

## **Statement by the South Centre to the Seventy-eighth World Health Assembly**

### **Agenda Item 15: Antimicrobial Resistance**

The South Centre strongly encourages member States and the Director General to maintain antimicrobial resistance as a WHO priority, with adequate resources in headquarters and regional offices, and increased coherence as a cross cutting issue across various WHO programmes.

WHO's role is critical in developing technical guidance and providing technical support to members, expanding global awareness of the AMR threat to understanding the urgency of action and investments, and in coordinating the global multisectoral response.

We count on WHO to enhance support for countries to implement the enhanced AMR commitments stemming from the UN political declaration adopted in September 2024.

We support the mandate for the WHO in coordination with other Quatripartide agencies to update the Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance by 2026.

The updated Global Action Plan should provide clearer, context-specific guidance to help countries collectively to achieve the new quantitative targets by 2030 across human health, animal health, agri-food systems, waste management and water supply, with increased focus on infection prevention, greater private sector engagement, and tracking progress.

We need global political leadership to mobilize investments for AMR response, in particular for the very modest target of achieving US\$ 100 million to support at least 60 per cent of countries to achieve funded plans by 2030. We note with concern that special voluntary contributions by countries in the area on AMR have decreased.

We also welcome the inclusion of AMR in the pandemic agreement.

Through enhanced and equitable collective action, we can still turn the tide on AMR.

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