

Executive Summary

The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared that antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is one of the top 10 global public health threats facing humanity. As advocated by WHO, an effective response to the continuing rise of AMR requires a “One Health” approach with intersectoral collaboration between public health, animal and environment health sectors, as well as close coordination with global action.

Through the joint efforts of relevant Government bureaux/departments and organisations in implementing the *Hong Kong Strategy and Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (2017-2022)* over the past five years, we have achieved positive outcomes in minimising the emergence and preventing the spread of AMR. The Government has all along attached great importance to tackling the threat of AMR and the Policy Address of the Chief Executive of Hong Kong SAR announced on 6 October 2021 pledged to review the implementation experience of the Action Plan and draw up the second plan to map out response strategies for the next phase. Subsequently, the High-Level Steering Committee endorsed in May 2021 that the framework of the second Action Plan covering the period from 2023 to 2027, and at its meeting in May 2022 agreed on the strategic actions and indicators.

To tackle AMR as a public health threat, this Action Plan has its **Goals**:



This Action Plan adopts the **6 Key Areas** as in the last Action Plan, to slow the emergence of AMR and prevent its spread, namely

1. Strengthen knowledge through surveillance and research;
2. Optimise use of antimicrobials in humans and animals;
3. Reduce incidence of infection through effective sanitation, hygiene and prevention measures;
4. Improve awareness and understanding of antimicrobial resistance through effective communication, education and training;
5. Promote research on AMR; and
6. Strengthen partnerships and foster engagement of relevant stakeholders.

It includes the expert inputs and wisdom upon consulting stakeholders across sectors, disciplines and organisations, and soliciting their support for implementation.

In this Action Plan, a total of **21 Objectives** with detailed **Strategic Interventions** under each key areas, in which 5 are identified as **Priority Interventions**, are recommended:

- Amending relevant Ordinance(s) to mandate recording of antimicrobial prescription and dispensing data systematically through electronic means
- Further enhancement of ASP in public hospitals
- Roll out territory-wide decolonisation programme in RCHes
- Surveillance and control of AMR in ready-to-eat food
- Regular survey with general public on AMR to inform strategies on health promotion

And time-bound **Indicators** have also been developed to facilitate monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of this Action Plan.

This Action Plan provides guidance not only for public health and veterinary partners, but also to co-ordinate efforts from all sectors of the community, to combat AMR in a multi-sectoral and whole-of-society approach. We also urge everyone to support the Action Plan and join hands to to minimise the development and spread of AMR.