

This Chapter was approved by PHM Steering Council on 27 April, 2022 during its annual meeting held in Madrid, Spain.

Chapter 5: Thematic Circles

PHM developed the Health For All Campaign to serve as an umbrella for campaigns and activism around priority thematic areas. The role of PHM is to facilitate a process among activists coming together under each Thematic Circle to foster solidarity, exchanges, alliance building and joint interventions and campaigns to build a strong progressive movement for the right to health at global, regional and country levels.

I Coordination: Each thematic circle generally has two coordinators. The coordinators are decided by the members of the thematic circle. The thematic circles will inform the Steering Council of their decision through the SC representative of the program.

- a. The coordinators are appointed for a period decided by the circle, preferably a three-year term.
- b. Thematic circle can decide to select more than two coordinators if this eases their functioning. In such cases, the two coordinators informed to the Steering Council will remain the nodal persons for communication between the thematic circle, the SC and the global Secretariat.
- c. The Global Secretariat administers the listerves of the thematic circles. The thematic circle can decide on the member/s from the thematic circle who will own and manage the listserv in addition to the GS members appointed to support them.
- d. There should be a strong relationship and coordination between thematic circles, the GS and the SC. The thematic circles are represented in the SC by the Health For All Campaign (HFAC) representative. The HFAC representative is expected to coordinate with Global Coordinator and the Global Secretariat and the thematic circles. The Global Secretariat will support the thematic circle and the HFAC representative for day-to-day functioning and follow-up.

II. Participants/membership:

1. Any person on the thematic circle e-group/listserv is considered a member of the thematic circle. The level of engagement of various members might vary. If a thematic group so desires, the coordinators can ask members who have been silent whether they wish to continue, and drop names of those who communicate unwillingness to continue.
2. The thematic circle may constitute a core group to support the coordinators in developing the work of the circle. The coordinators are also expected to draw on the expertise of other members on specific topics as required.
3. It is expected that members of the circle are consulted on decisions communicated as decisions of the circle. Decisions can be communicated and taken through email communication. Where time-sensitive matters arise and a quick response is required, coordinators can take decisions and later report it to the circle.

4. The coordinators are expected to respond to requests from any of the governance structures, programs or other thematic circles on behalf the circle.
5. PHM activists can join a thematic circle by any of the following three options:
 - a. expressing their interest to their country or regional coordinator, who will then recommend them to the thematic circle coordinators.
 - b. expressing their interest to the point person of their affiliated network or PHM programs that they have been a part of, who will then recommend them to the thematic circle coordinators.
 - c. being proposed and seconded by any two members of the thematic circle.
6. In case of objections to somebody joining, the Global Coordinator and/or co-chairs would mediate a discussion to arrive at a conclusion.
7. New members will be added to the e-group.

III Functions of a thematic circle:

Circles are free to take on any activities they choose. The general guideline is that collective initiatives of the members of a thematic circle are more likely to make an impact.

There are two mandatory activities for a thematic circle:

- a) To update the content of its website page. It is desirable that most front-page content of the thematic group should not be more than three months old. For any activities/relevant articles to be put on the website, coordinators can request the designated person in the secretariat for help. It is expected that the thematic groups take ownership of the content that is put up on thematic webpage.
- b) To submit an Annual Report of the thematic circle to the SC through the HFAC representative.

1. A thematic circle may engage in the following activities:
 - a. Campaigns on specific issues related to the circle.
 - b. Developing policy briefs, position papers on relevant issues.
 - c. Draft statements for consideration by the SC. Thematic groups cannot release statements on behalf of PHM. SC is expected to respond in given time frame.
 - d. Contributions to the other global programs of PHM (WHO Watch and global health governance, GHW, IPHU).
 - e. Webinars, discussion platforms.

III. Financing:

- a. Thematic circles might raise resources that can support the work of the circle. Such instances are to be shared and coordinated with the Global Secretariat.
- b. The SC might make provision of seed resources for the work of the thematic circles depending on the availability of funds.
- c. Any funded project is subject to overall guidance from the SC, CoCo, and the PHM Finance Committee for financial management. It is subject to PHM

Handbook policies, such as PHM's ethical fund raising, gender and, grievance redressal policies.