



MISSION COUNCILS

Arctic Circle is the largest and most comprehensive global network on Arctic issues. It highlights issues, policies, projects and programs; providing platforms for dynamic dialogue and constructive cooperation.

The Arctic Circle establishes specialized Mission Councils to examine challenges, projects, issues, initiatives, plans and tasks, as well as serving as instruments for dialogue on and exploration of various aspects of the future of the Arctic and our Planet.

The Arctic Circle Assembly is the largest annual international gathering on Arctic affairs, with over 2000 participants from more than 60 countries. Held every October in Iceland, the Assembly is attended by heads of states and governments, ministers, members of parliaments, officials, experts, scientists, entrepreneurs, business leaders, indigenous representatives, environmentalists, students, activists and others from the growing international community interested in the future of the Arctic. The Plenary Sessions are planned by the Arctic Circle Secretariat, while other Sessions are organized by various partners in their own name and with full authority over the agenda and the choice of speakers.

The Arctic Circle also convenes specialized Forums in other countries. Such Forums have been held in China and Korea on Asian involvement in the Arctic; in Washington on the relations between the United States and Russia in the Arctic; in Singapore on infrastructure and investment; in Edinburgh under the title: Scotland and the New North; in Québec on regional development in the Arctic; in Alaska on ports and shipping; in Greenland on the economic progress of indigenous communities; and in the Faroe Islands on Arctic hubs. In the coming months Arctic Circle Forums will take place in Germany, Japan, Greenland and Abu Dhabi.

In terms of membership and substance Arctic Circle Mission Councils will be designed to strengthen engagement with particular themes and topics judged to be of particular relevance and importance. Candidates for membership in a Mission Council are individuals who have in their professional capacities been particularly engaged with the themes of that particular Mission Council. Each Mission Council is led by a member who takes responsibility to sustain throughout the year an active dialogue and engagement.



The purpose is to enhance the participation of the Arctic Circle network beyond the Assembly and the Forums.

A Mission Council can conduct its operations in a various ways: a) meetings either in person or virtual among members, b) meetings open to interested individuals in different parts of the world through the Arctic Circle Virtual mechanism either on a special aspect or involving prominent speakers, c) meetings at Arctic Circle Assemblies and Forums in sessions hosted by the Mission Council, d) meetings in different parts of the world independent of the Assemblies and the Forums, e) through an information network and contacts to those individuals and institutions who are interested in following the work of the Mission Council.

A Mission Council can thus conduct its meetings in various places and in various ways both in person and virtually and can use the Assemblies and the Forums as a venue. A Mission Council is obliged to conduct some of its meetings openly in order to enable participation and contributions from individuals across the world. A Mission Council can invite special speakers and panels for discussion with members of the Mission Council or meetings open to the international network.

A Mission Council shall maintain regular contact with the Arctic Circle Secretariat and thus provide briefings on the progress of its work.

A Mission Council shall submit a brief annual report and a more extensive final report with recommendations and conclusions.

A Mission Council can in cooperation with the Arctic Circle Secretariat raise special funds to maintain its operations. The accounting for these funds shall be within the framework of the Arctic Circle Foundation.