



ROUND TABLE
ON THE FIGHT AGAINST URBAN POVERTY
WITHIN THE 5TH WORLD FORUM ON HUMAN RIGHTS
22-25 MAY 2013

1. CONTEXT

The municipality of Nantes (France) is hosting the fifth World Forum on Human Rights from 22 to 25 May 2013. This year it will focus on the following topic: "Sustainable Development - Human Rights: a common struggle?"

Taking this question as its starting point, the Forum aims to examine the concept of sustainable development in the light of international human rights law, almost a year after the international Rio+20 conference. In particular, it aims to confirm and restate the need for a sustainable development that respects human rights, to ensure true social progress and equitable development in a strengthened democratic framework and a protected environment.

The themes of the meeting are:

- What development and which economic model(s) are needed for a more humane and just world?
- What equality is there between human beings in times of crisis?
- What are the territories for tomorrow? In favour of public policies based on human rights, citizenship for all and a strengthened democracy

The Forum aims to promote the participation and coordination of all key agents in the human rights field (governments, representatives of national and international organizations, NGOs, trade unions, civil society associations, experts, private actors, etc.) and in particular, aims to contribute to the definition of public policies.

In this context, the Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights of the international organization of cities, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) wishes to organize a round table enabling local governments to share best practices in order to foster mutual learning and an improvement in the quality of urban life.





***United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)** is the international platform that represents and defends the interests of local governments before the international community and works to give cities increased political influence in world governance.*

*The mission of the **Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights** is to contribute to constructing a common voice for the cities of UCLG in the areas of social inclusion, participatory democracy and human rights. It also aims to guide local governments in designing these policies and to that end, fosters political debates, the exchange of experiences and mutual learning among cities around the world.*

2. CONTENT OF THE ROUND TABLE

The round table will fall within the first themed area of "**Development and economic model(s) for a more humane and just world**" and will take place on **23 May**, between **2 pm and 5pm**.

The specific topic for debate will be:

**The fight against urban poverty:
Cities' policies and experiences
to address the negative effects of the economic crisis
on the most disadvantaged groups**

Based on this title, the roundtable will aim to share local policies and initiatives (municipal services, aid programmes, emergency measures, etc..) implemented by cities to respond to the consequences of the economic crisis for the most vulnerable sectors of the population.

The aim of this approach is to ascertain how councils, through their political action, help solve the social problems that are occurring today as a consequence of the difficult economic situation and which affect large sectors of the population: unemployed people, young people, immigrants, single-parent families, senior citizens, ...



3. SPEAKERS

Moderator: Mr. **Carlos Derman**, Vice Mayor of Guarulhos, (Brazil), Vice Chair of the UCLG Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights

Guest speakers:

- (i) Ms. **Pam McConnell**, Municipal Councillor, Toronto (Canada)

[health and vulnerable groups]

- (ii) Mr. **Xavier Cubells**, Director of Civil Rights, Barcelona Town Council

[the impact of the crisis on the guarantee of human rights]

- (iii) Ms **Clementina Berro**, Projects responsible at the Italian Commission of United Cities (CICU) (Italy)

[fight against child labor]

- (iv) Sr. **François Duchamp**, Childhood Responsible, UNICEF France Childhood Mission Responsible – France

[Childhood]

- (v) Ms. **Patricia Huyghebaert**, Programs Officer – Citizenship and Social Policies Department, French NGO GRET and Mr. **Marc Lévy**, GRET Scientific Director

[rights and Development]

Rapporteur: Mr **Michele Grigolo**, Researcher, Centre for Social Studies (CES) of the University of Coimbra (Portugal), member of the scientific team of the *Inclusive Cities Observatory* of UCLG



4. ROUND TABLE DYNAMICS

The round table will be of 3 hours duration (2 pm - 5 pm), of which 1.5 hours will be allocated to speeches by the guest speakers. The debate with the audience and the conclusions will take place in the remaining half hour.

Person(s)	Task	Speaking time
Moderator	Presentation of the session and speech	15 min.
Speaker 1	Speech	10 min.
Speaker 2	Speech	10 min.
Speaker 3	Speech	10 min.
Speaker 4	Speech	10 min.
Speaker 5	Speech	10 min.
Speaker 6	Speech	10 min.
Speaker 7	Speech	10 min.
Audience	Debate	55 min.
Speakers	Conclusions	20 min. (3 min/pers.)
Rapporteur	Summary	15 min.
Moderator	Closing speech	4 min.