



Minutes of the 2nd Biannual Meeting 2007 of the Committee on Social Inclusion and Participative Democracy (CISDP)

The 2nd Biannual Meeting 2007 of the CISDP took place in the town of Florianópolis (Brazil) on 25th July, 2007.

The meeting began with **the welcome and presentation of the CISDP** by the Chairmanship, represented by the National Front of Mayors in Brazil in the figure of the Lord Mayor of Guarulhos Elói Pietá, by the Deputy Mayor of Barcelona, Ricard Gomà, and by the Technical Secretary of the CISDP, Vanessa Marx.

The Secretary General of the Latin American Federation of Cities, Municipalities and Associations of Local Government, FLACMA, was present at the meeting and gave a welcoming speech to the participants.

This was followed by presentations of the CISDP members and of those present in the hall; a total of 75 people, 45 cities, city associations and observers, and 16 Mayors and Deputy Mayors.

The Presidency read out the agenda and explained how the morning's schedule would be conducted.

Next the Technical Secretary of the CISDP gave a **report on the running** of the committee from 2005 to 2007.

After setting out the proposed agenda attention was turned to Point 1 in which the cities **reported and discussed the work sub-groups of the CISDP: Social Inclusion, Participative Democracy and Global Citizenship.**

The city of Barcelona gave a report on the **social inclusion** work group, highlighting how the concepts, the core work of the group and the work programme are being carried out. It was emphasized that an electronic debate was carried out in the framework of FLACMA (the Latin-American Federation of Cities, Municipalities and Associations), which was used for the preparation of the meeting in framework of the 3rd FLACMA Congress. It was reported how work is being carried out in preparation for the International Seminar on Innovative Social Inclusion Policies to be held in the city of Barcelona on the 27th and 28th September next. This Seminar will be an important framework for this group's work which will include a publication with the description of the fifteen chosen experiences and a document of political orientation which will be taken to the World Congress of the CGLU (United Cities and Local Governments) in Jeju (South Korea). Finally the need to incorporate cities wishing to work on this matter in groups was stressed, in order to share initiatives which are being carried out in this framework.

FAMSI gave a report on the work group of **participative democracy** and spoke about the historic formation of this group at the Forum of Local Authorities (FAL) in Caracas and the need to develop this work together with other initiatives such as the International Observatory of Participative Democracy (OIDP). The subject of participative and representative democracy was mentioned and the need for there

to be a political will on behalf of the local authorities to implement concepts like participative democracy in their policies. The group formation regarding participative assumptions was mentioned with regard to the meeting which took place in Malaga and the need to relate this to the participative experiences carried out in Brazil. The need was stressed for the strengthening of the connection between local authorities and social movements and to assemble the existing experiences and initiatives on this matter in the framework of the CISDP.

The Diputació de Barcelona gave a report on the development of the **Global Citizenship** group whose main objective is the development of the Universal Agenda Charter of Human Rights in cities. Two important moments were highlighted which acted as precedents so that this initiative could be carried out: the Forum of Local Authorities (FLA), 2006 carried out in Caracas and, from a European perspective, the European Charter which safeguards human rights in cities. It was mentioned that this work was being carried out by the promoting group constituted within the commission, as well as a group of experts who will launch the first rough draft which will be circulated from September onwards in a virtual space which will be open to participation. It is intended that this virtual space and the first rough draft of the document will be presented in Jeju.

Following these reports, the participants at the meeting were given the floor to make comments and make other complementary reports.

The town of Belo Horizonte intervened to state that it is their intention to form a cities group in Brazil to work on the subject of participative budget and this could be included in the CISDP. It highlighted the need to have the Urb-AI Programme as a work space and support it institutionally.

The town of Nanterre mentioned that the Jeju Congress should give a space and voice to the practices of the cities which would stress the matters being worked on by these cities, such as the matter of social inclusion being worked on by the metropolis and the outlying towns. It was declared that in the subject of participative democracy the work which has been carried out in the framework of the ODP should be taken into account.

The town of Aubagne emphasized that it was necessary to take political decisions on matters and not just put together technical texts. We should see what we can change in our cities in favour of the marginalized.

The town of Ecatepec underlined that in Mexico there is a map of social inclusion produced by the observatory and that this could be incorporated into the work of the CISDP. With regard to the subject of participative democracy, it was stated that it is still incipient in Mexico and there is a need for interchange among local governments on this matter.

The town of Varzea Paulista praised the work of the CISDP and stated that in order to make progress, further work is required on the idea we have of the State and Society within the theoretical frameworks developed.. Regarding experiences, we should look at where power could be given to the civil society and how we could do comparative studies of these experiences.

