

PHA3 - Monthly Update - 1

In less than one year, the Third People's Health Assembly (PHA3) will be taking place in South Africa so it is time to start preparations! Around the world PHM health activists have initiated dialogues and started mobilisation towards PHA3. Regular updates on the mobilisation and preparation will be published on the PHM website and PHA3 facebook page.

Background on the People's Health Assembly

During the first PHA in Bangladesh in 2000, the People's Health Movement (PHM) was born and the People's Charter for Health created, through input from health activists from all over the world. Over 1500 participants from more than 70 countries came together and sent the following vision into the world:

Equity, ecologically-sustainable development and peace are at the heart of our vision of a better world - a world in which a healthy life for all is a reality; a world that respects, appreciates and celebrates all life and diversity; a world that enables the flowering of people's talents and abilities to enrich each other; a world in which people's voices guide the decisions that shape our lives.

PHM vision



Five years later, in 2005, the second PHA took place in Ecuador and more than 1400 activists participated, celebrated health activism discussing global health and sharing experiences towards Health for All!

From Asia to Latin America, PHM continues to grow and the next PHA will land in Africa. PHM will be organising PHA3 in Cape Town South Africa in July 2012, showcasing its activities from all over the world and defining a way forward for the PHM as a people centred movement, building bridges across regions and the world!

As the PHA3 is approaching, momentum towards the Assembly is being built. PHM activists have not been sitting still. In the past months the following has been happening:



BE INSPIRED AND INSPIRE

Check out our Facebook group, Website, brochures and newsletter!

Join the [PHA3 facebook](#) group to stay updated on preparatory events taking place around the world. Share your activities and ideas with the whole movement, build bridges and learn from other initiatives.

The PHA3 website will be launched towards the end of August. Initially the website will serve as a interactive communication platform where different resources can be uploaded and activities shared and linked across countries and regions. Send us resources you believe useful for other activists in the movement, share ideas and place calls for action now so they can be uploaded before the launch of the website.

Information brochures on PHM and the PHA3 are available in English, Spanish, French and Arab and can be found on the PHA3 facebook page. They can also be requested by emailing PHA3@phmovement.org. Feel free to use these to create a 'local' PHA3 brochure by adding pictures and a locally inspired lay out.

Download the [PHA3 slideshow](#) presentation which can be adjusted to your local context and use it to inform organisations and health activists about the PHM and PHA3.

Sign up for the PHM exchange through which regular communications about the PHA3 will be sent out. This email list offers the opportunity to contact health activists and engage around common issues.



Share your ideas, comments, activities, pictures, videos etc with the movement through these various communication platforms. The PHA is about sharing, building bridges, exchange and solidarity. If you have more ideas about communication, please contact us!

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISING

Various global committees are in the process of being set up such as the International Organising Committee, the Programme Committee, the Resource Committee and the Mobilisation Committee. More information will be in the next update.



CHANGE THE WORLD THROUGH YOUR CREATIVITY

medical students have organised a contest for African activists and students to design a PHA3 Logo. For more information visit the [Facebook page](#) or contact PHA3logo@gmail.com.

This is an opportunity to showcase the spirit of Africa to the world, its diversity, music, colours, people and values of community. Key words for inspiration are: People, Health, Climate Change, Education, Globalisation, Celebration, Africa, Music and life.

The deadline for entries is 30th of September 2011 and the logo will be launched end of November latest!

MOBILISATION

LOCAL MOBILISATION

For example PHM South Africa has been mobilising around several themes such as Reproductive Justice, Environment and Climate Change, Student mobilisation and Rural Health. These groups facilitate collection of testimonies, success stories, social media, dialogues and the [People's Charter for Health \(PCH\)](#). They grew out local civil society meetings and are now trying to connect with other groups around the world to bring these themes to the PHA3.

Reproductive Justice Task Team: aims to build and initiate dialogue towards a common position on reproductive and sexual health rights as well discussing the People's Charter for Health and collecting testimonies for possible use at the PHA3.

Environmental Task Team: networking and dialogue around the impact of climate change on health to be discussed during the COP17 (December 2011- Durban, South Africa), defining a position on the relationship between environment and health towards the PHA3. PHM has been asked to be partner at the Health Summit which is organised as side event of the COP17 as well to present during COP17. The group plans to publish 3 articles on the impact of Climate Change on Health and will be collecting testimonies on environmental justice and the Right to Health.

Medical Student mobilisation: organising discussions amongst students on the PCH and linking with other PHM student groups nationally and internationally as well organising a contest for the development of the PHA3 Logo. A facebook group has been set up: [Students for the People's Charter for Health](#).

Rural Health Task Team: collecting input on the South African National Health Insurance document, and developed an action plan for national and regional mobilisation to ensure rural health is a theme at the PHA3.

If you have any additional ideas or would like to start setting up something similar or connect with other theme or mobilisation groups around the world contact PHA3@phmovement.org .



Other countries which have started PHA3 activities and discussions are Zimbabwe, Kenya, Pakistan, Togo, Niger, Congo Brazzaville, Italy, Belgium and many others. Let us know what is happening in your country and it will be shared through this monthly update!

MOBILISATION

REGIONAL MOBILISATION

In the Africa region, various pre- PHA3 mobilisation activities have begun and in attempt to have coordinated efforts towards the assembly, mobilisation committees have been set up.

Four sub-regional committees have been formed: West Africa, East Africa, Southern Africa and Central. Contacts of PHM members exist in the following countries:

West Africa: Ghana, Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria, Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso, Togo, Benin, Sierra Leone, Gambia and Senegal

East Africa: Tanzania, Kenya, Djibouti, Rwanda, Uganda and Ethiopia

Southern Africa: Zimbabwe, Zambia, Mozambique, Botswana, Malawi, Angola and South Africa

Central Africa: Cameroun, Gabon, DRC and Congo.

A regional mobilisation committee will be developed from representatives of these sub-regions aiming to support national initiatives and bring regional health issues to the foreground in PHA3 discussions.

Up until now, the East African subcommittee has met once, sharing national PHM activities, endorsing the ToR and setting common themes. The West African subcommittee has met once and developed a strategy to include more countries.

PHM Sao Tome is organising the Portuguese speaking African countries by translating the brochures and proactive engagement with civil society.

How do you see mobilisation coordinated regionally? Would you suggest other ways than above example? What has been happening in your region up until know?



CONTACT

If you have questions or suggestions regarding the People's Health Assembly or would like to share activities taking place in your country or region, feel free to contact PHA3@phmovement.org.