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Fourth Meeting Report of the Quadripartite Technical Group on Antimicrobial Resistance and Use Integrated Surveillance (QTG-AIS)



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Fourth Meeting of the Quadripartite Technical Group on Integrated Surveillance (QTG-AIS)

11 August 2023, 12.30-14.00 CEST

MEETING REPORT

Co-Chair:

Prof Sabiha Essack

Co-Chair:

Prof Jaap Wagenaar

QTG-AIS member participants: *Prof Sabiha Essack, Dr Marquita Gittens-St. Hilaire, Dr Damien Bouchard, Dr Oluwawemimo Adebawale, Prof Rene Hendriksen, Prof David Graham, Prof Amy Pruden, Prof Yong-Guan Zhu, Dr Philip Taylor, Dr Patrick McDermott, Prof John Berezowski, Dr Biyun Ching, Prof Heike Schmitt, Dr Xian-Zhi Li, Dr Rajesh Bhatia, Dr Muna Abu Sin, Prof Laurence Armand-Lefevre, Dr Mashkoor Mohsin, Dr Arshnee Moodley, Dr John Stellin, Dr Carolee Carson, Prof Dariusz Wasyl, Prof Rungtip Chuanchuen*

QTG member apologies: *Prof Jaap Wagenaar, Dr Rosa Perán i Sala, Prof Katharina Stärk, Prof Teresa Estrada Garcia*

Relevant staff from the Quadripartite Joint Secretariat on AMR (QJS): *Dr Chinyere Okoro, Dr Chiara Achangwa, Ms Myfanwy Hernandez*

Quadripartite AMR and AMU Integrated Surveillance Core Group (Core Group; made up of AMU and AMR surveillance focal points from the four organizations): *Dr Francesca Latronico (FAO), Ms Norma Hurif (FAO), Dr Jorge Matheu (WHO), Dr Holy Akwar (WAOH), Dr Ana Luisa Mateus (WOAH).*

Observers:

Process of the meeting: The fourth official meeting of the Quadripartite Technical Group on Integrated Surveillance (QTG-AIS) was held virtually on 11 August 2023 and chaired by Professor Sabiha Essack. The primary purposes of the meeting were to endorse the outline & format for the Quadripartite Guide on Integrated Surveillance ('the Guide') and identify illustrative examples for integrated surveillance at various interfaces, which will be included in the Guide.

- 1. Introduction of the QTG-AIS Evidence Gathering and Synthesis consultant.** Prof Essack introduced Dr Chiara Achangwa, who will work with the QTG-AIS on collating, reviewing, and synthesizing required evidence for developing prioritized outputs QTG-AIS. Dr Achangwa's background is in Public Health and Epidemiology.
- 2. Endorsement of the outline and format for the Quadripartite Guide on Integrated Surveillance:** Prof Essack led this session. An immediate action emerging from the 3rd QTG-AIS meeting was convening the Integration Team, which consists of chairs/co-chairs of all the groups and the QTG-AIS co-chairs. The Integration Team has met regularly to facilitate priority output development and oversaw the steps leading to developing the Outline of the Guide. Prof David Graham, a member of the Integration Team, described the process of developing the outline for the Guide and the thinking that underpinned the process. During this process, input from working group members assigned to the different sections of the Guide was sought and incorporated into a current draft of the **Outline**. All members were asked for further comments and suggestions in the Guide during the meeting. These



were provided and incorporated into an updated version. Prof Essack reiterated that the Outline is a living document while the Guide is being developed. Agreement on the Outline was sought and obtained from all members.

3. **Identification of illustrative examples for integrated surveillance at various One Health interfaces for inclusion into the Guide:** Prof Essack reminded members of the purpose-based definition of surveillance endorsed by members at the 3rd QTG-AIS meeting. The Integration Team began discussing categories, characteristics, and attributes of a few illustrative examples of integrated surveillance to be included in the Guide. In this meeting, all members were asked to provide additional examples. Examples provided should be accompanied by purpose statements and a short motivation/explanation of why it is a good illustrative example to guide the prioritization for inclusion into the Guide, e.g., applicability at all income settings and to all countries. Special note is taken for underrepresented interfaces such as plant health and AMR surveillance in crops/plants. Examples provided by members and meeting participants will be compiled into a longlist which will be tested against the parameters for the different purposes of integrated surveillance. A resulting shortlist will be prioritized for inclusion in the Guide.
4. **Ways of Working to Populate Sections of the Guide:** Prof Essack and the Secretariat led this session. The way of working for populating and developing content for the Guide's sections and annexes was presented by Dr Okoro (QJS). For this, Ms Achangwa will reach out to the Working Group chairs and their members within the next weeks for their inputs into drafts in development to ensure that timelines are met.
5. **Next steps:** The QTG-AIS also proposes holding periodic internal & external consultations, which the Secretariat will organize. The internal consultations will be with the relevant technical teams of the Quadripartite organizations to ensure that the work of the QTG-AIS is aligned with the individual and collective mandates of the Quadripartite Organizations on integrated surveillance. The external consultation(s) will be organized with specified stakeholders for their input on the penultimate draft of the Guide, after which it will be finalized. As required, the Secretariat will also provide dedicated support for the consultation process and disseminating the recommendations in the Guide. The 5th meeting of the QTG-AIS is proposed for October/November 2023
6. **Closing of the meeting:** Prof Essack and QJS thanked members, acknowledging and appreciating their input and time.