

**PRIME MINISTER OF  
VIETNAM**

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No. 1121/QĐ-TTg

**SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM**  
**Independence - Freedom – Happiness**

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*Hanoi, September 25, 2023*

## **DECISION**

**APPROVAL OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR PREVENTION AND CONTROL  
OF DRUG RESISTANCE IN VIETNAM FOR THE PERIOD OF 2023 – 2030 WITH A  
VISION TOWARDS 2045**

### **THE PRIME MINISTER OF VIETNAM**

*Pursuant to the Law on Governmental Organization dated June 19, 2015; Law on  
amendments to the Law on Governmental Organization and the Law on Local  
Government Organization dated November 22, 2019;*

*Pursuant to the Law on Medical Examination and Treatment dated November 23, 2009;*

*Pursuant to the Law on Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS dated June 29, 2006 and  
Law on amendments to the Law on Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS dated November  
16, 2020;*

*Pursuant to the Law on Veterinary Medicine dated June 19, 2015;*

*Pursuant to the Law on Fisheries dated November 21, 2017;*

*Pursuant to the Law on Animal Husbandry dated November 19, 2018;*

*Pursuant to the Law on Crop Production dated November 19, 2018;*

*Pursuant to the National Strategy for the people's health protection, care and promotion  
for the period of 2011-2020 with a vision towards 2030;*

*At the request of the Minister of Health.*

### **HEREBY DECIDES:**

**Article 1.** The national strategy for prevention and control of drug resistance in Vietnam for the period of 2023 – 2030 with a vision towards 2045 (hereinafter referred to as “the Strategy”) shall be approved with the following contents:

#### **I. POINTS OF VIEW**

1. Rational, safe and responsible use of antimicrobials in humans, animals and plants is the fundamental solution to solve drug resistance.
2. Prevention and control of drug resistance is the urgent, regular, long-term task and the core responsibility of health and agriculture sectors.
3. Prevention of communicable diseases and control of bacterial contamination need to be proactive, capacity for prevention, detection, diagnosis, treatment and supervision of drug resistance, use and consumption of antimicrobial drugs in humans and animals.

## **II. OBJECTIVES AND VISION**

### 1. General objective

Slow the progression of drug resistance and prevent and control the spread of drug-resistant microorganisms and communicable diseases, while ensuring the availability and continuity of antimicrobial drugs and the reasonable use of antimicrobial drugs to effectively treat communicable diseases in humans and animals, contributing to the protection, care and improvement of human and animal health, environmental protection and economic and social development of the country.

### 2. Specific objectives and criteria by 2030

a) Objective 1: Improve the awareness of local authorities and knowledge of health workforce, veterinary workforce and the people of prevention and control of drug resistance.

- Criteria 1: 100% of provinces and central-affiliated cities will have plans for prevention and control of drug resistance for the period of 2023 - 2030 approved and granted budgets for implementation in 2025, which will be remained unchanged to 2030.

- Criteria 2: The percentage of adults and mothers having appropriate knowledge about drug resistance will reach at least 50% by 2025 and at least 60% by 2030 and the percentage of health workforce and veterinary workforce having appropriate knowledge about drug resistance will reach at least 60% by 2025 and at least 70% by 2030.

b) Objective 2: Improve the drug surveillance system to promptly warn about the emergence, spread, level and trend of drug resistance of microorganisms.

- Criteria 1: Regarding the national surveillance system for drug resistance in humans: in each province, at least 01 hospital will participate in the system by 2025 and at least 02 hospitals will participate by 2030; in central hospitals, the percentage of central hospitals participating in the system will reach 50% by 2025 and 100% by 2030; 03 national reference laboratories for drug resistance will be upgraded by 2025 and at least 03 new national reference laboratories will be built by 2030 and the surveillance of drug

resistance of microorganisms in the community will be carried out by 2025 and continue to expand by 2030.

- Criteria 2: Regarding the national surveillance system for drug resistance in animals: at least 01 reference laboratory and 03 central-level testing laboratories involved in drug resistance surveillance in animal husbandry and aquaculture will be established by 2025 and 02 more central-level testing laboratories involved in drug resistance surveillance in animal husbandry and aquaculture will be established by 2030.

