

Vietnam fosters multi-sectoral, multilateral cooperation to prevent antimicrobial resistance among zoonotic diseases

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A multi-sectoral technical working group on antimicrobial resistance under the One Health Partnership on zoonotic disease prevention met in Vietnam on July 26, 2024. Three co-chairing ministries (Ministry of Health, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, and Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development) attended the meeting, along with embassies, bilateral and multilateral organizations, institutes, associations, and a number of provinces and cities participating online.

At the meeting, Dr. Nguyen Thu Thuy, Deputy Director of the Department of Animal Health (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development), said that antibiotic resistance is a particularly important content stipulated in task No. 3 in the Multi-sectoral Partnership Framework for One Health for the period 2021-2025 "strengthening management and monitoring of antibiotic resistance use and preventing antibiotic resistance". The Multi-sectoral KKS Working Group is one of the good mechanisms to realize the Laws and national action plans on antibiotic resistance prevention in health, environment and agriculture.

Most recently, the goals and tasks of management, monitoring and control of KKS are clearly defined in the "National Strategy on Prevention and Control of Antibiotic Resistance in Vietnam for the period 2023 - 2030, with a vision to 2045" approved in Decision No. 1121/QĐ-TTg of the Prime Minister, applying the "One Health" approach towards the goal of basically controlling the situation of antibiotic resistance by 2045, having a system to monitor antibiotic resistance, use and consumption.

The Strategy states that "Prevention of drug resistance is an urgent, regular, long-term task, a core responsibility of the health and agricultural sectors, proactively preventing infectious diseases, controlling infections, improving the capacity to prevent, detect, diagnose, treat and monitor drug resistance, use and consumption of antimicrobial drugs in humans and animals". From there, the Strategy sets out specific goals including: Raising awareness of local authorities at all levels, understanding of medical and veterinary staff and people about prevention and control of drug resistance; strengthening the drug resistance surveillance system to promptly warn about the emergence, spread, level and trend of drug resistance in microorganisms; reducing the spread of microorganisms and infectious diseases; Using antimicrobial drugs in humans and animals rationally, safely and responsibly.

To effectively implement this Strategy, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development continues to mobilize all resources to implement the "National Action Plan on Antibiotic Resistance Prevention and Control in the Agricultural Sector for the 2021-2025 Period" approved in Decision No. 3609/QĐ-BNN-TY dated August 23, 2021.

The implementation of antibiotic resistance is an urgent task. It is necessary to mobilize and invest resources to implement regulations on antibiotic resistance. Accordingly, international development partners also affirmed their shared responsibility for preventing antibiotic resistance with the Vietnamese Government and continued to commit to supporting resources.