

THE GLOBAL COUNCIL OF AFSMS

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WESTERN PACIFIC REGION**

**General Meeting
Association of Former
PAHO/WHO Staff Members
05 December 2024**

WHAT WENT BEFORE?

MARCH 2021 - 1st mtg, Focal Points of AFSMs

- 7 Associations, **diverse** needs and situations, **common** issues
- **Unity in Vision** for fellow retirees; support Members with benefits and entitlements (SHI, pension)

NEED FOR A STRATEGIC APPROACH AND COORDINATED ACTION

SEPTEMBER 2021 – Proposal to establish a Global Council was approved.



THE GLOBAL COUNCIL..

Established in 2021,

- **Members are AFSMs: HQ, AMRO/PAHO, AFRO, EMRO, EURO, SEARO & WPRO**
- **ROLE: NOT to govern, BUT to COORDINATE.**
- **A mechanism for CONSULTATION**
- **A STRONGER VOICE, when needed**
- **Meets twice a year, rotating Chairmanship**
- **Each AFSM is independent; is responsible for its affairs**



OBJECTIVES

- Provide mutual support
- Share information
- Promote AFSMs in regional offices
- Be the **COLLECTIVE VOICE** of retirees
- Support/promote work of who



GLOBAL COUNCIL: THE JOURNEY

AFSM/HQ GA, 6 Oct 2017 – “All former staff remain WHO family & welcome to contribute to WHO Objectives”. Once WHO, Always WHO (DG)

4th Global Council Mtg., 28 March 2023, “We should not only ask for your support for WHO but, as WHO your own Organization, we should also support you.” (DG)

Regions worked on official recognition by their respective Regional Administrations.

Global Mtgs, all Virtual, except in May 2024, on DG's invite, Global Council Mtg was held in Geneva prior to 77th WHA, 4 RDs present.



THE GLOBAL COUNCIL AT WORK

Virtual **Mtgs twice a year** – a Forum to:

- Update/inform on devts.; WHO support to AFSMs; status of recognition
- Agree on strategic action, reach consensus on ways forward
- Discussion on SHI, a regular feature

7th Meeting 25 Nov. – forward-looking, under over-all umbrella of sustainability; discuss potential collaborative activities between WHO and AFSMs to **strengthen institutionalization**, to ensure AFSMs' official recognition will be **binding** (as DG hoped)



THE AFSM WPR STORY

9 October 2023 - **MOU Signed**

22 Nov. 2023 - **IC #12 to all WPR Staff re AFSM, what it does & Regl Focal Points**

30 Jan. 2024 - DAF memo to WRs/CLOs to designate Focal Points to liaise with AFSM

14 March 2024 - WHO acct (AFSM Pres. Sec)

14 May 2024 - IC 07 on **Country Office Focal Points for AFSM**, with TORs; generic mailbox created for AFSM

1 Aug 2024 - BFO/SHI session conducted
AFSM granted access to info./WHO facilities related to health/well-being, etc...

THE GLOBAL COUNCIL

VISION:

ONCE WHO, ALWAYS WHO

GOAL: *“All former staff remain WHO family & welcome to contribute to WHO Objectives”*
(DG)

- Together, we are stronger
- Together, we are better equipped to serve our members better
- Together, we develop strategic action plans to inform, educate our members
- Together, we strive to be effective and valued partners of WHO

Only 3 years old, the Global Council is on its way to institutionalization.
Grateful to DG and the RDs

THANK YOU

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