

SCIENCE TO INFORM TRANSFORMATIVE POLICIES: ADVANCING THE INDEPENDENT PANEL ON EVIDENCE FOR ACTION AGAINST AMR (IPEA)

Associated event at the UNEA-7
10 December 2025, 12:30-14:00 (EAT)

Summary note

Overview

The event targeted Member States and stakeholders attending UNEA7 to advance discussions on the establishment of the Independent Panel on Evidence for Action against Antimicrobial Resistance (IPEA). It underscored the critical role of scientific evidence in informing transformative multisectoral policies to address antimicrobial resistance (AMR) through a One Health approach encompassing human, animal, plant, and environmental health.

Opening remarks

Ms. Sheila Aggarwal-Khan (UNEP) opened the event on behalf of the Quadripartite organizations (FAO, UNEP, WHO and WOAH), highlighting AMR as a growing global threat requiring coordinated, science-based responses. She presented the IPEA as a key mechanism to bridge knowledge and policy action by providing credible, independent, and policy-relevant evidence to support Member States in protecting health, economies, and the environment.



Background and mandate

Mr. Jean-Pierre Nyemazi (Quadripartite Joint Secretariat on AMR) outlined the evolution of global AMR governance, recalling the adoption of the Global Action Plan on AMR in 2015 and the expansion of the Tripartite to the Quadripartite in 2022. He recalled that the 2019 Inter-Agency Coordination Group on AMR (IACG) recommended establishing the IPEA, alongside the Global Leaders Group on AMR and the Multistakeholder Partnership Platform. He further noted that the UN General Assembly Political Declaration of September 2024 invited the Quadripartite to establish the IPEA in 2025 through open and transparent consultations.

Rationale for establishing an IPEA

Ms. Junxia Song (FAO) emphasized that AMR poses a major threat to health, food security, economic development, and progress toward the 2030 Agenda. She highlighted fragmented and uneven AMR data across sectors and regions as a key barrier to effective action, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. The IPEA is intended to strengthen the science-policy interface by assessing AMR challenges and response options, identifying emerging risks, facilitating knowledge sharing, and translating evidence into actionable policy guidance.

Quadripartite achievement to date in establishing the IPEA

Ms. Ana Mateus (WOAH) reported on steps taken toward establishing the IPEA, including a comprehensive analysis of existing scientific panels, publication of a “thought starter” and other landscape analysis documents, an open survey to all stakeholders to collect their views, and successive drafts of the founding document discussed through global consultations. A Member State consultation was concluded on 1 December 2025, and feedback will inform the review of the documents before the launch of the panel. Once established, the IPEA will complete the set of global AMR governance mechanisms recommended by the IACG.



Key insights from Member States consultation concluded on 1 December 2025

Ms. Jacqueline Alvarez (UNEP) summarized feedback highlighting strong expectations for inclusivity, transparency, neutrality, and accountability. Member States emphasized meaningful roles in expert nomination, work programme development, and conflict-of-interest management, as well as the need for regional and gender balance and representation of countries with high AMR burdens. Concerns were raised regarding sustainable financing and safeguards to protect the Panel's independence. There was broad support for clear, actionable deliverables, including periodic global assessments and mechanisms for regular evaluation and adaptation of the Panel's work.

Member State and stakeholder perspectives

During the event, stakeholders expressed strong support for the IPEA and emphasized several priorities including:

- Supporting countries in interpreting complex evidence and translating it into policy-relevant guidance.
- Ensuring inclusive governance, with balanced representation and engagement of civil society, youth, and other stakeholders.
- Addressing sustainable financing and capacity-building, particularly in low- and middle-income countries.
- Improving engagement with the private sector and strengthening data systems.
- Incorporating emerging and cross-cutting issues, such as conflict, pollution, and fragile settings, into the research agenda.

Quadripartite responses and next steps

Quadripartite representatives reaffirmed their shared commitment to strengthening data, surveillance, and evidence generation across sectors, with particular attention to environmental and plant health dimensions. They highlighted ongoing efforts to improve data quality, engage the private sector, and leverage each organization's comparative advantages. The Quadripartite committed to carefully reflecting Member State feedback, finalizing the IPEA's founding documents, and developing a clear roadmap toward making the Panel operational as soon as possible, while encouraging continued engagement from Member States and stakeholders.