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Press Release

“Join the Fight Against Antimicrobial Resistance”

-Deputy Director Beyslow Urges University Students’



(November 26, 2024: Monrovia, Liberia): At the University Students' Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Day celebration, Dr. Teedoh Beyslow, Deputy Director of Pharmacovigilance and Clinical Trials at the Liberia Medicines and Health Products Regulatory Authority (LMHRA), delivered a powerful address about the escalating threat of AMR during an event organized by Consummate Health & Sanitation in Monrovia.

Representing LMHRA Managing Director Dr. Luke L. Bawo, Dr. Beyslow highlighted the urgent need for global collaboration to address AMR, stating: “This is a concern that transcends borders, affects all communities, and can render many medical procedures ineffective.” He explained that AMR arises when pathogens evolve to resist treatments, posing grave risks to public health.

He cautioned that if we do not take action, AMR could cause up to 10 million deaths annually by 2050. “This figure represents lives that could be saved with responsible use of our antimicrobial resources,” he stressed.

Delivering the Keynote Address, Dr. Beyslow examined the vital roles of various antimicrobials, such as antibiotics, antivirals, antifungals, antiparasitics, and disinfectants, in healthcare and agriculture. He warned: “While these agents are crucial for treating infections and preventing disease, their misuse can diminish their effectiveness.”

He pointed out that overuse and misuse are major contributors to AMR, citing issues like inappropriate antibiotic prescriptions for viral infections and insufficient infection control measures. “These practices create an environment where resistance can flourish,” he noted.

Dr. Beyslow outlined the serious consequences of AMR, including longer hospital stays, higher healthcare costs, and increased mortality rates, emphasizing that resistant infections threaten the advancements in medical treatments that depend on effective antimicrobials.

To tackle this complex challenge, he called for a comprehensive global response, highlighting the need for educational initiatives to empower both communities and healthcare professionals. “We must foster a culture of responsibility and stewardship in our antimicrobial use,” he urged.

He also underscored the necessity of international collaboration, stating: “AMR knows no borders and demands coordinated strategies from governments and organizations around the globe.”

In conclusion, Dr. Beyslow encouraged collective action in the fight against AMR. “Together, we can ensure our antimicrobial resources remain effective for future generations,” he said, inspiring attendees to become advocates in this crucial health endeavor.

The event highlighted not only the severity of AMR but also the importance of community participation in safeguarding public health in Liberia and beyond. Many attendees left inspired, committing to raise awareness and take personal responsibility in the battle against AMR.

World Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week (WAAW) 2024, organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), was being observed from November 18–24, 2024, under the theme: “Educate, Advocate, Act Now!”