

Session Outcomes Document

The role of ICT's in Addressing the Challenges of Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR)

[Global Coalition on Aging \(GCOA\)](#)

Thursday, May 30th, 15:00-15:45

<https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2024/Agenda/Session/266>

Key Issues discussed

- Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR) is a mega-trend level issue which threatens global health systems with 10 million death a year by 2050 and as a result economic development and growth in LMICs and OECD countries.
- Greater attention must be given to Anti-Microbial resistance from the public, governments and the information and technology communities to further drive prevention, appropriate usage, sustainable development of antibiotics and new therapies.
- Appropriate use of antibiotics will help to address the AMR Crisis and as such, National Action Plans are being developed to achieve those goals.
- Alongside biomedical innovation – new and sustainable pipeline of antibiotics – there must also be innovations in diagnostics for assessment of bacterial infections in people.
- Countries around the world face this problem, both in domestic and health settings and data management is needed to address the challenges and realize progress,
- The World Health Organization is deeply involved in this challenge and has developed innovative ways to address data gaps, including through new clinical surveillance plans.
- There is a large and critical role for technology and data, including AI, in the development and enabling of new therapies.
- New Policy reforms must be at the national levels (National Action Plans) and can be profoundly supported at the Global level (UNGA Special High-Level Meeting on AMR in September) in order to elevate policy maker's attention to AMR with the urgency and seriousness that it warrants.

Towards WSIS+20 and WSIS beyond 2025, please share your views on the emerging trends, challenges, achievements, and opportunities in the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines to date (5-8 bullets)

- Technology will continue to push development of better health through science, communications, and information.
- Technology must be directed to maintaining sustainable solutions for the challenges of AMR.

Tangible outcomes (such as key achievements, announcements, launches, agreements, commitments, figures, and success stories (3-5 bullet points))



- The reports shared from Economist Impact and the AMR Industry Alliance as well as the work at the World Health Assembly and the upcoming UNGA High-Level meeting in September provide the framework for enhanced global attention to this global crisis.
- There was an agreement that all would be done to continue the multi-sectoral cooperation and commitment to broadening awareness among health and technology ministers on a global basis.

Actionable plan and key recommendations

1. Create a dedicated page on GCOA's website (www.globalcoalitiononaging.com) for the panel, including a summary of the discussion and the video itself (it will also live on the WSIS site). We will communicate this to the GCOA network via email blast and social media and the WSIS network, noting this is the first time AMR has been on the WSIS agenda.
2. Share the panel recording with our robust media contact list to highlight the AMR crisis through the lens of aging and how technology can have an impact.
3. Capture short clips from the recording to use on social media in the lead-up to the High-level Meeting on AMR in September, continuing to connect the conversation with our partners at WSIS and ITU.
4. Share key findings from the panel, partnering with WSIS/ITU, to Ministries of Technology and their counterparts in the Ministries of Health and Finance.

Suggestions for thematic aspects that might be included in the WSIS Forum 2025 (one paragraph)

- Information and Communication Technology can and must play an important role in addressing the 21st century AMR global health crisis, enabling interoperable systems, supporting surveillance, and encouraging developments in diagnostics as well as biomedical innovative advances themselves—new antibiotics and a sustainable ongoing development pipeline. The crisis needs to engage Health, Finance, and IT Ministers together in driving solutions, who together, should bring it to the top of government agendas. ICT data gathering and surveillance are essential for developing the treatments that will provide the right medicines, dosed correctly to the right people. Finally, Governments need to support the sustainable development of new antibiotics therapies or risk a world without antibiotics that will set back the 20th century longevity gains themselves and threaten the ability in our 21st century to achieve healthy longevity.