

**Directors forum at the G20 meeting of the Public Health and Veterinary Public Health  
Institute at the Robert Koch Institute, 13 September 2017**

**Chair's conclusion**

**Prof. Lars Schaade, Robert Koch Institute**

The directors forum of the Public Health and Veterinary Public Health Institutes of the G20 countries offered a first opportunity for participants to discuss, how the G20 countries could advance the One Health agenda in the future.

The participants agreed that it was important to explore potential for further collaboration in the field of One Health. Initially, such collaboration could focus on the areas of (re-)emerging infections, zoonoses, antimicrobial resistance and risk assessment. However, going forward, collaboration should not be limited to these topics, and should aim to reflect One Health concerns more comprehensively. Participants also called for the involvement of a greater number of national stakeholders to fully capture and leverage existing expertise.

It was agreed that G20-led activities in the area of One Health should either complement or be integrated into existing initiatives and networks, in order to avoid duplication and overlap. An example of such complementarity was the suggestion to develop a G20 network with a focus on the use of antibiotics in animals as an addition to the Global AMR research hub, which is also being established as part of the G20's agenda, but focuses on human health.

Participants discussed whether, going forward, environmental health, which was not represented at this meeting, should be included into any G20 One Health activities. It was suggested that a way to do so might be through activities to strengthen the evidence base for the importance of environmental factors in the areas of zoonoses and AMR that were identified as initial topics for joint work.

Participants were in agreement that Public Health and Veterinary Public Health Institutes of the G20 would have to answer a set of fundamental questions before taking on joint projects. These include the following:

- What challenges should be addressed within One Health?
- What is the format of an intervention by the G20 countries?
- How and when should non-G20 stakeholders be involved?
- How broadly or narrowly should One Health be defined for the purposes of G20 activities?
- What concrete actions or advice should be delivered, and when?
- What is the added value of a One Health initiative of the G20?
- What resources are member states willing to contribute?

The participants agreed that it would be useful to begin joint work with a well-defined project, such as a joint report, and a commitment to data and information sharing. An initial project would have to be preceded by a second meeting, or a virtual working group, to define more accurately the purpose and expected outcomes of a joint report on One Health.