

# GARPNet News

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*CDDEP Director Ramanan Laxminarayan addresses the audience of the Forum on Sustainable Access to Effective Antibiotics*



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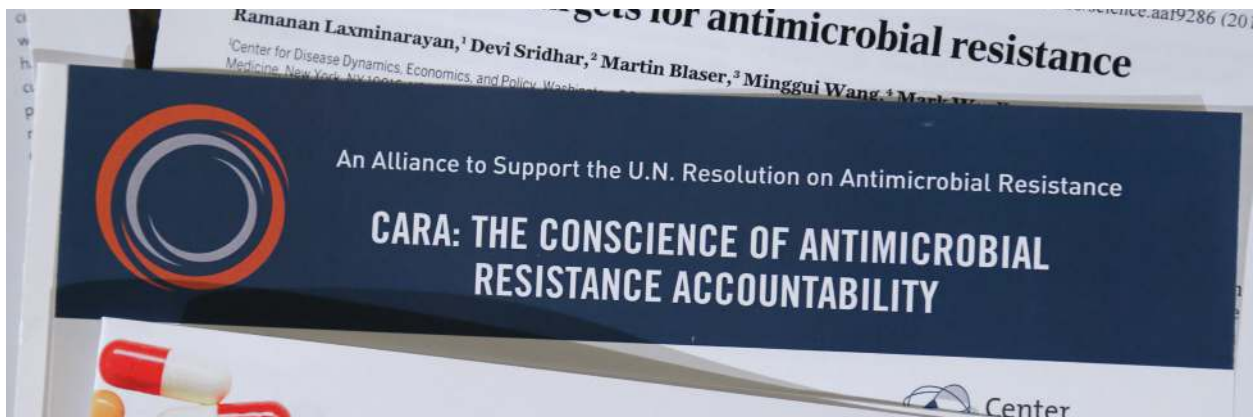
## UN adopts declaration on antimicrobial resistance

*We therefore commit to work at national, regional, and global levels to develop, in line with resolution WHA 68.7, multisectoral national action plans, programs and policy initiatives, in line with a One Health approach and with the WHO Global Action Plan on AMR and its five overarching strategic objectives, with a view to implementing national measures for strengthening appropriate antibiotic use in humans and animals. To support implementation of these plans, domestic and international collaboration is needed to assess resource needs, sustained technical and financial investment in shared research, laboratories and regulatory capacities, as well as professional education and training with a view to safeguard human health, animal health and welfare, and the environment.*

So begins the commitments section of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) declaration on antimicrobial resistance (AMR), approved last week during the 71st session of the UNGA in New York City. The declaration was widely hailed as a milestone in the global effort to confront AMR. Although many, including CDDEP Director Ramanan Laxminarayan, had expressed concern that the UN declaration would lack the [targets, finance, and governance](#) needed to ensure a successful approach to AMR control, the declaration does include a plan to bring together a new governance structure, which will report on progress made in two years time, as follows:

*We request the Secretary-General to establish, in consultation with WHO, FAO and OIE, an ad hoc interagency coordination group, co-chaired by the Executive Office of the Secretary General and WHO, drawing, where necessary, on expertise from relevant stakeholders, to provide practical guidance for approaches needed to ensure sustained effective global action to address AMR.*

CDDEP was among those present at the UN to witness these historic proceedings. GARP working groups played a key role in advocating for action from their permanent representatives and governments, and GARP-Kenya coordinator Dr. Eveline Wesangula accompanied the Kenyan delegation, including the Minister of Health, to the event.



## Launch of an alliance to hold stakeholders to AMR commitments

What exactly can be done to ensure that the energy of the UNGA High Level Meeting on AMR results in global action? In response to this question, nine organizations, including CDDEP, came together to launch CARA – the Conscience of Antimicrobial Resistance Accountability – an alliance designed to hold the UN and others to their commitments to ensure sustainable access to effective antibiotics. CARA is expected to grow exponentially, encompassing non-profits, industry, academia, and students the world over.

CARA goals are to:

- monitor progress toward the agreed upon goals of access to effective antimicrobials for everyone across the globe,
- identify obstacles to progress and bring them to light,
- offer solutions to problems in all sectors, and
- identify, publicize, and celebrate successes.

A governance structure and communications and reporting framework will be developed cooperatively with initial members. Groups interested in joining CARA can do so here: [www.forumonantibiotics.org/join-the-alliance](http://www.forumonantibiotics.org/join-the-alliance). **We encourage all GARP working groups to join – please email Molly Miller-Petrie with requests or questions.**

### World Antibiotic Awareness Week – November 14-20, 2016

If you are planning activities around this year's world antibiotic awareness week, or would like ideas about what you might do, please email Molly Miller-Petrie at: [millerpetrie@cddep.org](mailto:millerpetrie@cddep.org)

## Forum on Sustainable Access to Effective Antibiotics



*Prof. Martin Blaser, New York University and Chair of the Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria, moderating Panel 1 on Stewardship and Conservation. (See text for panelists.)*



CDDEP and a host of high profile cosponsors, including GARP, put on the *Forum on Sustainable Access to Antibiotics* on September 20th at the Yale Club of New York City. The forum featured leaders in the field of AMR and drew over 300 delegates to listen to their discussion of the way forward for AMR control.