The town of Curitiba highlighted the experience of the public audience in the suburbs. It declared that the town is the seat of the Latin American CIFAL – UNITAR. CIFAL is organizing a meeting for the 22nd to 24th August, 2007 on risks and integrated actions for social inclusion, and on 29th and 29th November on the efficiency of public services.

The town of Jacarei mentioned that one should avoid disperse and fragmented actions and suggested that the practice manual they are preparing, which is linked to the Urb-AI Programme, should be taken into account.

Nanterre and Rhône Alpes were given the floor to report on the meetings which are being organized in 2007 and which are included in the CISDP Calendar. The first is the 7th ODP Conference which will be held from 26th to 28th November, 2007 in Nanterre. The second is the World Meeting of Participative Democracy which will be held from 10th to 12th December, 2007 in Lyon, in the Rhône Alpes Region.

After the reports and the group discussion, the point of discussion of the **work plan for 2008-2010** was referred to. The Presidency of the CISDP and the technical secretary led the debate. At this point the continuity of that which is being developed in the three constituted work groups was highlighted: social inclusion, participative democracy and global citizenship. The importance of the consolidation of the data base was underlined with regard to innovative experiences of social inclusion which is being drawn up by the CISDP, of the need to be linked to the World Social Forum by means of the FAL and of seeing what the role of the CGLU is in the CISDP.

After going over the main points of the work plan, the rough draft for the work plan 2008-2010 was passed which will be presented at the World Congress of the CGLU in Jeju.

After finalizing the previous point, the city of Barcelona led the following point, with regard to the **composition of the Presidency, the Vice Presidency and the Secretaryship** of the CISDP to be presented at the World Congress of the CGLU.

The interest arose for Barcelona to assume the Presidency of the CISDP and the intention of the National Front of Mayors to maintain its presence in the presidency. Two candidates were presented for the Vice Presidencies: Saint Denis (defended by Nanterre) and the Province of Milan.

Barcelona City Council and the National Front of Mayors proposed:

- To achieve a balance between the cities of the north and the south in the government organ of the CISDP.
- That the cities or associations of the member cities of the government organ act as such according to their connections to the cores of thematic work (social inclusion, participative democracy, etc.).

The joint Committee decided:

- To present a Co-Presidency of the CISDP in Jeju of Barcelona Town Hall and the National Front of Mayors of Brazil.
- To defend a structure of vice presidencies extended to four; two European, Saint Denis and the Province of Milan; and two Latin American, to be determined in Jeju according to the candidates. Up until the present time the cities of Managua, Ecatepec/ALMMAC and Villa El Salvador have showed an interest in same.

The possibility of having an African or Asian City for one of the vice presidencies was also taken into account, in accordance with the intention of extending the geographical context.

It was agreed upon that the date for the handing in of candidates for the vice presidencies with their respective work plans would finalize on **30th September**,

2007. Therefore, the proposal for the presidency and vice presidency for the next three years would be taken to the CGLU Congress.

Finally, the technical secretary gave a short report on the **World Congress of the CGLU**, and the participation of the CISDP in this framework. She stressed that the proposal of the CISDP session at the Congress was contemplated in the management report of the technical secretary.

The Meeting came to an end at one o'clock in the afternoon so that the participants could attend the opening of the FLACMA Congress.

List of Cities and Participants

1. Barcelona Council (Spain)
2. Nanterre (France)
3. Aubagne (France)
4. Osasco (Brazil)
5. Province of Milan (Italy)
6. CICU (Italy)
7. Terra de Areia (Brazil)
8. FAMSI (Spain)
9. Malaga Council (Spain)
10. Sao José (Brazil)
11. Ecatepec (México)
12. AALMAC (México)
13. Itati (Brazil)
14. Rhône Alpes (France)
15. Camaçari (Brazil)
16. Belo Horizonte (Brazil)
17. Várzea Paulista (Brazil)
18. Olinda (Brazil)
19. Barcelona (Spain)
20. Guarulhos (Brazil)
21. Porto Alegre (Brazil)
22. Montesiao (Brazil)
23. Florianópolis (Brazil)
24. Quilombo (Brazil)
25. Santo Antônio da Patrulla (Brazil)
26. AMFRO (Brazil)
27. Iconha (Brazil)
28. Peruíbe (Brazil)
29. Campo Alegre (Brazil)
30. Manaus (Brazil)
31. Jari (Brazil)
32. Igarassu (Brazil)
33. Jacareí (Brazil)
34. Managua (Nicaragua)
35. Santo Domingo Morropón- Piura (Peru)
36. Valparaíso (Brazil)
37. Villa El Salvador (Peru)
38. Tres Lagoas (Brazil)
39. Tabatinga (Brazil)
40. Curitiba (Brazil)
41. Colina (Chile)
42. Itapema (Brazil)
43. Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)
44. Rio Rial (Brazil)

Observers:

1. ONG COPEVI

