



Concept Note

Title: Regional briefing and consultation on the draft “*Regional Guideline for Monitoring and Surveillance of Antimicrobial Residues in Food Animals*”

Responsible Officer: Mary Joy Gordoncillo, AMR Regional Project Coordinator

Background and justification:

In support of strengthening surveillance and research in Asia and the Pacific, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP) has placed cohesive efforts to strengthen relevant initiatives in the region on monitoring and surveillance of antimicrobial resistance (AMR), antimicrobial use (AMU) and antimicrobial residues. These have been largely through enabling, supporting, and/or reinforcing (1) context integration; (2) tools and frameworks development and application; (3) capacity-building; (4) coordination and partnerships; and (5) sustained implementation. These initiatives on AMR surveillance and research at FAO RAP are made possible through the strong support received from various technical and resource partners from within the region, and beyond. While progressive improvements have been achieved to date, it is also equally acknowledged that many gaps and needs remain. Recognizing that many of these may be addressed by the available technical expertise from globally designated FAO Reference Centres, FAO RAP is identifying the best ways forward to establish synergies through complementarity and optimizing mutual opportunities.

The Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK) regulator for veterinary medicines is one of the agencies forming the UK FAO Reference Centre for AMR. Following legislation, the VMD leads the UK national surveillance programme for veterinary medicine residues in foods of animal origin, in addition to being the policy lead for the UK government on antibiotic resistance in animal health. Drawing on this expertise, the VMD supports lower and middle-income countries to strengthen capacity for the surveillance of AMR, antibiotic usage and residues in foods of animal origin. Support is delivered in a variety of formats, including training, consultancy, e-learning and broader programmes of activities delivered under their designation as a UK FAO Reference Centre for Antimicrobial Resistance. Through initial exchanges, it has been established that several priority areas of needs in the Asia-Pacific Region can be addressed by the expertise of the VMD, including the development of one of the Regional Guideline series, particularly Volume 6: Monitoring and surveillance of antimicrobial residues in food-producing animals.

The FAO RAP-VMD collaboration to develop this Regional Guideline on AMR Monitoring and Surveillance of Antimicrobial Residues in Food Animals formally commenced in January 2023. VMD has since developed the draft which is now being presented to key stakeholders in the region for further refinement and tailoring to meet the specific needs across the region. As a next step in the process of development, FAO RAP is organizing a two-part regional briefing and consultation. **Part 1 (preliminary consultation on 12 September 2023)** will be a virtual event to present the background of this work and the drafted version of the guideline to countries in the region and other relevant experts, after which the draft guideline will be shared with stakeholders for review. **Part 2 (national and international expert consultation on 3 October 2023)** will be a virtual regional consultation with these key stakeholders to discuss in further detail the needed refinements for the guideline.

For further questions and inquiries, please email: mary.gordoncillo@fao.org with copy to jutanat.srisamran@fao.org, FAORAP-Antimicrobial-Resistance@fao.org, and r.dalton@vmd.gov.uk

With technical and financial support from



Objectives/Outcomes

1. To present the technical contents of the current version of the draft “*Regional Guideline for Monitoring and Surveillance of Antimicrobial Residues in Food Animals*”;
2. To provide an opportunity for national stakeholders, regional partners, and international experts to provide further inputs towards further refinement of the guideline;
3. To generate and collate relevant comments, suggestions and feedback on the draft which will guide the subsequent revision and finalization of the guideline;
4. To brainstorm subsequent activities and ways forward relevant to the finalization and utilization of the “*Regional Guideline for Monitoring and Surveillance of Antimicrobial Residues in Food Animals*”.

Expected Outputs:

1. A virtual webinar is organized to present the technical contents of the current version of the draft “*Regional Guideline for Monitoring and Surveillance of Antimicrobial Residues in Food Animals*”.
2. The current draft guideline developed by VMD is shared with relevant national stakeholders, regional partners, and international experts for their review and further comments.
3. A virtual consultation is organized to receive further feedback on the current draft. Comments, suggestions and feedback on the current draft are received, which will provide guidance to the next phase of the development process.
4. Action points from countries and relevant stakeholders are identified and endorsed to optimize access and utility of the regional guideline.

Key inputs/ Main Activities:

1. Virtual presentation of the technical contents and distribution of the current version of the draft “*Regional Guideline for Monitoring and Surveillance of Antimicrobial Residues in Food Animals*” (Part 1)
2. The draft guideline is circulated by FAO RAP to relevant national stakeholders, regional partners, and international experts for comments and feedback in preparation for the virtual consultation
3. Virtual regional consultation on the regional guideline with countries, international experts, and other stakeholders (Part 2)
4. Agreed on next steps and ways forward led by FAO RAP

Implementation Methods:

1. FAO RAP will organize the programme, invitations, nominations, and related materials for the virtual technical presentation and the virtual regional consultation on the “*Regional Guideline for Monitoring and Surveillance of Antimicrobial Residues in Food Animals*”.
2. VMD will provide technical expertise to introduce the background and current draft of the guideline during the webinar.
3. During the regional consultation, VMD will lead the technical discussions on the regional consultation, while FAO RAP will provide support to the consultations.
4. Nominated national stakeholders and invited regional partners and international experts will provide comments and inputs to the current draft of the guideline.

