

Dr Abdul Ghafur
Coordinator, Chennai Declaration
Consultant in Infectious Diseases
Apollo Speciality Hospital, Padma Complex
320 Anna Salai
Chennai, India

20 June 2013

Re: ESCMID endorsement of the Chennai Declaration

Dear Dr Ghafur,

On behalf of our society, we are pleased to endorse and support the “Chennai Declaration”. The meeting and the resulting document are a major achievement defining the framework to deal with the problem of antimicrobial resistance – an issue which has always been a core topic of ESCMID’s mission and activities. Your achievement also exemplifies what can be reached by bringing all major stakeholders at one table. We are already publicising and promoting the Declaration through our channels and will help in lobbying for the implementation of its recommendations.

We are looking into the future with the words of our this year’s ESCMID Excellence Awardee, Professor Patrice Nordmann: “We are seeing the number of infections resisting most known antibiotics explode, and there are genuine fears that we could return to the times when antibiotics did not exist which could risk a paralysis of modern medicine. [...] When faced with such a worrying scenario there is a pressing need for increased investment in innovative research, as well as coordinated action between countries.” The Chennai Declaration is clearly a worldwide signal and a basis to build internationally coordinated action on.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



Prof Gunnar Kahlmeter
ESCMID President



Prof Murat Akova
ESCMID President-elect