

# ***How the Nordic Council supports One Health***

***Network for Evaluation of One Health  
(NEOH) stakeholder meeting,***

***Brussels, 16 February 2016***

# Nordic council & One Health

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## Disposition:

- **Who is the Nordic Council?**
- **How does the Nordic Council support One Health?**
- **Further emphasis on One Health/What next?**

# The Nordic Council

- the official inter-parliamentary body in the Nordic Region.
  - established in 1952
  - 87 elected members from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden as well as from the Faroe Islands, Greenland and Åland
  - 16 from Denmark + 2 from Greenland + 2 from Faroe Islands
  - 18 from Finland + 2 from Åland Islands
  - 7 from Iceland
  - 20 each from Norway & Sweden
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# The Nordic Council

- No legislative power, but recommends the Nordic governments or the Nordic Council of Ministers (11) to act jointly in matters of Nordic concern
- Structured into a presidium and four thematic committees
  - **Committee for Knowledge & Culture in the Nordic Region**
  - **Committee for Growth & Development in the Nordic Region**
  - **Committee for a Sustainable Nordic Region**
  - **Committee for Welfare in the Nordic Region**and
  - **Control Committee & Election Committee**

Meets 5(6) times/annually, 2 Plenary sessions, rotating presidency

# The Nordic Council

Members of the Nordic council are organised into party groups:

- **The Centre group (25)**
- **The Conservative group (17)**
- **The Left-Wing Socialist Green Group (7)**
- **The Social Democrat Group (25)**
- **Nordic Freedom (7)**
- **Unaffiliated political parties (6)**





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Nordic Council

# ***The Nordic Council and One Health***

# The Nordic Council and One Health

- The Parliamentary focus - The Nordic Council process
- The Governmental focus:
  - The proposal for *The Future Nordic Co-operation on Health*
  - Declaration on Antimicrobial resistance through a One Health perspective

# The Nordic Council and One Health

- the One Health-concept in relation to Antibiotic resistance promoted on Nordic level by the Nordic council in 2011
- an initiative by the Social Democrat Group which led to a recommendation to the Nordic governments
  - to promote One Health and a responsible use of Antibiotics at the EU-level; **DK-presidency conference 2012**
- by recommending the Nordic Council of Ministers
  - Organise a joint Nordic Expert Conference on *One Health* – **Several conferences**
  - Develop a Nordic Action Plan on *One Health in the Nordic Region* in order to put/keep this on the global agenda – **still to be done**





## The Nordic Council and One Health

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When processing the proposal into a Recommendation, some of the **preparatory** work included:

- Conferences/seminars where One Health as well as Resistance were presented to the Parliamentarians
- Nordic Expert Group put together a “**Nordic Model of One Health**”:
  - the cornerstones of **Prevention, Monitoring**, prompt **Action** and focus on **Research & Education** and **Information**
  - with examples on how the Nordic countries – in coherence with the *One Health*-model – work cross-sectorally in a close cooperation between research, authorities and industry

# The Nordic Council and One Health

Follow up:

- Cooperation with the European Parliament
  - National Members of Parliament & European Members of Parliament
- European Seminar in the European Parliament with best Nordic practise on rational use of antibiotics
- Articles in the European News
  - The Parliament Magazine
- Continuous efforts in relation to **European Legislation** Animal Health, Veterinary Medicin, etc.



# *The Future Nordic Co-operation on Health 1(2)*

The proposal for *The Future Nordic Co-operation on Health* includes:

as Proposal 1: **Vigorous measures against the increasing antibiotic resistance:**

*the Nordic countries must, within the EU, WHO and UN, work for a rapid implementation of a programme against today's unreasonably high use of antibiotics, and to strengthen systems and co-operation structures that can help to develop new antibiotics and provide rewards for developing new antibiotics.*



# *The Future Nordic Co-operation on Health 2(2)*

Three points in the programme should be:

- Introduction of **prescription requirement**, and a **stop to bonuses** for doctors and hospitals that prescribe antibiotics. Also, **stop** veterinary surgeons from **selling the antibiotics they prescribe**.
- All countries should **introduce regulations and targets** to reduce their own use.
- **Strong incentives** for **development of new antibiotics**. In the coming 5 years, the rich countries should annually allocate SEK 15 billion to strengthening systems and co-operation structures that can help to develop new antibiotics, and for rewards to those who discover and develop new drugs of this type.

# Declaration on Antimicrobial resistance through a One Health perspective



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Nordic Council of Ministers

Nordic Council of **Ministers for Health and Social Affairs** adopted a joint Declaration the 9 September 2015:

recalling:

*The importance of a "**One Health**" holistic approach to the growing problem of resistance to antimicrobial agents through the cooperation between sectors*

A **strengthened Nordic cooperation** as addressed in "[The Future Nordic Co-operation on Health](#)"[1] **on antimicrobial resistance in order to maintain a low level of antimicrobial resistance** in the Nordic countries and in order to influence other countries to promote a prudent use of antimicrobials and to prevent further spread of resistant bacteria.

# Declaration on Antimicrobial resistance through a One Health perspective



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Nordic Council of Ministers

Agrees to strengthen the Nordic collaboration :

- Establishing a Nordic "One Health" strategic group of senior officials

Agrees to use the Nordic collaboration to support the work being coordinated internationally in e.g. the EU, WHO, FAO and OIE in order to address antimicrobial resistance:

- Entrust the above mentioned Nordic "One Health" strategic group to further elaborate on ways to use the Nordic collaboration to support the global processes



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Nordic Council

**What's next?**

# What's next?

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Still need for political focus:

On the NORDIC level

- Group of Senior Officials still to be appointed – mandate in progress
- Further cross-sectoral cooperation needed – mainly human and veterinary health cooperation so far
- Bigger Picture of One Health – beyond antimicrobial resistance



# What's next?

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On the European/GLOBAL level

- Continuous efforts needed for restrictive and rational use of antibiotics AT ALL LEVELS
- The Bigger Picture of One Health - beyond antimicrobial resistance



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**Thank you!**

**Questions?**

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