Timing/duration and Location:**Duration and location:**

Part 1: One-day virtual technical presentation (12 September 2023, in various online locations);

Part 2: One-day virtual regional consultation (3 October 2023, in various online locations)

Expected participants

- National experts or relevant key actors in monitoring and surveillance of antimicrobial residues from ASEAN Member States
 - Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam
- National experts or relevant key actors in monitoring and surveillance of antimicrobial residues from South Asia
 - Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
- National experts or relevant key actors in monitoring and surveillance of antimicrobial residues from East Asia
 - China, Japan, Mongolia, ROK
- National experts or relevant key actors in monitoring and surveillance of antimicrobial residues in Pacific Island countries
- FAO Reference Centers for AMR
 - **Denmark** - National Food Institute, Technical University of Denmark
 - **France** – The French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety (ANSES)
 - **Germany** - Department of Veterinary Medicine, Freie Universität Berlin
 - **Mexico** - Integral Unit of Services, Diagnosis and Verification (UISDC), National Service for Agri-food Health, Safety and Quality (SENASICA), Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development (SADER)
 - **Senegal** - Fondation Institut Pasteur de Dakar
 - **Thailand** - Department of Veterinary Public Health, Faculty of Veterinary Science, Chulalongkorn University
 - **United Kingdom** – Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD, Guideline 6 lead developer), Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA), and Centre of Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS)
 - **United States of America** - Infectious Diseases Institute of the Ohio State University (OSU)
- Leading laboratories on AMR, AMU and antimicrobial residues in Asia and the Pacific
 - Bureau of Quality Control and Livestock Product (Thailand)
 - Department of Veterinary Public Health, Faculty of Veterinary Science, Chulalongkorn University (Thailand)
 - National Veterinary Assay Laboratory (Japan)
 - Singapore Food Agency (Singapore)
- Additional technical resources, partners, and observers
 - Invited experts – Jaap Wagenaar (Utrecht University), Agnes Agunos (Public Health Agency Canada), Ron Miller (US FDA), Peter Smith (National University of Ireland), Yueh Nuo (AMRCO)
 - ASEAN Secretariat
 - SAARC Secretariat
 - United States Agency for International Development Regional Developmental Mission for Asia | USAID RDMA (Thailand)
 - World Organisation for Animal Health Sub-Regional Representation for Southeast Asia (WOAH SRR SEA)
 - World Organisation for Animal Health Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific (WOAH RR AP)
 - World Health Organization Southeast Asia Regional Office (WHO SEARO)
 - World Health Organization Western Pacific Regional Office (WHO WPRO)
 - UN Environment Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
 - International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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| ○ FAO HQ | ○ FAO Bangladesh |
| ○ FAO RAP | ○ FAO India |
| ○ FAO SAP | ○ FAO Nepal |
| ○ FAO Cambodia | ○ FAO Pakistan |
| ○ FAO Indonesia | ○ FAO Mongolia |
| ○ FAO Lao People's Democratic Republic | ○ FAO PNG |
| ○ FAO Philippines | |
| ○ FAO Viet Nam | |

Virtual Technical Presentation of the draft “Regional Guideline for Monitoring and Surveillance of Antimicrobial Residues in Food Animals”

12 September 2023
(BKK time; GMT +07:00)

Time	Agenda	Resource person
14:00-14:05 (5 min)	Opening remarks	Dr Kachen Wongsathapornchai Regional Manager FAO ECTAD RAP
14:05-14:10 (5 min)	Background and overview of the development of Regional Guideline series	Dr Mary Joy Gordoncillo AMR Regional Project Coordinator FAO ECTAD RAP
14:10-14:20 (10 min)	Background and overview of the development of Regional Guideline volume 6	Dr Rachel Dalton VMD, UK
14:20-14:55 (35 min)	Presentation of the draft Regional Guideline Volume 6	Dr Rachel Dalton/Dr John Points VMD, UK
14:55 – 15:00 (5 min)	Next steps	FAO RAP

Regional consultation on the draft “Regional Guideline for Monitoring and Surveillance of Antimicrobial Residues in Food Animals”

3 October 2023
(BKK time; GMT +07:00)

Time	Agenda	Resource person
14:00-14:05 (5 min)	Opening remarks	Dr Kachen Wongsathapornchai Regional Manager FAO ECTAD RAP
14:05-14:10 (5 min)	Brief introduction, objectives of the regional consultation, and housekeeping rules	Dr Mary Joy Gordoncillo AMR Regional Project Coordinator FAO ECTAD RAP
14:10-14:20 (10 min)	Discussion on Chapter 1: General introduction overview	VMD
14:20-14:40 (20 min)	Discussion on Chapters 2 and 3: Surveillance and Designing a Surveillance Strategy	VMD
14:40-15:00 (20 min)	Discussion on Chapter 4: Designing a Sampling Plan	VMD
15:00 – 15:20 (20 min)	Discussion on Chapter 5: Laboratory Analysis	VMD
15:20 – 15:40 (20 min)	Discussion on Chapter 6: Data Management and Reporting	VMD
15:40 – 15:50 (10 min)	Discussion on Chapter 7: Implementing a Surveillance Plan	VMD
15:50 – 16:00 (10 min)	Summary, ways forward, and closing	VMD and FAO RAP