CDDEP Director Ramanan Laxminarayan chaired the event, with three panels covering the pillars of AMR control: 1) stewardship and conservation, 2) innovation, and 3) global accountability and governance. Prof. Martin Blaser, New York University and Chair of the Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria, moderated the first panel, about successful approaches to conservation, such as vaccines and incentives, in high- and low-resource settings.



*Prof. John-Arne Røttingen, Specialist Director, Norwegian Institute of Public Health and Interim Chief Executive Director, Coalition of Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, moderating Panel 2 on Innovation. (See text for panelists.)*

The panelists were The Hon. Gabriel Wikström, Minister for Health Care, Public Health and Sport, Sweden; Prof. Keith Klugman, Director for Pneumonia at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Dr. Tom Frieden, Director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and Mr. Martin Khor, Executive Director of the South Centre.

The second panel brought together representatives from government, investment banks, drug manufacturers and diagnostic developers to discuss innovation. Prof. John-Arne Røttingen, Specialist Director, Norwegian Institute of Public Health and Interim Chief Executive Director, Coalition of Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, moderated panelists Mr. Tom Barrett, Director and Chief Representative of the European Investment Bank and Minister of the European Union Delegation to the United States; Dr. Mark Miller, Chief Medical Officer of bioMérieux; Dr. Julie Gerberding, Executive Vice President & Chief Patient Officer of Strategic Communications, Global Public Policy and Population Health at Merck; and Lord Jim O'Neill, Chair of the U.K. Review on Antimicrobial Resistance.



*Stephan Tanda, Royal DSM, requests comments from the panel regarding pharmaceutical manufacturing practices contributing to antimicrobial resistance*



*Professor Dame Sally Davies, Chief Medical Officer for the UK, moderating Panel 3 on Global Governance and Accountability. (See text for panelists.)*

The conversation concluded with an energetic and hard-hitting panel on the way forward, moderated by Dame Sally Davies, the United Kingdom’s Chief Medical Officer. Dr. Keiji Fukuda, Special Representative of the Director-General for Antimicrobial Resistance at the World Health Organization; the Hon. Vidar Helgesen, Minister of Climate and Environment for Norway; the Hon. Cleopa Mailu, Minister of Health for Kenya; and Dr. Juan Lubroth, Chief of Animal Health Service and Chief Veterinary Officer at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, were questioned on how they plan to fulfill commitments made at the UNGA and beyond in order to ensure sustainable access to effective antibiotics.

The chair of the CDDEP Board of Directors, Prof. Adel Mahmoud, Princeton University, closed out the night and sent panelists and attendees to enjoy a drink overlooking a spectacular Manhattan sunset. The air of optimism and energy was palpable, and will hopefully propel AMR



*Prof. Adel Mahmoud, Chair, CDDEP Board of Directors, closing the event*

control efforts forward worldwide, as long as we continue to act. GARP has been at the forefront of efforts to confront AMR in low-resource settings, and its successful model can help guide other countries towards sustainable policymaking. GARP Kenya coordinator Dr. Eveline Wesangula and GARP-Bangladesh Vice-Chair Prof. Md. Sayedur Rahman were both in attendance at the event. Prof. Mahmoud echoed the sentiments of all our panelists when he concluded: it’s time to get on with it! [#ActOnAMR](https://twitter.com/ActOnAMR)

## Media coverage of the UNGA session and related events

### International:

**Toronto Star:** [UN to debate the “apocalyptic scenario” of drug-resistant illnesses](#)

**CBC News:** [Antibiotic-resistant superbugs in spotlight at high-level UN meeting](#)

**Al Jazeera:** [Superbugs reach apex of global health worries](#)

### United States:

**The Washington Post:** [The world’s leaders are finally holding a summit on superbugs](#)

**Vox:** [What to expect from today’s UN meeting on antibiotic resistance](#)

**NPR - The Diane Rehm Show:** [The U.N. Takes Up The Threat Of The Growing Resistance To Antibiotics Worldwide](#)

**NPR - All Things Considered:** [U.N. to Take On Antibiotic Resistance At General Assembly](#)

**USA Today:** [World leaders to tackle global menace of drug resistance, superbugs](#)

**STAT News:** [Global leaders are set to put superbugs on the world stage](#)

**PBS NewsHour:** [UN leaders to put superbugs on world stage](#)

**National Geographic:** [In First, UN Will Consider Antibiotic Resistance](#)

**Scroll.in (Interview):** [We live in a bacterial world and there are consequences of messing around: Ramanan Laxminarayan](#)

