

# Letter from the Executive Board

Dear Delegates,

As you prepare for your participation in the World Health Assembly (WHA) committee at the ODM School Model United Nations, it is crucial that your research is grounded in credible and legitimate sources. The success of your resolutions and debates depends heavily on the quality of information you bring to the table.

To assist you in this endeavor, the Executive Board has compiled a list of essential United Nations (UN) resources that will guide your research and ensure the accuracy of your information. Please ensure that you utilize these resources extensively as you prepare for the conference.

We will be following UNA-USA rules of procedure for the conference.

## **Recommended UN Research Resources:**

### **United Nations Official Documents System (ODS):**

1. The ODS provides access to full-text documents issued by the UN, including resolutions, meeting records, and reports. It is an invaluable resource for understanding the historical and current work of the WHA.
2. Website: <https://documents.un.org/>

### **World Health Organization (WHO) Official Website:**

1. As the specialized agency of the UN responsible for international public health, the WHO website is your primary source for accurate and up-to-date information on global health issues, reports, statistics, and resolutions.
2. Website: <https://www.who.int/>

### **UN Digital Library:**

1. This resource offers a vast collection of UN publications, maps, voting data, and speeches. It is particularly useful for researching the background and implications of various WHA resolutions and initiatives.
2. Website: <https://digitallibrary.un.org/>

### **UN Data:**

1. For statistics and data on a wide range of issues, including health indicators, UN Data is a valuable resource. It provides access to a comprehensive set of data compiled by UN agencies, including WHO.
2. Website: <https://data.un.org/>

### **WHO Global Health Observatory (GHO):**

1. The GHO provides data and analysis on global health trends, helping delegates understand the health challenges that the WHA seeks to address. It includes a wide range of health indicators that can support your arguments and resolutions.
2. Website: <https://www.who.int/data/gho>

### **UN iLibrary:**

1. The UN iLibrary offers access to books, reports, and journals published by the UN, covering a wide array of topics including health, human rights, and development. This resource is essential for in-depth research and policy analysis.
2. Website: <https://www.un-ilibrary.org/>

### **Additional Research Tips:**

- **Cite Your Sources:** Always ensure that your position papers, speeches, and resolutions are backed by credible sources. Proper citation is not only a matter of integrity but also strengthens your arguments.
- **Verify Information:** Be cautious of information from unofficial or non-UN sources. Cross-check data and facts using the resources mentioned above.
- **Stay Updated:** Health issues and international policies evolve rapidly. Keep an eye on recent publications and reports from WHO and other relevant UN bodies.

We encourage you to immerse yourself in these resources as you prepare for the upcoming MUN conference. Doing so will enhance the quality of your contributions and the overall experience of the WHA committee.

Best regards,

Sriyansh Mohanty, Chairperson, WHA

Sankalp Chauhan, Vice Chairperson, WHA

## **Introduction**

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) has emerged as a formidable global health threat, imperilling our ability to combat infectious diseases. The World Health Organization (WHO) has identified AMR as one of the top ten global health challenges, emphasizing the need for collective action to address this crisis. Access to effective antimicrobial treatments is a critical component in the fight against AMR, particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) where the burden of infectious diseases is disproportionately high.

In Low Middle-Income Countries, the lack of access to antimicrobial treatments is a significant barrier to effective healthcare. Limited availability, unaffordability, and inadequate distribution of antimicrobials hinder the ability of healthcare systems to provide quality care. Furthermore, weak healthcare infrastructure, insufficient training for healthcare professionals, and inadequate regulatory frameworks exacerbate the challenge. As a result, patients in LMICs often face delayed or inadequate treatment, leading to increased morbidity, mortality, and transmission of infectious diseases. The consequences of inaction are dire. If left unchecked, AMR will continue to spread, rendering antimicrobials ineffective against life-threatening infections. This will not only undermine healthcare gains but also have far-reaching economic and social implications. The World Bank estimates that AMR could push up to 24 million people into extreme poverty by 2030, emphasizing the need for urgent action.

The WHO's World Health Assembly (WHA) provides a critical platform for global leaders to convene and address this pressing issue. This conference aims to bring together stakeholders to discuss strategies for overcoming access barriers to effective antimicrobial treatments in LMICs while promoting responsible usage and preserving effectiveness. By sharing knowledge, expertise, and best practices, we can work towards a future where all individuals have access to life-saving antimicrobial treatments, and the effectiveness of these treatments is protected for generations to come.

