

# Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union 2024

01/03/2024



Health  
Food Chain Safety  
Environment

# A Europe that cares, prepares and protects

## Strengthening the EU Health Union



Belgian Presidency : 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 - 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Main challenges : European and National elections => Contribution to **Europe's health agenda for the next term (2024-2029)**



### A Europe that cares

- Health workforce
- Unmet needs
- Healthy populations



### A Europe that prepares

- Preparedness governance
- Clinical trials
- AMR



### A Europe that protects

- Security of medicine supplies

+ Work on implementation tools

# A Europe that prepares : AMR

## • Objectives :

- ❖ Continue the work of the Swedish and Spanish Presidencies on the “silent pandemic” of AMR
- ❖ Support the implementation of Council Recommendations by Member States
- ❖ Discuss the EU’s AMR governance
- ❖ Support the development & implementation of effective, results-driven policy measures to optimise use of antibiotics
- ❖ Continue the discussion on how to stimulate the R&D of new antibiotics and sustainable access to existing ones



### A Europe that prepares

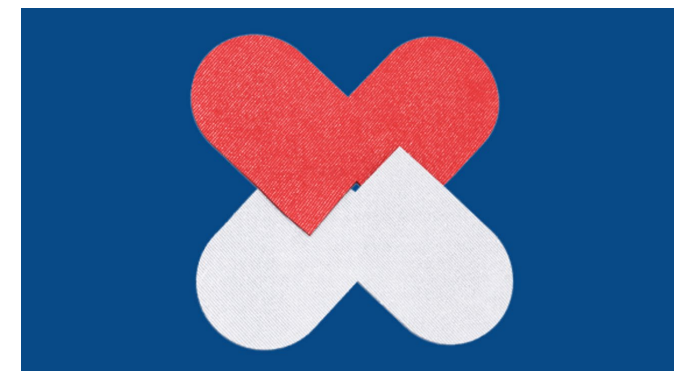
- Preparedness governance
- Clinical trials
- AMR

# Antimicrobial Resistance : A Belgian Presidency Health Priority



## Action points :

1. Policy Brief on '*Strengthening the EU response to AMR: policy priorities and overcoming implementation challenges*'
2. Antimicrobial Resistance high-level conference (6-8 May 2024)
3. Council Conclusions on Strengthening the EU Health Union



# Policy Brief 'Strengthening the EU response to AMR: policy priorities and overcoming implementation challenges'



European  
**Observatory**   
on Health Systems and Policies

MAKING SENSE OF THE EVIDENCE

- Developed by the Federal Public Service (BE) in collaboration with the **European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies**
- **Purpose:** Highlight policy measures which are easily available for implementation, identify their barriers and existing opportunities
- **Scope:** The policy paper adopts the One Health approach, considering human, animal, and environmental health through a European perspective

*This brief will serve as a background document for discussions at the AMR conference.*

# Policy Brief : Brainstorming meeting 22/02/2024



- **Purpose:** To discuss and provide insights on the implementation enablers and barriers of different interventions that aim to reduce AMR in human, animal, and environmental health
- **Representatives:** EU member states and EU institutions
- These interventions are key to achieving and support the implementation of targets by the Member States recently included within the 2023 EU Council Recommendation on stepping up EU actions to combat antimicrobial resistance in a One Health approach

# AMR High-level Conference



🕒 6, 7 & 8 May 2024

📍 Résidence Palace, Brussels

**6 May** : ECDC HAI-Net Network meeting

**7 May** : Sciensano One Health conference

**8 May** : FPS High-level meeting



# Day 1 ECDC HAI-NET Network Meeting

## Monday May 6, 2024



**09.30** ARRIVAL AND WELCOME

**10.30** FORMAL OPENING

**11.00** STATE OF ART UPDATE ON HAIs, antimicrobial use & AMR in healthcare settings

- Results of the ECDC point prevalence survey (PPS) in European acute care hospitals 2022-2023
- Prevalence of HAIs and AMR
- Prevalence of antimicrobial use
- Infection prevention and control indicators
- National PPS results: Belgium
- Resident safety in long-term care facilities
- ECDC HALT 4 longitudinal study on incidence and impact of HAIs in LTCFs

