Dear members,

The Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights will participate in the first UCLG Culture Summit in Bilbao (18-20 March 2015), through the co-organization of a round table called "Culture and social inclusion”.

The aim of the first UCLG Culture Summit is to present and approve the document "Culture 21: Actions", which updates Agenda 21 for culture by making it more operational. It should also be the opportunity to promote networking and knowledge-sharing among cities and local governments that recognize the importance of culture in sustainable development, as well as to contribute to the definition of the UN Post-2015 Development Agenda, highlighting the essential role of culture.

The Committee on Social Inclusion and the Agenda 21 for culture were both created in the framework of the first Forum of Local Authorities for Social Inclusion and Participatory Democracy (2001). Since then, they have been sharing common commitments in the fields of human rights and participatory democracy.

The round table “Culture and social inclusion” will take place on Thursday 19 March between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Based on the idea that participating in local cultural life can be crucial to social inclusion, the session will analyze how cultural policies can be key to building a critical and active citizenship and strengthening social cohesion.

The round table will be facilitated by:

- Valentine Roy, Project Manager of Culture for the urban community of Plaine Commune (also Co-President of CISDPDH)

The following speakers from local authorities and civil society will present their experiences in leading inclusive cultural actions:

- Ms. Jemma Neville, Director of Voluntary Arts Scotland
- Ms. Seo Myung-sook, CEO, Jeju Olle (South Korea)
Ms. Caroline Coll, Director of Culture of La Courneuve (France)
Mr. Jorge Melguizo, Consultant and former Deputy Culture Secretary for the city of Medellín (Colombia)
Ms. Lucina Jiménez, Director, ConArte México and Vice President, ConArte International
Mr. Nabil Bonduki, Culture Secretary for the city of São Paulo (Brazil)

To register for the Summit in Bilbao, please write to: registration@uclg-culturesummit2015.org and info@agenda21culture.net.

Sincerely,

The UCLG World Secretariat
on behalf of the Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights