Thank you, Mr. Chair,

02. Bangladesh is delivering this statement on behalf of all Member States in the South East Asia Region.

03. Antimicrobial Resistance is a significant public health concern for humans, animals, plants and environment. This menace has blunted effectiveness of current antimicrobials and has potential for threatening future ones in pipeline and clinical development.

04. Our region appreciates WHO for its continued efforts to fight against AMR. We recognize the progress made by WHO towards achieving the objectives of the Global Action Plan, even during the COVID-19 pandemic. We commend WHO, FAO and OIE for their joint initiative to establish ‘One Health Global Leaders Group on Antimicrobial Resistance’ to reinvigorate global political momentum on AMR. We thank the Prime Ministers of Bangladesh and Barbados for providing an essential leadership role to the Group as the able co-chairs.

05. We are delighted to see that a total of 144 countries have already developed national action plans on AMR. At the same time, we are concerned that many countries, particularly the low- and middle-income ones, are facing many challenges in the implementation of the action plans.

**Mr. Chair,**

06. We are now witnessing the devastating pandemic of COVID-19. However, AMR may cause even more lethal pandemics in the future. Of course, we must not introduce other global crises due to lack of preparedness on AMR. Hence, we wish to put forth the following suggestions as ways forward:

**First,** to collectively drive global, regional, and national actions to achieve the goals of Antimicrobial Resistance Containment and SDG 3.d.2 for addressing
two priority bacteria in bloodstream infections and SDG 3.b.3 for equitable access to essential antimicrobial medicines;

Second, to take advantages of the current global pandemic by strengthening surveillance capacities and by improving Infection and Prevention Control (IPC) to address both COVID-19 and AMR as well as to develop guidelines, policies and programmatic actions;

Third, to provide sufficient and sustainable financing for AMR-specific and AMR-sensitive actions, with a special focus on low- and middle-income countries and to encourage public-private partnerships for investment in AMR containment;

Fourth, to ensure equitable access to affordable, safe and effective antimicrobials through technology transfer and scientific knowledge sharing;

And finally, to promote global public awareness to battle AMR through political commitment and partnership among the Member States.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.

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