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## Annual Report 2022

Dear Members of the Round Table on Antibiotics,

The year 2022 was marked by major changes also in our association's function and structure; some call it a tipping point. The still ongoing effects of the pandemic and the escalation of the war in Ukraine have put the issues of (pandemic) preparedness and security of supply at the center of political discussions. The events of this and previous years have made it impressively clear that the supply of medicinal and medical products, energy, food, but also territorial sovereignty are not givens but require diligent and timely preparedness and ongoing efforts at both national and international levels. The Round Table on Antibiotics supports or drives measures that are conducive to the containment of the silent pandemic driven by antimicrobial resistance, ensure timely availability of novel therapeutic solutions, and help ensure that existing essential anti-infectives are available in sufficient quantities to meet patient needs.

Probably the most important course-setting event for 2022 and beyond was the strategy workshop in April. The aim of the workshop was to clarify the future role of the Round Table on Antibiotics, its contribution to combat or overcome antimicrobial resistance, and the organization required to make it happen. Dr. Lukas Bruhin, former secretary of the Federal Department of Home Affairs and acting Head of the Swissmedic Council moderated the full-day workshop with representatives of the Board of Directors but also external participants excellently. I would like to mention three key outcomes. First, we sharpened the mission statement of the Round Table on Antibiotics:

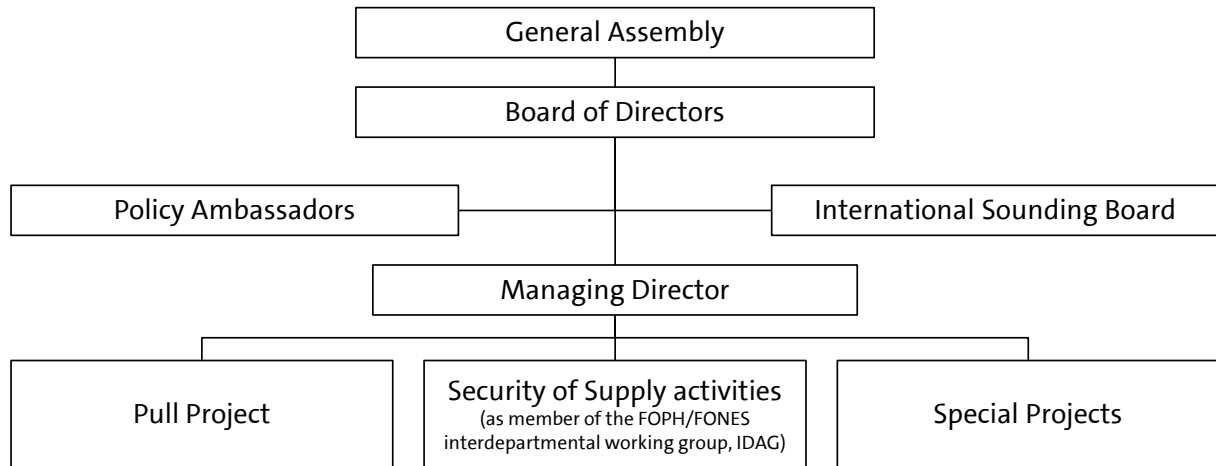
*We promote public awareness of the increasing prevalence of antimicrobial resistance and the need to take countermeasures, support policy-making, and facilitate multidisciplinary projects. We focus on:*

- *Financial incentive models that facilitate the development and commercialisation of new antimicrobial technologies.*
- *Measures to ensure the supply of new and existing antibiotics to patients in Switzerland and worldwide.*

*We are committed to Switzerland and are involved in international initiatives.*

The implementation of this mission required more staff, financial resources and resulted in a clearer organizational structure (see Figure 1).

