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AMR could Cause 10 Million Deaths: UN

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UN Interagency Coordinating Group has released a report titled "**NO TIME TO WAIT: Securing The Future From Drug-resistant Infections**".

The Report says that drug-resistant diseases could cause **10 million deaths each year by 2050**.

Key Highlights

- **Antimicrobial resistance** is a **global crisis** that **threatens** a century of progress in the health and achievement of the **Sustainable Development Goals**.
 - Antimicrobial resistance poses a **formidable challenge to achieving Universal Health Coverage** and **threatens progress against many of the Sustainable Development Goals**, including in health, food security, clean water and sanitation, responsible consumption and production, and poverty and inequality.
 - **Misuse and overuse of existing antimicrobials in humans, animals, and plants** are accelerating the development and spread of antimicrobial resistance.
- The world has to act **urgently**. If timely actions are not taken antimicrobial resistance will have a disastrous impact within a generation.
 - Currently, at least **7,00,000 people die each year due to drug-resistant diseases**, including 2,30,000 people who die from multidrug-resistant tuberculosis.
 - By 2030 antimicrobial resistance could **force up to 24 million people into extreme poverty**.
 - Without investment from countries in all income brackets, **future generations will face the disastrous impacts of uncontrolled antimicrobial resistance**.

- The drivers of antimicrobial resistance lie in humans, animals, plants, food and the environment. Thus a sustained **One Health response is essential to engage and unite all stakeholders around a shared vision and goals.**
 - **The countries should prioritize national action plans to scale-up financing and capacity-building efforts,** put in place stronger regulatory systems and support awareness programs for responsible use of antimicrobials by professionals.
 - It is also necessary to invest in research and development for new technologies to combat antimicrobial resistance.

UN Interagency Coordination Group (IACG) on Antimicrobial Resistance

- **IACG was established in 2016** in consultation with the **World Health Organization (WHO), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE).**
- The IACG's mandate is to **provide practical guidance for approaches needed to ensure sustained effective global action to address antimicrobial resistance.**

Summary of IACG Recommendations

- **Accelerate Progress In Countries**
 - **Equitable and affordable access** to existing and new quality-assured antimicrobials in member states
 - Accelerate the **development and implementation of One Health National Antimicrobial Resistance Action Plan** within the context of the SDGs.
- **Innovate To Secure The Future**
 - **Public, private and philanthropic donors and other funders should increase investment** and innovation in quality-assured, new antimicrobials.
 - Equitable and affordable access to existing and new, quality-assured antimicrobials should be promoted.
- **Collaborate For More Effective Action**
Systematic and meaningful **engagement of civil society groups and organizations** is necessary for the One Health response to antimicrobial resistance.
- **Invest For A Sustainable Response**
The **IACG emphasizes the need for increased investments in the response to antimicrobial resistance,** including from **domestic financing** in all countries; bilateral and **multilateral financing; development institutions and banks;** and **private investors.**

- **Strengthen Accountability And Global Governance**

- There is a need for the **urgent establishment of a One Health Global Leadership Group on Antimicrobial Resistance**, supported by a Joint Secretariat managed by the Tripartite agencies (FAO, OIE, and WHO).
- There is a need to convene an **Independent Panel on Evidence for Action against Antimicrobial Resistance** to monitor and provide the Member States with regular reports on the science and evidence related to antimicrobial resistance.