMR, in order to discuss, support, and strengthen alignment within and between countries.

#### **Workshop Objectives:**

- To understand the remit of the different ministries and agencies toward AMR,
- To discuss ways among policy makers to add value to new and existing programmes of work through cooperation and coordination within and between countries,
- To discuss the challenges associated with transnational funding.

#### **Workshop Sessions:**

##### **Countries represented:**

**Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Sweden, Spain, Switzerland, UK.**

1. Introduction and presentation of JPIAMR
2. The setting of the AMR research and intergovernmental relation of the agencies on the subject in different countries involved in the JPIAMR, policies and programmes
3. Discussion on AMR problems experience and propositions of the different participants

#### **Workshop Discussions:**

An overview on how the AMR challenged is organised structurally between health policies, agriculture policies and research strategies were presented. They all share the same goal and even though there are different approaches to it there is also lots of similar situations.

It was agreed that one of the aims is to tackle AMR in a "one health" perspective including clinical research. More needs to be done even though it is complex and there are many players. More political commitment but also a bottom push is needed: communication is central.

Therefore while the JPI AMR will continue to propose transnational actions and calls. A real effort is needed to convince each own national administrations and the different bodies involved in AMR research, including health, agriculture and environment, to work together in a coordinate fashion to better fight and slow down the continuing AMR process. It is important that a variety of funders at different levels (regional, national, European and international) and thematic areas (medical, agriculture, environment, veterinarians) are involved in this process and that the relevant countries and agencies are engaged in a coordinate approach .

The JPIAMR shows our willingness to have transnational program but without a better coordination within each of our countries, this will disperse our efforts in term of funds and efficiency. That means to improve alignment not only internationally but also nationally.

Alignment is the strategic approach to implement changes to improve efficiency of investment in research. around a common Strategic Research Agenda (SRA). The SRA design by a scientific board of European key clinician and scientist researchers provides a science-based template for nations to incorporate AMR into its national research plans"<http://www.jpiamr.eu/activities/strategicresearchagenda/>.

JPIAMR member countries are invited to take account of the JPIAMR that its shape around the "one health approach) when designing and updating their own national research and innovation strategies and programmes. In addition, they are invited to improve the inter-operability between their national programmes and use JPIAMR's Strategic Research Agenda as guidance. For example Sweden, has copied the SRA directly into the national plans and France used a major part of it in its own plan for research.

It was clearly stated that we should not forget the role of the industry including the small enterprises to promote new anti-infectious molecules and diagnostic devices.

**In final if, we succeed in our countries to do so it will very likely influence the EU to increase its direct financial contribution on this societal challenge.**

## **Key messages / recommendations**

### **EUROPEAN LEVEL**

- It is found that a JPI is a very efficient way to bring people (sharing of experiences, common strategy) and funds together
- To tackle resistance we need more than just a new antibiotic, a full "one health approach" is needed including the environment
- To tackle resistance we need more collaboration among the key disciplines from fundamental to clinical research human ( and animal )

- The JPIAMR SRA provides a science-based template for nations to incorporate AMR into its national research plans and tackle resistance through central transversal programmes
- JPIAMR facilitates synergies, add value to programmes and combine different investments in AMR to avoid small scale efforts and increase awareness
- The European Commission, which is already very supportive, should have an active partner role and seek new funding instruments to work together with JPIs in this area

#### **NATIONAL LEVEL**

- Development of specific national programmes to fund AMR research addressing public health needs taking in account the strategic research agenda
- Need for better structuring at national level: Work inside each country on internal alignment and coordination
- Find the right tools for internal coordination and alignment (e.g. creation of mirror groups on the one health approach, development of funders forums etc)
- Avoid silos by development of national coordination between agencies in order to bridge the different fundings;
- More funding in this area needs to be mobilised
- Public awareness is still weak; but its involvement and the political involvement is key

**More information and presentations can be found at :**

<http://www.jpiamr.eu/activities/workshops/intergovernmental-workshop/>