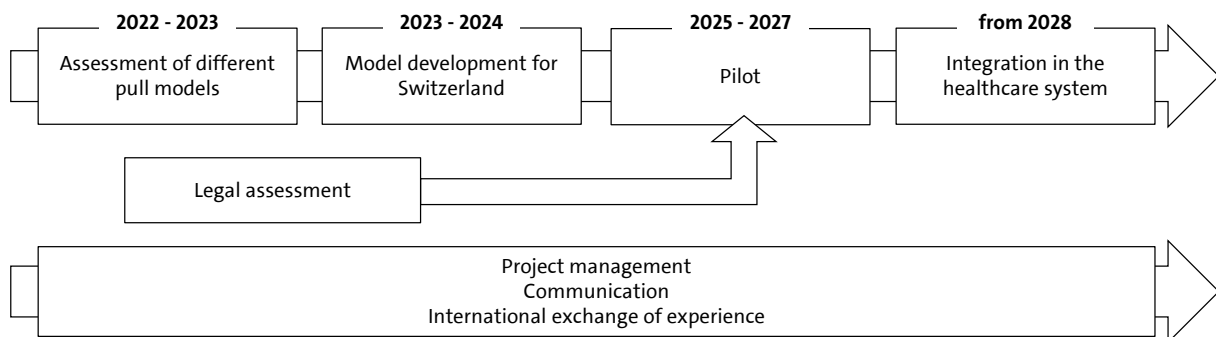
Figure 1: Organization chart of the Round Table on Antibiotics



Workshop participants concluded that the Roundtable on Antibiotics should leverage the extensive knowledge and experience represented in its bodies to attract motivated staff and to obtain the financial resources needed to fulfill its mission. This includes calling for financial contributions from the public, government and private sectors. This approach will enable the association to identify and drive innovative ways for Switzerland to create sustainable incentives for investment in antimicrobial research and development (R&D).

Therefore, in the fall of 2022, we launched the ambitious Pull project, which pursues a Swiss contribution to international efforts to revitalize the development of new antibiotics through so-called pull incentive systems. These are intended to generate revenue, irrespective of the volume of product sold, in a magnitude that will make investment in research and development attractive and secure product supply in Switzerland. The project consists of six modules (see Figure 2). The first module is about identifying the appropriate base pull model, which we determine based on previous published work, consideration of pilots already launched, and input from policy and industry experts. The model must develop an incentive effect, meet with acceptance from industry and policymakers, but also be able to be implemented in a timely manner. The second module is about specifying this model for its implementation in Switzerland, initially in a pilot setting, and eventually as a standard reimbursement vehicle in the Swiss healthcare system.

Figure 2: Project modules of Pull Project



Such activities would not be possible without the brains and hands behind the scenes. In the summer of 2022, we were able to win a true expert and highly motivated person for the position of Managing Director: Barbara Polek has almost 40 years of experience in the pharmaceutical industry, especially in the important area of supply chain management. She brings all her experience, but above all her motivation, to

the Round Table on Antibiotics and is the driving force behind the now numerous project and communication activities of the association. Thanks to significant in-kind contributions of the Board of Directors, the Managing Director and many members and supporters, we have been able to establish a functioning IT infrastructure, redesign the website, hire our first paid employee, start the Pull project, contribute to a feature on Swiss television news (SRF 10vor10), be represented in radio interviews, publish our *Roadmap to Pull* in time for World Antimicrobial Awareness Week, reach out to numerous stakeholders and attracting industry funding.

