

Workshop on Monitoring of the Quantities and Usage Patterns of Antimicrobial Agents Used in Animals



The OIE RRAP in collaboration with the Ministry of National Food Security and Research (MoNFS&R), Government of Pakistan organised a **workshop on monitoring of the quantities and usage patterns of antimicrobial agents used in animals** on 5-6 March, in Islamabad, Pakistan.

The workshop gathered around 55 participants, including participants from MoNFS&R, Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP), Department of Custom, Provincial Livestock & Dairy Development Departments, representative from private sector, associations, veterinary universities as well as FAO, Fleming Fund Country Grant Grantees and OIE RRAP staff. The main objectives of the workshop were to 1) to understand the current legislation and regulation system for antimicrobial usage (AMU) in animal, 2) to identify the AMU data sources and data collection systems including the AMU supply chain, and 3) to support development and implementation of national AMU monitoring systems for animal health sector in Pakistan.

Pakistan's National Action Plan on AMR recognizes the need to strengthen surveillance and monitoring of antimicrobials used in animal sector and analysis of AMU data that will feed into the OIE's global database on AMU. This was the first multisectoral workshop that provided a platform for participants from relevant government and private agencies to brainstorm in identifying key priority actions to develop a national AMU data collection system in Pakistan.

The key outputs of the workshop were:

- To review and update the current legislations addressing the whole AMU supply chain including collection/sharing of AMU data between the relevant stakeholders
- To review and update legislations on the use of Antimicrobial Growth Promoters (AGPs) to eventually phase out the use of AGPs in the livestock and aquatic sector.
- To develop a national and provincial AMU data collection system to collect import and sales data from different stakeholders.
- To develop a registry/database of all the private sectors/companies/importers/distributors dealing with antimicrobials
- To pilot some activities on AMU monitoring at farm level in the high-risk production sector.

Dr Javed Humayun, Senior Joint Secretary of MoNFS&R and Dr Khurshid Ahmad, OIE delegate of Pakistan attended the opening and closing programs of the AMU monitoring workshop.

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