The Committee aims to contribute to articulating a common voice for cities in UCLG on social inclusion, participatory democracy and human rights, and to advise local governments on the design of these policies.

To that end, the Committee fosters political debate, exchange of experiences and the collective generation of new knowledge in order to establish guidelines for designing and implementing innovative local policies on social inclusion, participatory democracy and human rights.
COMMITTEE’S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2011-2013
Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights

BACKGROUND

The origins of the Committee lie in the first Local Authorities Forum for Social Inclusion and Participatory Democracy (FAL), a forum for reflection and political discussion made up by progressive local authorities from all over the world, an event which has been held at the same time as the World Social Forum since 2001.

In 2005, a year after the creation of the new international organisation of local governments - United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) - the towns of the FAL decided to establish a more institutionalised working structure within a new organisation. This led to the creation of the Committee on Social Inclusion and Participatory Democracy (CSIPD).
Since its beginnings, the CSIPD has been present at the various FAL events (Caracas, 2005; Nairobi, 2007 and Belém do Pará, 2009; Dakar, 2011) and has maintained an on-going dialogue with international social movements and civil society in the international social forums held in those cities.

It has thus become the communication channel between the political debates held in these events and UCLG, and has undertaken its own political initiatives based mainly on two areas: social inclusion and participatory democracy.
A third area, human rights, was added to the Committee's work soon afterwards, and was extensively developed with the production of two documents, the Global Charter-Agenda for Human Rights in the City (formally adopted by the Florence UCLG World Council in 2011) and the European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City (Saint-Denis, 2000).

As a result, five years after it was established, the Committee on Social Inclusion and Participative Democracy has renamed itself as follows: Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights.
COMMITTEE’S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2011-2013
Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights

MISSION

The Committee aims to contribute to articulating a common voice for cities in UCLG on social inclusion, participatory democracy and human rights, and to advise local governments on the design of these policies.

To that end, the Committee fosters political debate, the exchange of experiences and the collective generation of new knowledge in order to establish guidelines for designing innovative local policies in the three areas in which the Committee works.
COMMITTEE’S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2011-2013
Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights

INTERNAL ORGANISATION

COMPOSITION. The Committee consists of:

- **local governments** (individual cities or associations of local governments);
- **local government networks**;
- **partners** (universities and civil society organisations).

Becoming a member of the Committee is free and must be arranged through UCLG’s World Secretariat and the Committee’s Executive Technical Secretariat.

The Committee aims to ensure balanced geographic representation, and those members not belonging to UCLG will be encouraged to adhere to the organisation.
GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE AND TASKS. The 102 Committee members are the plenary body, which is responsible for defining the general political directives of the Committee.

Specification and implementation of the political directives will be the responsibility of the Committee’s bureau, which consists of a President, First Vice-president and several Regional Vice-presidents. The Committee will ensure balanced political representation in its bureau. We propose the following governing body for the period 2011 – 2013:

**President**: Barcelona (Spain)

**First Vice-president**: Saint-Denis / Plaine Commune (France)

**Regional Vice-presidents**:
- **Africa**: Passy (Senegal)
- **Latin America**: Guarulhos (Brazil) and Montevideo (Uruguay)
- **Asia**: Federation of Municipalities of Sri Lanka (Sri Lanka)
- **Europe**: Aubagne, Nantes (France) and FAMSI (Spain)
COMMITTEE'S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2011-2013
Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights

The President of the Committee is its leading political representative. The First Vice-president will be in charge of the institutional relations of the Committee in general, and will particularly participate at UCLG statutory meetings on behalf of the Committee.

The regional vice-presidents will contribute to expanding the work of the Committee in their respective territorial areas and will represent it on a collegiate basis. The members of the bureau will ensure the financing of the Committee.

Working groups can be created based around the Committee's three areas of work (social inclusion, participatory democracy and human rights) in order to contribute to the development of each one of these areas, and they will support the bureau in the definition and execution of the working plan.
COMMITTEE’S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2011-2013
Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights

The Executive Technical Secretary will be responsible for co-ordinating the implementation of the working plan, fostering the 3 groups and organising and following up Committee meetings.
OPERATION. The Committee meets once or twice a year in a plenary session to monitor the progress of its strategic objectives. Committee meetings will take place at the statutory meetings of UCLG (Executive Bureau, World Council or World Congress) or on events organised by a city, international network or organisation with which the Committee collaborates.