- Criteria 3: at least 90% of officials involved in the national surveillance system for drug resistance in health and agriculture sectors will be professionally trained in culture methods, identification and antibiograms, and stewardship of drug resistance surveillance data.

- Criteria 4: Reports on the national drug resistance surveillance will be annually published from 2023.

c) Objective 3: Reduce the spread of microorganisms and communicable diseases.

- Criteria 1: The percentage of hospitals which set up criteria and implement plans for control of drug resistance levels of pathogenic bacteria commonly found in hospitals; compliance with good practice in infection control, prevention and biosecurity ((ICPB) will reach at least 40% by 2025 and 70% by 2030 (for province-level hospitals and central-level hospitals); at least 20% by 2025 and 40% by 2030 (for district-level hospitals).

- Criteria 2: The percentage of hospitals which perform microbiological techniques to diagnose, treat and monitor drug resistance will reach at least 40% by 2025 and 70% by 2030 (for province-level hospitals and central-level hospitals); at least 15% by 2025 and 30% by 2030 (for district-level hospitals).

- Criteria 3: The percentage of hospitals which implement proactive surveillance of healthcare-associated infections and implement interventions to reduce the incidence of these infections in hospitals will reach at least 50% by 2025 and 80% by 2030 (for province-level hospitals and central-level hospitals); at least 20% by 2025 and 40% by 2030 (for district-level hospitals).

d) Objective 4: Rationally, safely and responsibly use antimicrobial drugs in humans and animals.

- Criteria 1: The percentage of hospitals of districts, wards and higher which execute the antibiotic stewardship program will reach at least 30% by 2025 and 50% by 2030.

- Criteria 2: The percentage of veterinary clinics which comply with instructions for antibiotic use of animal health authorities will reach at least 10% by 2025 and 20% by 2030.

- Criteria 3: The national surveillance system for use and consumption of antibiotics in humans and animals will be set up by 2025 and extended by 2030.

### 3. A vision toward 2045

By 2045, the drug resistance is expected to be basically controlled, and the surveillance system for drug resistance, antibiotic use and consumption is expected to be as effective as that of developed countries.

## III. SPECIFIC TASKS AND SOLUTIONS

### 1. Interdisciplinary cooperation in action to prevent and control drug resistance

- a) Establish a common action framework acting as a ground for multidisciplinary collaboration, coordination, implementation and monitoring of actions according to specific responsibilities of each sector.
- b) Develop and implement action plans for each field of health, agriculture, environment or industry and trade to address causes of drug resistance in respective fields.
- c) As for provinces and central-affiliated cities, proactively implement prevention and control of drug resistance on the basis of objectives, tasks and solutions of the strategy, in combination with their criteria and tasks of socio-economic development and take priority over allocation of annual funds for implementation thereof.
- d) Supplement and complete regulations and effectively maintain regulations on interdisciplinary cooperation and share of information on antimicrobial drug resistance, use and consumption between ministries, central authorities and relevant partners of from central authorities to local authorities.
- dd) Develop a monitoring and evaluation indicators for the National Strategy for drug resistance prevention and control in the fields of health, agriculture, industry and trade and environment.

### 2. Policies, laws and professional regulations

- a) Review, study and complete policies, laws, technical standards and regulations, professional instructions on prevention and control of communicable diseases, control of bacterial contamination, diagnosis and treatment, use of antimicrobial drugs, biosecurity in health and agriculture sectors.
- b) Review, study and complete policies, laws, technical standards and regulations, professional instructions on animal husbandry and aquaculture practices; food production and processing; waste management and treatment of medical examination and treatment facilities, livestock and aquaculture facilities and food processing facilities to control antibiotic residues and drug-resistant microorganisms.

c) Review, study and complete policies and laws in order to manage and handle cases of using or selling antimicrobial drugs without prescription; medical examination and treatment facilities prescribing antibiotics for the wrong purpose or overusing antibiotics in treating patients, and failing to comply with instructions on diagnosis and treatment of the Ministry of Health of Vietnam.

