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Practical Review on Alternatives to Antibiotic Growth Promoters in Poultry

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Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is an important issue worldwide due to human and animal health. The countries in the Asia-Pacific region, namely, Australia, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand and Vietnam, attended the occasion of the Tokyo Meeting of Health Ministers on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) held in Japan, 16 April 2016 (Communiqué of Tokyo Meeting of Health Ministers on Antimicrobial Resistance in Asia, 2016). All countries committed to control the AMR and it must be implemented as “Comprehensive National Action Plan” and Real Activities for each countries.

Previous studies of AMR in Indonesia showed that there was a relationship between the frequent use of antibiotics and the occurrence of resistance of bacteria (Escherichia coli was used as an indicator). The bacteria showed multiple drug resistance properties and frequently found among poultry and pig farms where the antibiotics used as growth promoters or applied as “flushing” treatments during in the production period. Since January 2018 the use of antibiotics as growth promoters is prohibited.

The use of pre-, pro- and post biotic together with the implementation of good biosecurity, vaccinations, immune prophylaxis revealed to be among the most promising alternatives and approaches to prevent infections and depress the occurrence of AMR.