

77° World Health Assembly
Item 11.8
Antimicrobial resistance: accelerating national and global responses

National Statement - Italy

Thank you Chair,

Italy fully align with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

Antimicrobial Resistance affects countries in all regions and poses substantial health and economic consequences to all of us.

It points to the need to implement comprehensive One Health interventions to promote prudent use of antimicrobial agents and prevent the spread of infections in humans, animals and the environment.

Among interventions to tackle AMR, infection prevention and control plays a key role, as it both prevents the spread of infections and contributes to reduce the use of antimicrobials, offering innovative and economical approaches. It should be accompanied by sufficient investments to ensure sustainable research and development pipeline for new antibiotics, diagnostics and vaccines, including effective push and pull incentives. These interventions, together with improved governance and leadership, are indeed at the heart of ongoing G7 discussions, chaired by Italy.

Italy also supports the *WHO strategic and operational priorities to address drug-resistant bacterial infections in the human health sector, 2025–2035*. Our second National Action Plan on antibiotic resistance 2022-2025 is integrating those priorities in a vision focused on the participation of the main relevant national stakeholders, and on a One Health approach.

We are also glad to support Resolution “*Antimicrobial Resistance. Accelerating national and global responses*”, which, as EU members, we have the pleasure to cosponsor. We thank Thailand for their leadership on this issue.

Chair,

Progress on the global response to AMR is urgent. 2024 is a key year to get the global AMR response back on track: with the UNGA High Level Meeting and the Fourth Global Ministerial meeting in Saudi Arabia there is the opportunity to galvanize action against AMR, taking a One Health approach into account. We support ambitious outcomes, including agreeing on realistic targets to be reached by 2030 and initiating mechanisms to maintain political momentum. Italy stands ready to contribute to this endeavor.

Thank you.