The members of the association are of great importance. Many provide substantial in-kind but also financial contributions which are paramount for the further and successful pursuit of the Pull project and all other activities. As ordinary members, we could win the following personalities until today: Daniel Probst (EPFL), Franz von Heeren (Teva Pharmaceuticals), Peter Beyer (GARDP), Philippe Luchsinger (mfe Haus- und Kinderärzte Schweiz), Kevin Outterson (CARB-X), Damiano de Felice (CARB-X), Brigitte Franke-Bray (Consultant in pharmaceutical medicine), Franziska Bächler (Dr. iur., Scientific Director, University of Basel), and Marcel Mesnil (PharmaSuisse). We were also very pleased to welcome the following organizations and individuals as associated members: Roche Pharma (Schweiz) AG (Remo Christen), F. Hoffmann-La Roche AG (Kunal Samanta), AMR Action Fund (Deepali Patel), SFL Regulatory Affairs & Scientific Communication GmbH (Nathalie Schober-Ladani), BioVersys (Marc Gitzinger and Jonathan J. Butcher), A. Menarini GmbH (Daniel Roth), and Angelo Frei (University of Bern). At last, we welcome new representatives at Pfizer (Switzerland) AG where Martin Höhener replaced Michael Goldenberg and at Interpharma iph where Catherine Haberthür replaced Heiner Sandmeier.

I would like to express my gratitude for the financial donations received in 2022 from the CEPA Foundation (Rudolf Blankart: 600 CHF), the Spital Club Solothurn (Bea Heim: 800 CHF), a private donor (70 CHF), The Commonwealth Fund through University of Bern (14'600 USD), and Pfizer (Schweiz) AG (25'000 CHF), which render our activities possible. Furthermore we received commitments of further substantial donations. Overall, though, the in-kind contributions are still substantially higher than the cash contributions and donations.

The income statement (see Table 1) and the balance sheet (see Table 2) relate to the activities of the association, which are financially compensated, i.e., they do not reflect the significant in-kind contributions. With income totaling 28'537 CHF, we were able to show a small profit of 93 CHF. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our responsible for finance & accounting, Barbara Leib, for setting up the financial report, and our auditor, Achim Kaufhold, who audited the accounts this year (see Figure 3).

Table 1: Income statement

<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>2021</b>
Projects	7'539.00	26.5%	--
Salaries	3'896.30	13.7%	--
Social securities	1'251.20	4.4%	--
Office Supplies	299.00	1.1%	--
Accounting, Administration	2'900.00	10.2%	--
Expenses Board	376.00	1.3%	--
Website & IT	11'501.28	40.4%	--
Marketing & Communication	590.75	2.1%	84.00
Financial costs	90.00	0.3%	90.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>28'443.53</b>		<b>174.00</b>

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>2021</b>
Other revenue	--		1'200.00
Donations	28'537.00	100.0%	84.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>28'537.00</b>		<b>1'284.00</b>
Profit	93.47	0.3%	1'110.00

Table 2: Balance sheet

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>31.12.22</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>31.12.21</b>
Postfinance account	23'042.67	34.1%	15'480.00
Due from Sponsors or Debtors	44'567.00	65.9%	-.-
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>67'609.67</b>		<b>15'480.00</b>


  

<b>LIABILITIES</b>	<b>31.12.22</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>31.12.21</b>
Transitory liabilities	9'536.20	14.1%	-.-
Provisions	55'000.00	81.3%	12'500.00
Foundation Capital	2'000.00	3.0%	2'000.00
Profit (Loss) carried forward	980.00	1.4%	-130.00
Profit	93.47	0.1%	1'110.00
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>67'609.67</b>		<b>15'480.00</b>

Figure 3: Auditor's opinion

**Auditor's opinion**

**Based on the review of the bank statements, I verify the accuracy of the transactions. The financial statements are free of material misstatements so that I recommend their approval.**



**Achim Kaufhold**

Finally, I would like to point out two policy communication highlights. First, we were able to build on the political activities of previous years and helped to organize a non-partisan information event hosted by Councillor of States Maya Graf, National Councillors Brigitte Crottaz, Patricia von Falkenstein, Michel Matter and Benjamin Roduit. Second, we have issued our Roadmap to Pull, a paper that we distributed to all parliamentarians and important decision makers in the administration. You find detailed reports and the documents on our new website that we have launched just before the World Antimicrobial Awareness Week in November 2022.



Rudolf Blankart  
President of the Round Table on Antibiotics