The political directives of the Committee will be specified in these meetings, and will be produced using participatory methodologies with decisions reached based on consensus.

Members that are unable to attend these meetings will be able to send their contributions in writing to the Executive Technical Secretary, who will be responsible for presenting them at the meeting and duly informing of the decisions taken.
The Committee's working groups can also convene sectorial meetings, the proposals of which will be notified to the bureau by the Executive Technical Secretary for assessment.

The working languages of the Committee are Spanish, English and French.
COMMITTEE’S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2011-2013

Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy
and Human Rights

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2011 - 2013

After an extensive process of collective reflection that took place at the plenary meetings in Getafe (June 2010) and Mexico City (November 2010), the members of the Committee defined several strategic priorities, which have been reformulated as follows to align them with the UCLG Strategic Plan 2010 – 2016:
COMMITEE’S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2011-2013

Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights

LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

Leadership, vision and strategy, communication.

- **Promote political participation and shared leadership of the Committee.** To that end, the Committee will collaborate with UCLG on the preparatory processes for the various international summits. It will also seek to ensure gender equality in its representative bodies (Presidency and Vice-presidencies) and will organize its working meetings using participatory methodologies.

- **Reinforce the strategy of communication and international visibility.** The web platform will be reinforced and equipped with virtual and interactive media for communication/networking. Efforts will also be made to ensure that the Committee participates in international events, especially in Africa and Asia, which can contribute to raising the profile of its work and increasing the number of members.
COMMITTEE’S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2011-2013
Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights

REPRESENTATION
Recognition, political positioning and promotion of policies.

- **Promote social inclusion policies.** Disseminate the political document *for a world of inclusive cities*, adopted by the UCLG World Council in 2008 on the initiative of the Committee.

- **Promote human rights policies** through the *Global Charter-Agenda for Human Rights in the City* (adopted by the UCLG World Council in 2011 on the initiative of the Committee) and the *European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City* (adopted in Saint-Denis in 2000).

- **Increase the Committee’s contacts** with United Nations agencies and with other international organisations in the areas of local policies for social inclusion, participation and human rights.
Committee’s Strategic Priorities 2011-2013
Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights

INTELLIGENCE
Compilation, analysis and socialization of knowledge and information.

- **Consolidate the Inclusive Cities Observatory** as a space for analysis and reflection on local social inclusion policies that contribute to providing inspiration for other cities when designing and implementing its social inclusion policies.

- **Establish mechanisms for cooperation with leading research centres** in the field of local policies for social inclusion, participatory democracy and human rights.
COOPERATION

Development of concepts, strengthening of capacities of local governments and mobilization of resources.

- **Examine the possibility of implementing cooperation initiatives**, for the direct transfer of experiences relating to the design and implementation of policies for social inclusion, participatory democracy and human rights. The Committee will thereby make the transition from promoting policies to building them on the ground, thanks to the multinodal transfer of experiences and practices and North-South and South-South cooperation.

- **Seek the financing sources necessary** to undertake projects of this nature, which will be carried out by means of city-city relationships and/or between groups of cities.
Committee’s Strategic Priorities 2011-2013
Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights

ORGANIZATION

Relations with the UCLG’s members, regional committees and sections, networks of cities and other international partners.

- **Consolidate dialogue with other UCLG regional committees and sections.** Invite them to participate in the development of the Committee's initiatives and at the same time, be at their disposal to cooperate in the activities they promote.

- **Contribute to the development of the UCLG Strategic Plan 2010 – 2016.** Analyse which initiatives and activities arising from the Strategic Plan 2010 – 2016 the Committee can cooperate with.
Committee’s Strategic Priorities 2011-2013
Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights

- **Consolidate links with other networks of cities.** Continue the normal line of cooperation with the FAL, FALP and IOPD. Start a close relationship with Brazilian the Participative Budget Network, with other Participatory Budgeting networks in the region and with Mercociudades. Explore ways of cooperation with existing networks in Africa and Asia.
**COMMITTEE’S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2011-2013**

Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights

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**BUDGET**

The **Presidency** and **Vice-presidencies** of the Committee ensure the Committee’s financial maintenance.