

**44th Session of the FAO Conference side event**

**Implementing the 2024 AMR Political Declaration: Industry Accountability and Equity in Agrifood sector transformation**

**Wednesday, 2 July 2025**

**12:30-14:00 CEST**

**Iran Room, FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy**

**Panel 2: Driving industry leadership in addressing AMR**

Question by Moderator, His Excellency Toby Parker, Chargé d’Affaires of the UK

**How important is it for countries to collect and publicly share information on regulations and data on antimicrobial sales and use? How can industry support these efforts?**

Response by Ms Viviana Muñoz-Tellez, Coordinator, Health, Intellectual Property and Biodiversity Programme, South Centre

We support the commitments made in the UNGA 2<sup>nd</sup> Political Declaration on AMR of September 2024 and the endorsed FAO resolution July 2025 for a collective effort to stop overuse and inappropriate use of antimicrobials, including preventing routine administration of antibiotics to healthy animals as a means of promoting growth and preventing infections.

A comprehensive accountability framework remains absent.

We must collectively establish mechanisms to measure progress—from assessing the impact of government regulations on antibiotic use in agriculture to evaluating improvements in veterinary prescribing practices and food industry stewardship across the entire farm-to-fork continuum.

Establishing baselines is essential for setting meaningful targets.

Industry must demonstrate proactive antimicrobial stewardship through transparent action. This requires robust data collection as the foundation for monitoring AMR and AMU trends and understanding patterns.

Countries are at different stages in developing surveillance systems. Most countries still have limited data on AMR and AMU in animals and food. This is particularly true for more resource constrained countries that are in need of financial and technical support to strengthen surveillance systems including laboratory infrastructure and data interpretation capacities.

Industry can and should support national surveillance programs, and the submission of data to global platforms that aggregate country and regional level data, such as FAO INFARM and ATLASS assessments.

While global estimates suggest antimicrobial use in animal food production is excessive - WOAHA estimates 74,035 tons in 2022 with estimates of this doubling to 143,481 tons by 2040- we lack the granular data needed for targeted interventions.

Current reporting focuses primarily on imports and sales data, while critical prescription and usage data remains limited. Industry stakeholders are uniquely placed to fill these data gaps.

Industry can also support providing data from private laboratory networks and provide funding support for surveillance efforts.

We acknowledge legitimate concerns about data sharing, including potential trade implications, reputational risks, and data misinterpretation. Most country level data is still not disclosed publicly, although transparency is improving. These challenges must not prevent progress.

Equity must remain a framing principle for prioritizing actions. We must collectively develop positive incentives for data collection and reporting, such as linking surveillance participation to funding and capacity-building support. We therefore call on the private sector, specially large agro-food businesses, to embrace active partnership in compliance and surveillance efforts.