### 3. Information, communications and social mobilization

a) Improve communication, education and awareness of the people about causes of drug resistance, consequences of drug resistance and measures for drug resistance prevention and control; maintain commitments of individuals and society to behavior change for responsible use of antimicrobial drugs, stop for overuse and use of antimicrobial drugs for the wrong purpose; promote healthy behaviors to prevent infection and its spreading, pay attention to health workforce, veterinary workforce, livestock farmers and aquaculture farmers, mothers, women and students.

b) Disseminate and mobilize authorities, organizations, health workforce, veterinary workforce and the people to effectuate policies, laws, instructions and recommendations on drug resistance prevention and control via information and communications networks of from central authorities to local authorities.

c) Study, develop and provide communication programs and materials for drug resistance prevention and control in conformity with communication methods and target audiences, pay attention to formulate key messages and new messages on drug resistance to have a strong impact on society.

### 4. Solutions to strengthen the surveillance system for drug resistance, use and consumption of antimicrobial drugs in humans, animals, environment and trading

a) Promote ability of surveillance systems for drug resistance in humans, animals and the community; monitor the use and consumption of antimicrobial drugs to act as evidence for formulation and adjustment of instructions and prompt intervention activities at national and intramural levels.

b) Review and update professional instructions on prevention, diagnosis and treatment of communicable diseases, rational and safe use of antibiotics; use of antimicrobial drugs as a priority choice in human health care; control of bacterial contamination, surveillance of resistance, use and consumption of antimicrobial drugs.

c) Establish and maintain national databases on drug resistance, use and consumption of antimicrobial drugs in humans, animals and environment.

d) Formulate national standards and instructions relating to drug resistance surveillance and consistently implement them in health and veterinary fields.

dd) Develop clinical pharmacy work, execute the antibiotic stewardship program, manage drug prescriptions and sell prescription drugs.

e) Carry out surveillance of prescription antibiotic sales by drug retailers.

#### 5. Solutions for human resources

a) Develop regulations and policies for attracting human resources in intensive care, communicable diseases, microbiology, clinical pharmacists, communicable control, and veterinary medicine.

b) Review, supplement and update contents about drug resistance prevention and control in teaching and training programs of schools training on human and animal health.

c) Develop training programs, training materials and organize capacity-building training for doctors, microbiologists, pharmacists, nurses, infection preventionists, veterinary workforce and relevant workforce on prevention, diagnosis and treatment of communicable diseases, rational and safe use of antibiotics; use of antimicrobial drugs as a priority choice in human health care; surveillance of resistance, use and consumption of antimicrobial drugs.

#### 6. Solutions for financial issues

Funding sources for implementation include state budget and other legal sources, in which the state budget plays the leading role, with appropriate regulations to attract human resources of organizations, enterprises, individuals and international organizations.

#### 7. Solutions for scientific researches

a) Strengthen capacity for research on evaluating drug use and drug resistance, especially research on multidrug-resistant bacteria, and deploy interventions to promote rational use of antibiotics.

b) Continue to support and take priority over scientific researches on communicable diseases in humans, animals, aquatic products, and promote relationships between partners and research facilities, hospitals, and universities.

c) Encourage, strengthen and create relationships with partners supporting in developing researches on development of antimicrobial drugs, antibacterial substances derived from traditional medicinal herbs and new diagnostic methods.

d) Speed up researches, transfer of new technologies for diagnosis and treatment of communicable diseases, microbiological testing, quality management of microbiological testing at hospitals, preventive medicine facilities, testing and treatment facilities for animal and aquatic diseases.

dd) Carry out surveys in 2023 to collect initial data on drug resistance prevention and control and surveys in 2030 to act as the basis for evaluating results of the Strategy.

#### 8. Solutions for cooperation strengthening

a) Strengthen cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the US Centers for Disease Control ( U.S. CDC), Family Health International (FHI-360), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), National Center for Global Health and Medicine (NCGM-Japan) and agencies, other domestic and international organizations to support and promote the implementation of the Strategy; integrate international cooperation projects with the Strategy's activities to achieve the objectives.

b) Participate and maintain international reporting systems: Global Antimicrobial Resistance and Use Surveillance System (GLASS), Western Pacific Regional Antimicrobial Consumption Surveillance System (WPRACSS) by 2027 and Tracking Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Country Self- Assessment Survey (TrACSS) by 2023 and cooperate with relevant units in promoting research cooperation: evaluate the use of antibiotics, antivirals and antiparasitics; Research on drug resistance, especially research on multidrug-resistant bacteria.

c) Improve international cooperation, exchange and share of experiences, participate in conferences, meetings, scientific forums on prevention and control of communicable diseases, rationally use drugs for humans and animals, prevent hospital-acquired infections, check the quality of microbiological and drug resistance tests.

d) Encourage participating in international cooperation researches relating to drug resistance prevention and control.