## **Access barriers in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs)**

Economic barriers:

- High costs of healthcare, education, and other essential services
- Limited financial resources and income inequality
- Unaffordable transportation and communication costs

Social barriers:

- Discrimination based on gender, ethnicity, religion, or social status
- Limited social networks and support systems
- Stigma and marginalization of vulnerable populations

Cultural barriers:

- Language and communication barriers
- Limited cultural competency and understanding
- Inadequate cultural tailoring of services and programs

Infrastructural barriers:

- Inadequate transportation systems and road networks
- Limited access to electricity, water, and sanitation

- Poor internet and communication connectivity

The far-reaching consequences of access barriers in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) are devastating, perpetuating cycles of poverty, poor health, and social isolation. Limited access to healthcare leads to delayed diagnoses, inadequate treatment, and poor health outcomes, further exacerbating the burden on already strained health systems. Reduced economic opportunities and poverty entrap individuals and communities, limiting their ability to break free from the cycle of poverty. Limited education and skills development hinder individuals' potential, restricting their ability to secure better-paying jobs and improve their socio-economic status. Social isolation and marginalization erode social cohesion, fuelling discrimination and stigma against vulnerable populations. Inadequate access to information and resources deprives individuals of the knowledge and tools necessary to make informed decisions, navigate systems, and advocate for themselves.

Addressing these access barriers demands a multifaceted approach. Increasing funding and resources for essential services, such as healthcare and education, is crucial to ensuring equitable access. Implementing policies and programs to reduce inequality, like progressive taxation and social protection initiatives, can help level the playing field. Promoting cultural competency and understanding among service providers and policymakers is vital to ensuring that services are tailored to meet the unique needs of diverse populations. Investing in infrastructure development, including transportation, energy, and digital connectivity, can bridge gaps in access to essential services and opportunities. Finally, leveraging technology and innovation, such as telemedicine, mobile learning platforms, and digital payment systems, can help overcome geographical and financial barriers, expanding access to critical services and resources. By adopting a comprehensive approach that tackles these access barriers, we can work towards creating more inclusive and equitable societies in LMICs, where all individuals have the opportunity to thrive.

### **Responsible Usage and Stewardship**

Responsible usage and stewardship are essential for ensuring that resources, services, and systems are used in a way that benefits everyone and lasts for a long time. This means being mindful of how we use things, making sure they are available to those who need them, and taking care of them so they don't get damaged or run out. It's like taking care of a shared house - we need to clean up after ourselves, fix things when they break, and make sure everyone has a say in how the house is run. This way, the house stays nice and everyone can enjoy it. Similarly, when we use resources and services responsibly, we can make sure they are available for future generations and that everyone has access to what they need to thrive. This includes things like water, food, healthcare, education, and technology. By being responsible stewards, we can also help protect the environment, reduce waste, and make sure that everyone has an equal say in how things are run. It's a big job, but when we all work together, we can make sure that our resources and services are used in a way that benefits everyone and lasts for a long time.

When we practice responsible usage and stewardship, we can ensure that resources are distributed fairly and that everyone has access to what they need. This means making sure that essential services like healthcare and education are available to all, regardless of income or social status. It also means being mindful of how our actions affect the environment and taking steps to reduce our impact. For example, using

public transport, recycling, and conserving water are all ways to reduce our footprint and preserve natural resources for future generations.

In addition, it involves being accountable for our actions and transparent in our decision-making. This means being open and honest about how resources are being used and making sure that everyone has a say in how things are run. It also means being willing to adapt and change when something isn't working, and being open to new ideas and innovations. By embracing responsible usage and stewardship, we can create a more equitable and sustainable world. We can ensure that resources are used in a way that benefits everyone, and that we are protecting the planet for future generations. It requires effort and commitment from all of us, but the payoff is worth it - a world where everyone has access to what they need to thrive, and where we are living in harmony with the environment.

In Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs), adopting principles of responsible usage and stewardship is crucial for achieving sustainable development and social equity. This approach ensures that resources are used efficiently and effectively to meet the needs of growing populations, while also addressing social and economic inequalities. By prioritizing sustainability and equity, LMICs can promote economic growth, reduce poverty, and mitigate the effects of climate change.

Efficient resource management can also help businesses and industries reduce waste, lower costs, and increase productivity, leading to increased competitiveness, job creation, and economic growth. Moreover, sustainable practices can build resilience and adaptability in the face of global challenges, enabling communities and countries to better withstand shocks and stresses. Embracing sustainable practices and equitable resource management is vital for creating a prosperous future in LMICs. By working together, governments, civil society, private sector, and individuals can prioritize sustainability, equity, and economic growth, ultimately leading to a more just and thriving world.

### **Preserving effectiveness**

Preserving effectiveness is crucial in achieving the agenda of promoting sustainable development and social equity in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs). Effectiveness refers to the ability to produce the desired outcomes and impacts, and preserving it ensures that the efforts and resources invested yield the intended results.

To preserve effectiveness, it is essential to:

1. Set clear goals and objectives- Establishing specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART) goals ensures everyone is working towards the same outcomes.
2. Monitor progress- Regularly tracking progress against goals and objectives helps identify areas for improvement and ensures adjustments are made to stay on course.
3. Evaluate impact- Assessing the impact of initiatives and programs helps determine what works and what doesn't, informing future decision-making.
4. Foster collaboration- Encouraging collaboration among stakeholders ensures a coordinated approach, reduces duplication of efforts, and leverages resources.
5. Build capacity- Developing the skills and capabilities of individuals and organizations ensures they can effectively implement and sustain initiatives.

6. Embrace adaptability- Being open to change and willing to adjust approaches as needed ensures effectiveness in a dynamic environment.

7. Ensure accountability- Holding individuals and organizations accountable for results ensures a focus on achieving outcomes.

8. Leverage technology- Utilizing technology can enhance efficiency, reach, and impact, ensuring effectiveness in resource-constrained environments.

By preserving effectiveness, the member nations can look forward to:

1. Maximize resource impact
2. Achieve sustainable development and social equity
3. Enhance credibility and trust among stakeholders
4. Inform future decision-making
5. Build resilient and adaptive systems

In Low Middle-Income Countries, preserving effectiveness is critical due to limited resources, competing priorities, and complex development challenges. By adopting these strategies, we can ensure that efforts to promote sustainable development and social equity yield lasting impacts.

Additionally, preserving effectiveness requires:

1. Encouraging a culture of learning: Fostering an environment where lessons learned are shared and used to improve future initiatives.
2. Embracing transparency: Ensuring open communication and transparency in decision-making and operations.
3. Managing risks: Identifying and mitigating risks that could impact effectiveness.
4. Fostering partnerships: Building strong partnerships with local organizations, governments, and communities to ensure ownership and sustainability.
5. Ensuring inclusivity: Involving marginalized and vulnerable populations in decision-making to ensure their needs are addressed.
6. Addressing power dynamics: Recognizing and addressing power imbalances that could impact effectiveness.
7. Continuously improving: Regularly assessing and improving initiatives to ensure they remain effective.

By incorporating these strategies, we can preserve effectiveness and achieve lasting impacts in LMICs. Effectiveness is not a one-time achievement, but rather an ongoing process that requires continuous attention and effort.

## **Solutions**

Solutions and innovations are crucial in addressing the complex challenges posed by the current era. To navigate this uncharted territory, we must harness the power of

creativity, technology, and collaboration. One solution lies in leveraging cutting-edge technologies like artificial intelligence, blockchain, and renewable energy to drive sustainable growth and development. Additionally, fostering a culture of innovation within organizations and governments can help stay ahead of emerging threats and opportunities. This can be achieved through initiatives like hackathons, incubators, and interdisciplinary research centers. Furthermore, promoting global cooperation and knowledge-sharing can facilitate the development of collective solutions to shared challenges. Innovations in governance, education, and social entrepreneurship can also help build more resilient and equitable societies. Ultimately, by embracing a mindset of continuous learning and experimentation, we can unlock new possibilities and create a brighter future for all. By harnessing the power of human ingenuity and creativity, we can transform the current era's dangers into opportunities for growth, progress, and prosperity.