**13.00** LUNCH BREAK

**14.00** HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS AND THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- The effect of the pandemic on HAI in acute care facilities
- HAIs acquired in ICUs during the pandemic
- Surveillance of COVID-19 in European LTCFs
- COVID-19 outbreaks in LTCFs

**15.00** COFFEE BREAK

**15.30** THE WAY FORWARD

- Digital surveillance of AMR and HAIs
- Digital and automated surveillance: current ECDC project for BSI surveillance and European Health Data Space (EHDS) pilot project
- Country experiences with digital surveillance of HAIs– (TBC)
- Panel discussion (TBC)

**18.30** WELCOME RECEPTION WITH LIVE MUSIC



# Day 2 One World One Health Sciensano

## Tuesday May 7, 2024

**08:30** ARRIVAL AND WELCOME: ONE HEALTH MORNING

**09:00** FORMAL INTRODUCTION by the Belgian Minister of Agriculture

### **09:15** ONE WORLD ONE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE INITIATIVES

- The view on the AMR from the quadripartite ?
- Analysis of antimicrobial consumption and resistance ('JIACRA' reports)
- Resistance migration: literature review

**10:45** COFFEE BREAK

### **11:15** ONE WORLD ONE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE INITIATIVES (continued)

- The burden of Healthcare associated infections (HAIs) and Antimicrobial resistance (AMR)?
- EU-JAMRAI 2 in support for the National Action Plans

**12:30** LUNCH BREAK

**14.00** FORMAL INTRODUCTION

**14.15** OPENING SPEECH

**14.30** **ANTIMICROBIALS ACROSS SECTORS:** PARALLEL SESSIONS with fruit break

Parallel session A: Focus on the environment

Antifungals & resistance in horticulture and surface water

How to address resistance to biocides : scientific and regulated approach?

Reflection paper: Environmental risk assessments for veterinary medicines

Parallel session B: Focus on Antimicrobial stewardship (AMS)

- 'Regulatory implications of veterinary antimicrobials in the European Union'
- Ambulant care
- Real time surveillance of antimicrobial use in animal health
- Transition to timely antimicrobial consumption and genomic resistance surveillance

Parallel session C: Focus on Infection prevention & control (IPC)

- Outbreaks notification
- Acute care hospitals & Hospital Outbreak Support Team - project (HOST)
- Workload & work force/Behavioural change & cultural background
- WHO clean care is safer care: National examples
- Effect of 20 years of national HH campaigns in Belgium

**16:00** WRAP-UP: How to prioritize actions based upon the evidence to safeguard the patient?

**17:00** DEPARTURE for SOCIAL PROGRAMME organized by FPS Public Health

# Day 3 AMR High-level meeting

## Wednesday May 8, 2024

**08.30** ARRIVAL AND WELCOME

**09.00** FORMAL OPENING & OPENING SPEECH

**09:20** Formal WRAP-UP OF DAY 1 & 2

### OVERVIEW OF CURRENT INITIATIVES TO STRENGTHEN THE EU'S AMR RESPONSE

**09:35** PANEL DISCUSSION 'The EU AMR Targets: How to ensure efficient implementation ?'

Streamlining and coordinating the use of the EU AMR targets in ongoing initiatives

**10.45** COFFEE BREAK

### **11.15** HOW TO REDUCE UNNECESSARY PRESCRIPTIONS OF ANTIBIOTICS? THE EVIDENCE

- Successful veterinary medicine strategies: impact of legislation on the use of critically important antibiotics
- Optimise use of existing antibiotics in all EU MS. Country experiences from (SE) and (NL)
- How to address AMR to patients and improve awareness among EU citizens ?

**12.30** LUNCH BREAK

### **14.00** PANEL DISCUSSION 'PUSH & PULL INITIATIVES'

A unified EU strategy on how to stimulate the R&D of new antibiotics and sustainable access to existing antibiotics

**15:00** WRAP-UP & CLOSING SPEECH