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COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE EVALUATION
of the
COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT

on Evaluation of the Action Plan against the rising threats from antimicrobial resistance

The present evaluation assesses the impact of the AMR Action Plan which covers the period 2011-2016. Specifically, the evaluation assesses whether the 12 actions contained in the Action Plan were: **relevant** to address the problems identified in 2011 and are still relevant, and if these actions were **effective, efficient, coherent** with other EU policies in combatting AMR and whether **added value** was provided by EU action.

The evaluation of the Action Plan concludes that the actions were all directly related to the main drivers of AMR, were **relevant** to address the problems identified in 2011 and are still relevant today. The Action Plan took a 'One Health' approach across multiple sectors, covering both human and veterinary aspects to protect both human and animal health. The Commission actions were appropriate in view of the EU and national competence.

While it is too early to judge the overall **effectiveness** of the Action Plan concluding in 2016, the expected impact of some actions can only be estimated. On the animal side, the legislative proposals on veterinary medicines and medicated feed and the Animal Health Regulation are widely expected to promote appropriate use of veterinary antimicrobials. On the human health side most Member States have implemented a combination of actions; however, there are huge differences between Member States in the governance and scope of national strategies and action plans, and in the way measures were implemented and assessed and the knowledge of citizens on AMR.

With respect to the **efficiency**, the evaluation concludes that the R&D expenditures have been in line with the Action Plan and have been spent on the development of new antimicrobials or alternative treatments, new business models, diagnostics and on appropriate use. The Action Plan has been **coherent** with other Commission activities and with Member States' and international activities; it strengthened international cooperation with WHO, OIE and FAO and deepened the transatlantic cooperation (TATFAR) and cooperation with low and middle income countries (African, Caribbean and Pacific Islands).

This evaluation also concludes that the Action Plan had clear **added value**. It acted as a symbol of political commitment, stimulated actions within Member States, strengthened international cooperation and provided a framework to guide and coordinate activities on AMR at international level in the area of monitoring and surveillance and on R&D.

The evaluation shows that there is a clear need **to support and assist Member States** in developing and implementing national action plans to reduce differences between them in the use of antimicrobials and prevalence of infections, to foster collaboration across sectors, to improve knowledge of citizens and to strengthen monitoring and surveillance systems by developing expertise on methodologies, solid indicators and instruments. The evaluation demonstrates the need of continuing **coordination and collaboration on AMR research** on developing new antimicrobials, rapid diagnostic tests, vaccines and alternative treatments, new business models, to sustain investment and increasing the knowledge on the transmission of AMR for a better understanding of the mechanisms causing resistance. Furthermore, given the cross-border nature of AMR, strong **EU voice at international level** remains necessary, to raise awareness, to encourage countries to consider their own measures against AMR and to take global measures such as WHO implementing policies and the development of OIE standards.

The available evidence and the assessments made by Member States in recent years show that given the urgency of the threats of AMR, if no action is undertaken, AMR might result in 10 million deaths globally each year. This is a convincing basis to continue efforts on AMR, while respecting the respective competencies of the EU and of its Member States.