

**COUNTRY:** DOMINION OF CANADA

**COMMITTEE:** United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)



**AGENDA:** Promoting the Use of Alternatives to Antimicrobials and New Technologies, for Diagnosis and Vaccines.

The high-level meeting was convened by the President of the 71st session of the UN General Assembly, H.E. Peter Thomson.

***"Antimicrobial resistance threatens the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and requires a global response."***

On 21 September 2016, the President of the UN General Assembly convenes an one-day high-level meeting at the UN Headquarters in New York on “Antimicrobial Resistance“, with the participation of Member States, non-governmental organizations in order to provide input. The primary objective of the meeting is to summon and maintain strong national, regional and international political commitment in addressing antimicrobial resistance comprehensively and multi-sectorally, and to increase and improve awareness of antimicrobial resistance. The meeting emphasizes the important role and the responsibilities of governments, as well as the role of the World Health Organization.

World Health Assembly Resolution WHA 68.7 entitled “Global Action Plan on antimicrobial resistance” which reflects a global consensus that antimicrobial resistance poses a significant public health challenge, and emphasizing the paramount significance of achieving the five strategic objectives of the WHA Global Action Plan.

The Delegate of Canada would like to clarify its stances on the topic, promoting the Use of Alternatives to Antimicrobials and New Technologies, for Diagnosis and Vaccines. Antibiotic resistance

happens when bacteria that cause illness become resistant to the antibiotic drugs used to treat them. WHO calls for a global coordinated action to minimize the emergence and spread of AMR, and for each country to have a national action plan in place. Canada has been engaged in actions to address the challenges of AMR since 1997, and these actions include a four-pillar national strategy: surveillance; stewardship; infection prevention and control; and research and innovation. As highlighted in the 2019 Chief Public Health Officer of Canada Spotlight Report, Canada has made progress and rates of antibiotic resistance are lower than in many other countries in the world.

At the federal level, the Government of Canada has developed a Federal Framework and Federal Action Plan on AMR to coordinate among federal departments and to initiate and take action within their respective mandates and sectors in the areas of surveillance, stewardship and innovation. Professional organizations actively involved in addressing antimicrobial resistance include the Canadian Medical Association, Canadian Pharmacists Association, Canadian Pediatric Society and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. Canada is already taking significant action to address the threat of antimicrobial resistance domestically and internationally. However much more remains to be done by all levels of government, industry, non-governmental sectors and the general public. By continuing to work together, we can collectively achieve greater results in reducing the risks of antimicrobial resistance and protecting the health and safety of all.

**DELEGATE:**

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