#### **IV. KEY SCHEMES**

1. Scheme on raising the community's awareness, intensifying the national surveillance system for drug resistance, use and consumption of antimicrobial drugs, intensifying antibiotic stewardship in health sector for the period of 2024 – 2030, which is developed and implemented by the Ministry of Health.

2. Scheme on raising the community's awareness, intensifying the national surveillance system for drug resistance, use and consumption of antimicrobial drugs, intensifying antibiotic stewardship in veterinary sector for the period of 2024 – 2030, which is developed and implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

3. Scheme on environment-related drug resistance surveillance for the period of 2024 - 2030, which is developed and implemented by the Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment.

## **Article 2. Resources and organization of implementation of the Strategy**

1. Resources: Funds for the implementation of the Strategy shall be allocated from state budget according to applicable government budget hierarchy and other lawful funding sources in compliance with regulations of the Law on State Budget and relevant legal documents.

2. Assignment of responsibilities for implementation of the Strategy

a) The Ministry of Health shall

- Take charge and cooperate with ministers, ministerial agencies, Governmental agencies, and the People's Committees of provinces and central-affiliated cities in organizing implementation of the Strategy in the whole country; sum up partially the implementation of the Strategy after 5 years and propose to the Prime Minister to decide to adjust the Strategy to suit the practical situation if necessary and summarize and evaluate results of the implementation thereof in 2030.

- Preside over formulating, approving and implementing the Scheme on raising the community's awareness, intensifying the national surveillance system for drug resistance, use and consumption of antimicrobial drugs, intensifying antibiotic stewardship in health sector for the period of 2024 – 2030.

- Preside over guiding, inspecting, evaluating and reporting the implementation of the Strategy after 5 years to the Prime Minister, and summarize and evaluate results of the implementation of the Strategy in 2030.

b) The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development shall implement objectives, tasks and solutions within their jurisdiction and preside over formulating, approving and implementing the Scheme on raising the community's awareness, intensifying the national surveillance system for drug resistance, use and consumption of antimicrobial drugs, intensifying antibiotic stewardship in veterinary sector for the period of 2024 – 2030.

c) The Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment shall implement objectives, tasks and solutions within their jurisdiction and preside over formulating, approving and implementing the Scheme on environment-related drug resistance surveillance for the period of 2024 -2030.

d) The Ministry of Industry and Trade shall implement objectives, tasks and solutions of the Strategy within their jurisdiction.

dd) The Ministry of Planning and Investment and the Ministry of Finance shall take charge and cooperate with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the Ministry

of Industry and Trade in balancing and allocating state budget to effectively implement contents of the Strategy and the key Schemes.

e) The Ministry of Information and Communications shall take charge and cooperate with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the Ministry of Industry and Trade in strengthening guidance and direction for mass media agencies to promote and innovate communication and educational activities to change awareness and behavior on drug resistance prevention and control, rational and safe use of antimicrobial drugs.

g) Ministries, ministerial agencies, Governmental agencies shall implement objectives, tasks and solutions of the Strategy within their jurisdiction.

h) The People's Committees of provinces and central-affiliated cities shall organize implementation of objectives, tasks and solutions of the Strategy; cooperate in implementing the key Schemes of the Strategy in their provinces. The provincial People's Councils shall allocate funds from local government budgets to carry out contents of the Strategy under their responsibilities according to regulations on state budget hierarchy.

i) Recommend that the Vietnam Fatherland Front, socio-political organizations, socio-professional organizations, media agencies, enterprises and people are responsible for participating in drug resistance prevention and control, rationally using antimicrobial drugs in accordance with professional regulations, organizing policy reviews and monitoring drug resistance prevention and control.

**Article 3.** This Decision comes into force from the day on which it is signed.

**Article 4.** Ministers, Heads of ministerial agencies, Heads of Governmental agencies, Heads of relevant agencies and Presidents of the People's Committees of provinces and central-affiliated cities and organizations are responsible for implementation of this Decision.

**PP. PRIME MINISTER  
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER**

**Tran Hong Ha**

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