

# ICMDA Global Special Interest Groups Policy

**Objective:** The International Christian Medical and Dental Association (ICMDA) recognizes the importance of fostering collaboration and engagement among its members through Special Interest Groups (SIGs). These groups aim to address specific areas of interest or expertise within the broader context of Christian medical and dental practice. This policy outlines the guidelines and procedures for the establishment, governance, and operation of Global Special Interest Groups within ICMDA.

## 1. Definition of Global Special Interest Groups (SIGs):

Global SIGs are voluntary, member-driven communities within ICMDA, organized around specific themes or areas of professional interest. They provide a platform for members to share knowledge, collaborate on projects, and engage in activities related to their shared interests within the framework of ICMDA's vision, mission and values.

## 2. Establishment of Global SIGs:

- Any ICMDA affiliated national movement or member of a national movement may propose the creation of a Global SIG by submitting a formal proposal to the ICMDA Board.
- The proposal should include a clear description of the SIG's purpose, goals, intended activities, and the anticipated benefits for ICMDA members.
- The CEO will review the proposal and make a decision on the establishment of the SIG based on its alignment with ICMDA's vision, mission and values.

## 3. Governance and Leadership:

- Each Global SIG will be led by a designated Chair or Co-Chairs appointed by the CEO of ICMDA.
- The Chair/Co-Chairs will be responsible for overseeing the SIG's activities, promoting collaboration among members, and ensuring alignment with ICMDA's vision, mission and values.
- The term of leadership will be determined by mutual agreement between the Chair/Co-Chairs and the CEO.

## 4. Membership:

- Membership in a Global SIG shall be by invitation from the Chair or Co-Chair in consultation with the CEO.
- Members of a Global SIG shall be members of an affiliated national movement.
- Members may join or leave a SIG at any time, with participation being voluntary.
- The SIGs are encouraged to maintain an inclusive and welcoming environment, respecting the diverse perspectives and backgrounds of ICMDA member movements and their members.

## 5. Activities and Collaboration:

- Global SIGs may organize conferences, workshops, webinars, and other activities that align with their specific focus.
- SIGs are encouraged to collaborate with other ICMDA committees, SIGs, and external organizations to enhance the impact of their initiatives.
- All activities organized by SIGs should adhere to ICMDA's policies, ethical standards and guidelines.

#### **6. Reporting and Accountability:**

- Global SIGs will provide periodic reports on their membership and activities to the ICMDA Board through the CEO.
- The CEO reserves the right to review and assess the performance and impact of each SIG to ensure alignment with ICMDA's vision, mission and values.

#### **7. Dissolution of SIGs:**

- The CEO may dissolve a Global SIG if it deviates significantly from ICMDA's vision, mission and values, fails to fulfil its stated objectives, or for other justifiable reasons.
- A Global SIG may also dissolve itself by mutual consent if it believes it is no longer needed or relevant.

#### **8. Regional (or Regional Cluster) SIGs**

- Regional SIGs may be established along the same lines as above with the relevant Regional Secretary playing the role the CEO plays for Global Groups.
- Regional SIGs, where they exist, should operate in consultation with Global SIGs

#### **Amendments to the Policy:**

- This policy may be amended by a majority vote of the ICMDA Board.

This policy is effective [Date of Approval] and will be reviewed periodically to ensure its relevance and effectiveness in supporting the mission of ICMDA.

*Adopted by ICMDA Board on 26 June 2024*