

RESOLUTION No. 26

**Combating Antimicrobial Resistance and Promoting the Prudent Use
of Antimicrobial Agents in Animals**

CONSIDERING

1. That antimicrobial agents are essential tools for protecting animal health and welfare and also contribute to meeting the increasing global demand for safe meat, milk, fish and eggs, and other products of animal origin,
2. That antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a significant global animal and human health threat that is influenced by the use of antimicrobial agents in some conditions,
3. That during the 77th General Session 2009, the World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 25 on Veterinary Products, which considered previous Resolutions on harmonisation of registration requirements for veterinary drugs, their responsible and prudent use and monitoring of resistance,
4. The recommendations of the OIE Global Conference on the responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in animals, held in March 2013 in Paris, France, including recommendation No.7 to collect harmonised quantitative data on the use of antimicrobial agents in animals with the view to establishing a global database,
5. The recent update and development of OIE standards and guidelines related to antimicrobial resistance, which include references to the relevant standards developed by Codex Alimentarius,
6. The tripartite agreement between FAO, OIE and WHO to address as a priority antimicrobial resistance and the important contribution of the OIE to the development and achievement of the WHO global action plan on antimicrobial resistance,
7. The network of OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products and its role in supporting the global implementation of the OIE standards regarding veterinary products,
8. The importance of the PVS pathway in supporting compliance of national veterinary services with OIE standards including legislation, as a prerequisite to ensuring good governance covering production, registration, distribution and use of antimicrobial agents at the national level,
9. The importance of appropriate Veterinary Education and Veterinary Statutory Bodies in the promotion of veterinary oversight to ensure responsible use of antimicrobial agents in animals,

THE ASSEMBLY

RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The OIE continue to develop and update standards and guidelines related to antimicrobial resistance and the prudent use of antimicrobial agents including updating regularly the OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance.

2. The OIE, with support from relevant organisations and donors, work with Member Countries to support them to implement OIE standards and guidelines using the PVS pathway and other relevant OIE capacity building mechanisms, including twinning and regional seminars.
3. The OIE develop 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 to be managed in parallel with the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS).
4. OIE Member Countries set up an official harmonised national system, based on OIE standards, for the surveillance of antimicrobial resistance and the collection of data on the use of antimicrobial agents in food-producing animals, and actively participate in the development of the OIE global database.
5. The participation of OIE Member Countries in the VICH Outreach Forum be facilitated with the aim of adopting and utilising harmonised international guidelines related to the technical requirements for registration of veterinary medicinal products.
6. OIE Member Countries improve veterinary legislation and education, where necessary, in order to facilitate implementation of OIE and Codex Alimentarius standards and guidelines related to antimicrobial resistance and veterinary oversight of the use of antimicrobial agents.
7. The OIE and OIE Member Countries encourage Veterinary Statutory Bodies and the veterinary profession as a whole to develop, implement and ensure compliance with ethics and codes of good veterinary practices, with particular reference to the prescription and delivery of antimicrobial agents by well-trained veterinarians or veterinary para-professionals under their direct oversight.
8. OIE Member Countries follow the guidance of the WHO Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance, developed with the support of the OIE in the spirit of the “One Health” approach, in particular by developing national action plans, with the support of FAO and WHO where feasible and warranted, in respect of the use of antimicrobial agents in animals and ensuring their close collaboration with public health officials.
9. The OIE continue to seek donor support for the organisation of dedicated regional training seminars for OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products with the participation of FAO and WHO within the tripartite collaboration and invite other relevant partners to build capacity at the national and regional levels to enable the implementation of OIE and Codex Alimentarius intergovernmental standards to combat antimicrobial resistance and support the recommendations of the WHO Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance.
10. The OIE strengthen its collaboration with international organisations, such as the World Customs Organisation and Interpol, and stakeholders to combat counterfeit products with the aim of ensuring access to antimicrobial agents of proven quality.
11. Research be promoted to improve tools for rapid diagnostics for use in animals and to explore alternatives to antimicrobial use in animals, including the development of vaccines and other tools for priority diseases.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2015
in view of an entry into force on 30 May 2015)