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EU-ASIA ONLINE WORKSHOP ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE IN ANIMAL HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

New Delhi, India – 29 November 2021 EU-Asia Online Workshop on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) will be held during 15-16 December 2021, focusing on animal health and the environment with India as the host country, with objectives to enhance exchanges of best practices and forge strategic cooperation among Asian countries.

Following the success of the EU-ASIA High-level Webinar on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in October 2021, EU-Asia Online Workshop on AMR in Animal Health and Environment will gather experts, researchers, veterinarians, farmers, stakeholders and policy makers during 15-16 December to discuss further on the AMR situations in Asia, exchanging experiences and best practices with the nine Asian partner countries: China, Japan, Indonesia, India, Malaysia, the Philippines, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam.

According to the concept underpinning [the European One Health Action Plan against antimicrobial resistance](#), human health is closely interwoven with the health of animals and the environment. Antimicrobials are widely used in animals to treat infections, prevent diseases and promote growth. In 2013, an estimated 131,109 tons of antimicrobials were used in food-producing animals and the figure is projected to rise to 200,235 tons by 2030. Over the years, evidence has accrued to suggest that use of antimicrobials in animals has contributed to the development of AMR in humans, be it directly or indirectly, through food or environmental contamination. Therefore, enhancing transdisciplinary cooperation and integration of activities across the board is necessary to efficiently tackle AMR, one of the acute threats of the present time.

“There is a growing consensus to stop unnecessary and inappropriate use of antimicrobials in animals. Countries in the European Union (EU) have banned the use of antimicrobials for disease prevention or growth promotion for several decades, and the EU has just adopted criteria for keeping certain antimicrobial medicines for human use only. These will be a key part of the Farm to Fork Strategy, promoting a fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food system. The EU has set a target to reduce by 50% overall sales of antimicrobials for farmed animals and agriculture by 2030. This first EU-Asia AMR Workshop on Animal Health will address these challenges and forge collaboration among Asian countries with support from the EU.” said Claire Bury, Deputy Director General in the European Commission Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety.



Background:

This series of high-level international conference and workshops are organised by the European Union under its Partnership Instrument with the EU Delegation to Thailand. Following the first international AMR conference, three consecutive workshops will be held in India, Japan and China, respectively on Animal Health including the Environment, Human Health and the Environment, and Research and Innovation, during which experts and stakeholders will be able to exchange views, discuss measures and research that can be undertaken at the national, regional and international levels.

More details on the work of the European Commission on AMR are available [here](#).

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