

IDSA Statements for UN Multistakeholder Meeting on AMR May 15, 2024

Panel 1: Adequate, predictable, and sustainable financing of and investments in the AMR response to support country-level implementation.

As infectious diseases health professionals who deal with the harsh realities of antimicrobial resistance every day, members of the Infectious Diseases Society of America urge UN member states to adequately invest in efforts to reduce global deaths from drug resistant infections by 10 percent by 2030. High Income Countries must redouble their own efforts and strengthen support to LMICs by providing technical and scientific assistance. Additional mechanisms, such as the Pandemic Fund and other efforts through the World Bank, must also be leveraged to provide LMICs with the necessary support for AMR activities. Critical funding priorities include resources for surveillance and lab capacity; water, sanitation and hygiene systems in healthcare settings; antimicrobial stewardship to reduce inappropriate antibiotic use; immunizations, health care worker training and innovative financing mechanisms to develop new antimicrobials. Countries should expand upon infrastructure built during the COVID-19 response for these and other needed activities. Since the last HLM on AMR, many countries have developed national action plans to combat AMR, however implementation has been slow – this is mainly due to a lack of adequate resources, as only 11 percent of countries have included provisions in national budgets to implement plans.

Panel 2: Addressing antimicrobial access, research and development (R&D), and innovation.

As infectious diseases physicians, members of the Infectious Diseases Society of America understand intimately the urgent need to develop novel antimicrobials. We are running out of the tools we need to adequately treat our patients, and many of our patients are already in a post-antibiotic era. The current market for developing new antibiotics has failed and the global community must use this moment to commit to developing new antimicrobials to address unmet needs. This should include implementing novel financing mechanisms that delink antimicrobial sales from volume to provide the predictable financing necessary to jumpstart sustainable innovation and promote the appropriate use of antibiotics. Several nations are considering or advancing such "subscription models". For example, the bipartisan Pioneering Antimicrobial Subscriptions to End Upsurging Resistance, or PASTEUR Act that has been introduced in the U.S. Congress would establish a subscription program to provide government contracts for critically needed, novel antibiotics and antifungals, with payments delinked from sales volume. The US must pass PASTEUR to do its part in the global fight against AMR. Novel financing mechanisms like the PASTEUR Act must be championed by the global community, particularly in high-income countries where pharmaceutical companies are situated and which have the resources needed to fund such mechanisms and help make new antimicrobials available for the rest of the world. As infectious diseases health professionals, we call on UN member states to champion novel funding mechanisms in the political declaration that will result from this High Level Meeting.

Panel 3: Effective governance, leadership, and coordination of the AMR response at the national, regional and global levels.

Effective governance, leadership and coordination are essential to ensure global progress against AMR. Bold, measurable and actionable targets in the upcoming AMR political declaration will provide the necessary foundation to empower member nations to make meaningful progress. As infectious diseases health professionals, members of the Infectious Diseases Society of America also recognize the importance of engaging civil society in the development and coordination of AMR responses at all levels of governance. As clinicians and scientists, we provide an invaluable “on the ground” perspective on how drug resistant infections are impacting the patients and communities we serve and how to best mitigate those impacts. As a professional medical society, IDSA was able to mobilize its membership to inform the development of the U.S national action plan on AMR – one of the first to be developed and funded globally. We continue to work to inform U.S. government partners on the most effective ways to combat AMR in the U.S. and globally. We urge UN member states to prioritize empowering healthcare professionals to inform governance and coordination of responses to AMR and ensure that high-level decisions reflect the best available science and meet the needs of patients and public health.