**CIDRAP News:** [Experts hope UN meeting on antimicrobial resistance yields action](#)

**KCRW (To the Point):** [The threat of a post-antibiotic era \(Audio episode\)](#)

**Washington Examiner:** [UN to hold rare, major meeting on superbug threat](#)

**UPI (HealthDay News):** [CDC: Too many antibiotics still being prescribed in U.S.](#)

**Counsel & Heal:** [CDC Warns About Excessive Antibiotics Prescribed in U.S.](#)

**NewsMax Health:** [Too many Antibiotics still prescribed: CDC](#)

**Gulf News:** [Finally, UN to address superbugs](#)

## Country Highlights

### GARP-Kenya

The GARP-Kenya working group conducted the first of two trainings on antimicrobial resistance for educational institutions at the United States International University in June. The working group will conduct a second training with students and faculty at the Kenya Medical Training College (KMTC) on October 6th. Topics will include hand hygiene, laboratory capacity, veterinary practice, awareness, and stewardship, with a focus on the role of KMTC in curbing AMR.

### GARP-Mozambique

The GARP-Mozambique working group met on September 15-16 to finalize the national action plan (NAP) for AMR on September 15th and 16th. The group has identified implementation priorities in human and animal sectors, and developed detailed action plans with timelines for implementation. The NAP launch is planned for November.

### GARP-Nepal

An awareness program for school-age children is under way in Kathmandu and Dharan. GARP-Nepal working group members plan to speak with at least 15 schools about antibiotic use and resistance as a part of this year's activities.

## New GARP Countries

GARP-Pakistan has finalized their working group members and hired a coordinator. The working group is currently drafting a situation analysis with recommendations. GARP-Bangladesh has also established a working group and identified a coordinator, and is engaging the government on the issue. Work on their situation analysis is expected to begin soon.

### GARP-ReAct Collaboration

GARP and ReAct are now working together in Africa to support countries in developing situation analyses and national action and implementation plans. The first collaboration is taking place in Zimbabwe, where a situation analysis is already under way. You can access the ReAct AMR toolbox here: <http://www.reactgroup.org/toolbox/>



## GARP Activities on the CDDEP Blog

The UN, AMR and CARA: The Conscience of Antimicrobial Resistance Accountability (Sept 26): [http://cddep.org/blog/posts/un\\_amr\\_and\\_cara\\_conscience\\_antimicrobial\\_resistance\\_accountability](http://cddep.org/blog/posts/un_amr_and_cara_conscience_antimicrobial_resistance_accountability)

Will UNGA do for AMR what it did for AIDS? (Sept 9): [http://cddep.org/blog/posts/will\\_unga\\_do\\_amr\\_what\\_it\\_did\\_aids](http://cddep.org/blog/posts/will_unga_do_amr_what_it_did_aids)

Countdown to the United Nations General Assembly Session on AMR (Sept 2): [http://cddep.org/blog/posts/countdown\\_united\\_nations\\_general\\_assembly\\_session\\_amr](http://cddep.org/blog/posts/countdown_united_nations_general_assembly_session_amr)

Superbug Infections: How should we catch ‘em all? (Sept 2): [http://cddep.org/blog/posts/superbug\\_infections\\_how\\_should\\_we\\_catch\\_%E2%80%98em\\_all](http://cddep.org/blog/posts/superbug_infections_how_should_we_catch_%E2%80%98em_all)

The Unexpected Side Effects of the Drug Resistance Index in Patan Hospital, Kathmandu (Aug 25): [http://cddep.org/blog/posts/unexpected\\_side\\_effects\\_drug\\_resistance\\_index\\_patan\\_hospital\\_kathmandu](http://cddep.org/blog/posts/unexpected_side_effects_drug_resistance_index_patan_hospital_kathmandu)

## New Publications and Media

Mendelson, M., Dar, O., Hoffman, S., Laxminarayan, R., Mpundu, M., and Rottingen, J. A. 2016. “A Global Antimicrobial Conservation Fund for Low- and Middle-Income Countries.” *International Journal of Infectious Diseases*. 51: 70-72.  
[http://www.ijidonline.com/article/S1201-9712\(16\)31173-0/fulltext](http://www.ijidonline.com/article/S1201-9712(16)31173-0/fulltext)

Laxminarayan, R., Sridhar, D., Blaser, M., Wang, M., and Woolhouse, M. 2016. “Achieving global targets for antimicrobial resistance.” *Science* 353(6302): 874-5.  
<http://science.sciencemag.org/content/early/2016/08/17/science.aaf9286>

Jørgensen, P., Wernli, D., Carroll, S., Dunn, R., Harbarth, S., Levin, S., So, A., Schlüterand, M. and Laxminarayan, R. “Use Antimicrobials Wisely.” *Nature* 537(7619): 159-61.  
<http://www.nature.com/news/use-antimicrobials-wisely-1.20534>

Laxminarayan, R., and Bhutta, Z. 2016. “Antimicrobial resistance – a threat to neonate survival.” *The Lancet Global Health* 4(10): e676–e677.  
[http://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/article/PIIS2214-109X\(16\)30221-2/fulltext](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/article/PIIS2214-109X(16)30221-2/fulltext)

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