

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
**Directorate General of Drug Administration**  
**Aushadh Vaban**  
**Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh**

Meeting minutes of the “Task Force to Monitor Antimicrobial Consumption (AMC) / Use (AMU) in Bangladesh” held on 21/10/2024

<b>Meeting Minutes</b>	<b>Chairperson</b>	Mr. Mohammad Nayeem Golder, Director, Directorate General of Drug Administration.
	<b>Date</b>	21/10/2024
	<b>Time</b>	11:00 am
	<b>Venue</b>	Conference room (3 <sup>rd</sup> floor), DGDA
	<b>Minutes Taken By</b>	Mr. Md Shariful Islam, SD, DGDA
	<b>Minutes Reviewed By</b>	Mr. Mahbub Hossain, AD, DGDA

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Enclosed</b>
------------------	-----------------

<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Meeting Topics</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Dissemination and presentation on antimicrobial consumption (AMC) surveillance report (2016-2022), Bangladesh.</li><li>2. Presentation on National Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) surveillance Report, Bangladesh (2016-2023).</li><li>3. Committee formation for "Policy Brief on consumption and resistance pattern of antimicrobial medicine in Bangladesh".</li><li>4. Approval of the “National Guideline on Dispensing, Use and Disposal Management of Antimicrobial Drugs-Bangladesh”.</li><li>5. Other Matters.</li></ol>

**Discussion:**

At the beginning of the meeting, Mr. Mohammad Nayeem Golder, Director and Head of AMR Cell, DGDA, welcomed everyone and officially opened the session. He briefed the attendees on the agenda and encouraged active participation in the discussions, inviting them to share their expert opinions on the issues at hand.

Following his introduction, and with his permission, Ms. Umme Habiba, Programme Officer-AMR, WHO Bangladesh, and moderator of the program, initiated the formal proceedings. She invited presentations as outlined in the meeting agenda.

The presentation on the National Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Surveillance Report, Bangladesh (2016–2023) was delivered by Dr. Nandita Banik, Program Officer- Microbiologist (IEDCR), WHO Bangladesh. Dr Mahmudur Rahman, Country Director, Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET) emphasized the need for a more detailed presentation of antibiotic resistance trends across various regions of Bangladesh in future reports. He also emphasized the importance of including intervention suggestions and recommendations so that the task force can formulate appropriate policy action.

Dr Nazma Akhter, Public Health Team Lead, USAID/DAI strongly advocated for a One Health approach, suggesting that AMR surveillance results for both human and veterinary sectors be jointly

discussed. Beyond discussion, she urged actionable steps and a clear roadmap forward. She noted that despite existing control measures, antibiotic use in hospital wards and ICUs has increased, which calls for greater attention.

The Presentation on Antimicrobial Consumption (AMC) Surveillance Report (2016–2022), Bangladesh was delivered by Dr. Aninda Rahman, National Professional Officer, WHO Bangladesh. He explained the trends in antimicrobial consumption in Bangladesh and proposed possible policy recommendations. Dr Nazma Akhter, Public Health Team Lead, USAID/DAI recommended the preparation of a policy brief using the AMC surveillance data to inform decision-making.

Mr. Mahbub Hossain, Assistant Director, DGDA, presented the draft National Guideline on Dispensing, Use, and Disposal Management of Antimicrobial Drugs – Bangladesh. He invited comments and feedback from participants. Prof. M.A. Faiz, Former DG-DGHS highlighted the importance of this guideline, noting that such a document had not previously been developed in Bangladesh. He recommended that it be organized in a clear and accessible format, like other national guidelines. He suggested that the introduction should be expanded to include rationale, sources, and type of guideline. He also proposed that the sections on distribution, use, and disposal be addressed in separate chapters, covering human health, animal health, fisheries, and environmental aspects. Responsibilities of various stakeholders should be outlined in detail and included as an appendix.

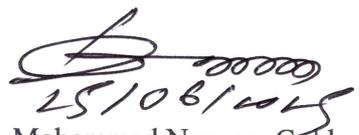
Dr. Mahmudur Rahman further proposed the development of a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to support the implementation of the guideline in a user-friendly manner.

Dr Sk Shaheenur Islam, Deputy Director Animal Health, DLS requested that the section on stakeholder responsibilities be updated to include the prevention of antibiotic use in animal feed, food-producing animals, and fisheries. It was also agreed that waste management on farms should be addressed in a dedicated section of the guidelines.

Given the critical need for AMR containment in Bangladesh, the meeting concluded with a decision to prepare a policy brief on the consumption and resistance patterns of antimicrobial medicines in Bangladesh.

In conclusion, both the former Director General of DGDA, Major General Kazi Md. Rashid-Un-Nabi, and the newly appointed Director General, Major General Md. Shameem Haider, were requested to take the necessary actions based on the expert inputs shared during the meeting. They expressed their gratitude to all participants for their valuable contributions and formally closed the meeting.

Decisions		
No	Decision	Responsibilities
01.	Presentations on AMC/AMU and AMR surveillance for the year 2024, along with related policy recommendations, will be delivered at the next Taskforce meeting.	AMC/AMU surveillance-DGDA AMR surveillance-IEDCR, DGHS
02.	The draft "National Guideline on Dispensing, Use, and Disposal Management of Antimicrobial Drugs – Bangladesh" has been approved with suggestions from the Taskforce. The final version of the guideline will be shared with Taskforce members via email.	DGDA
03.	"Policy Brief on the Consumption and Resistance Patterns of Antimicrobial Drugs in Bangladesh" will be conducted.	Task Force to Monitor Antimicrobial Consumption (AMC) / Use (AMU) in Bangladesh.

  
 25/10/2024  
 Mohammad Nayeem Golder  
 Director &  
 Head of AMR cell

Directorate General of Drug Administration.

✓ 6