

2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

[Learn more about the Coalition's work, its joint position statements and policy convenings, and its free monthly newsletter on AMR.](#)

February

The IDEA Initiative at Johns Hopkins contributed to co-authoring the UNEP global spotlight report on environmental dimensions of AMR, "[Bracing for Superbugs.](#)" Benefiting from ARC discussions, the IDEA Initiative also submitted [feedback on the draft WHO Medically Important Antimicrobial List](#), highlighting the need for equitable consideration of LMIC settings in deprioritizing macrolide antibiotics, accounting for co-resistance and cross-resistance patterns, and including consideration of antimicrobial use in plant and crop production.

April

Healthcare Without Harm (HCWH) launched the [AMR EDUCare Project](#) to develop educational resources for healthcare workers, focusing on optimizing antibiotic use, enhancing communication with patients, and managing antimicrobial waste, with a specific emphasis on human health in the EU. NRDC [discussed the misuse of antibiotics in farming on the Hopkins On Call Podcast](#), addressing the overuse in food animals and advocating for enhanced surveillance to curb AMR in human health. HAI also published a [policy brief on the need to take a multifaceted approach to addressing AMR](#).

June

[ReAct Latin America organized a dialogue on "Art, Microbes, and Planetary Health" for World Microbe Day](#), stressing interdisciplinary solutions and community engagement for AMR. [U.S. PIRG urged McDonald's to uphold its commitment to reducing antibiotic use in its meat supply](#), citing shareholder pressure and the serious threat of antibiotic-resistant "superbugs," with over 10,000 comments supporting the resolution. [EPHA also urged global leadership in addressing AMR ahead of the 2024 EU elections](#).

August

[The Centre for Science and Environment \(CSE\) released the "Whither New Antibiotics" report](#), highlighting major pharmaceutical companies' abandonment of antibiotic research due to profitability concerns and advocating for increased R&D investment to tackle diminishing effectiveness [Health Care without Harm, CSPI, and NRDC urged the Biden Administration to execute Food Service Guidelines for Federal Facilities](#), incorporating standards for locally-sourced production and organic certification, that mandate no antibiotic use in food animal products.

October

[HCWH Europe and EPHA hosted a webinar with the MEP Interest Group on AMR](#), convening participants from diverse sectors to address the interconnected challenges of human health, animal well-being, and ecological balance. [EPHA submitted comments on the European Commission's proposed pharmaceutical package](#), emphasizing the need for transparency in public funding, continued availability of paper-based package leaflets, and opposition to transferrable exclusivity extension (TEE) for antibiotic development to address ongoing pharmaceutical sector issues.

December

[FACT raises concerns to PACCARB over U.S. policies undermining global antimicrobial efforts](#), citing increased antibiotic sales and resistance in livestock production and U.S. opposition to international guidelines. [Public Citizen's report highlights PhRMA's \\$6 billion in grants](#), revealing potential conflicts of interest and lobbying alignment.

January

The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), U.S. PIRG, and allies filed a lawsuit on behalf of farm-labor groups and environmental organizations against the EPA for supporting the expanded use of streptomycin against citrus diseases, culminating with the [9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturning the EPA's approval of streptomycin as a pesticide for citrus crops](#). Health Action International (HAI) also released a report [highlighting the role of diagnostics in tackling antimicrobial resistance \(AMR\)](#).

March

ARC members jointly [provided feedback on the WHO's draft People-Centered Framework for addressing AMR in the human health sector](#), highlighting the need for giving voice to people through communities and civil society, inter-sectoral collaboration, measures for accountability, and guidance on prioritization and financing. The European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) also joined civil society organizations to urge the European Commission to revise EU pharmaceutical legislation to better manage medicine shortages, ensure affordable access to medicines, and improve transparency in research and pricing.

May

The South Centre, with UNEP's support, organized a [workshop on civil society's role in addressing environmental aspects of AMR](#). [ARC colleagues testified before the U.S. Senate HELP Committee on PAHPA reauthorization](#), highlighting equity concerns with COVID-19 vaccines and cautioning against the shortcomings of the PASTEUR Act. [The IDEA Initiative also contributed to the NASEM meeting report on Accelerating the Development and Uptake of Rapid Diagnostics](#) to combat antibiotic resistance.

July

The [South Centre released a policy brief on ongoing WHO pandemic instrument negotiations](#), stressing the need for increased political will and highlighting concerns over the text's lack of strong binding obligations, while calling for inclusive governance and equitable access to medical products during pandemics. [ReAct Asia Pacific co-hosted a workshop in Kochi, India](#), involving civil society organizations to devise strategies for reducing AMR through advocacy, awareness raising, and cross-sector collaboration.

September

[The Alliance to Save Our Antibiotics urged UK MPs for stronger action on antibiotic use in food animal production](#), calling for additional measures such as banning preventative group treatments of animals with antibiotics and following the EU's lead to prohibit importing food animal products raised with antimicrobial growth promoters. [ReAct Africa and South Centre co-held a conference in Lusaka, Zambia](#), focusing on advancing Antimicrobial Resistance National Action Plans in Africa.

November

[ReAct Europe's report from the Uppsala Dialogue Meeting outlines strategies for the 2024 UN HLM on AMR](#). [The Alliance to Save Our Antibiotics' assessment of UK catering companies highlights gaps in antibiotic policies despite serving millions of meals annually](#). [Keep Antibiotics Working \(KAW\), Food Animal Concerns Trust \(FACT\), and allies critique the U.S. National One Health Framework on zoonotic diseases for overlooking AMR and farmworkers' risks](#). [FAO, with the IDEA Initiative and ReAct Regional Nodes, released videos during WAAW showcasing case studies in Indonesia, Zambia, and Ecuador leveraging food systems to reduce antimicrobial use](#), along with an [FAO fact sheet on policymakers' action importance on AMR in agrifood systems](#).