ROUND TABLE UCLG-SPIDH
In partnership with the City of Nantes and the Region Pays de la Loire

GLOBAL CHARTER AGENDA FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE CITY

Wednesday 30 June 2010, 2 pm – 4:30 pm, in room BC
Languages: English, French, Spanish

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The activity will be organised jointly by the Committee on Social Inclusion and Participatory Democracy (CISDP) of the world organisation "United Cities and Local Governments" (UCLG) and the International Permanent Secretariat on Human Rights and Local Governments, Nantes, Pays de la Loire (SPIDH).

The CISDP has been working on the field of social inclusion, participatory democracy and Human Rights since 2005. In particular, it has endeavoured to mainstream Human Rights in local policies by working with local governments worldwide. To do so, it has endowed itself with two tools: the Global Charter Agenda on Human Rights in the City and the European Charter on Human Rights in the City. Both charters have been the result of (i) the engagement of local authorities in the safeguarding of Human Rights and of (ii) the self-conviction that local authorities, as the sphere of government closest to citizens, are a key agent in the realisation of Human Rights.

In 2007 the SPIDH has been named to lead the Human Rights and Local Governments working group of the UCLG’s Committee on Social Inclusion and Participative Democracy (CISDP). In this task, the SPIDH, which also organizes the World Forum on Human Rights, is supported by Nantes Métropole, the Pays de la Loire Region, the Department of Loire-Atlantique and the City of Nantes, the local government authorities that sit on its board of directors.
1. Description of the event:

The Global Charter Agenda for Human Rights in the City is a project promoted by local governments and which aims at implementing public policies respectful of human rights. After the drafting process (2007-2008) and the participative process (2009-2010), the project should be adopted and promoted during the World Congress of UCLG that will take place in November 2010.

The specificity of the Charter Agenda is that it is composed by rights and concrete plans of actions that specify the political commitments required to implement that right. Signatories local governments will thus have an efficient tool for implementing rights at the local level. This is why, the last round of discussion around the Charter should focus more specifically on the plans of actions or “agenda” part of the Charter.

The aim of this round-table within the framework of the World Forum on Human Rights is thus to provide local governments and civil society representatives with the opportunity to debate on the “agenda” part of the Charter.

Therefore, this meeting with be a crucial step in order to give “teeth” to the Charter so it does not become a mere declaration but lead to concrete applications.

The main objective of the round-table is to ensure that the content of the Charter best meets:

- the expectations of local communities
- the reality on the ground as it is experienced by local representatives

The second objective will be to launch a strategic debate on the political and public promotion of the Charter.

It this proposed to divide the session into two parts:

1. **Review of the action plans** starting from the concrete experiences of local governments and civil society representatives

2. **The promotion of the Charter** until and beyond its adoption at the UCLG World Congress in November 2010.

2. Organisation of session

   - 14h-15h45
     
     Review of the action plans
   
   - 16h30-16h30
     
     Strategic promotion of the Charter until and beyond its adoption at the UCLG World Congress in November 2010.