YEAR I. NEWSLETTER N. 2
JUNE - AUGUST 2009

PUBLICATION OF THE POLITICAL DOCUMENT ON SOCIAL INCLUSION

In June, the first publication by the Committee on Social Inclusion and Participatory Democracy (CSIPD), *For a world of inclusive cities* will see the light of day. This document, published in 4 languages, contains the political document “Let’s build the inclusive cities of the 21st Century” that was approved last November 30, 2008 by the UCLG World Council in Istanbul. It also includes a presentation from the Mayor of Barcelona, Mr. Jordi hereu, under the title: “Barcelona: a story of global commitment to progress and freedom”, as well as a text written by the Deputy-Mayor and Chair of the CSIPD, Mr. Ricard Gomà, on how to “Think locally and fight globally against social exclusion.”

This publication will shortly be distributed among the members of UCLG and is dedicated to all the member cities of the CSIPD, with whose help it has been possible to draw up the document “Let’s build the inclusive cities of the 21st Century”. This document is the result of the active participation of members in the political debates organised by the Committee and the exchange of their most innovative experiences on social inclusion.

DEBATING SOCIAL INCLUSION AT MUNICIPAL COUNCILS

Stemming from the proposal launched by the municipality of Córdoba (Spain) at the 2nd Biannual meeting 2008 of the CSIPD in Istanbul, the City Council of Barcelona has recently fostered a debate within its Municipal Council regarding the document “Let’s build the inclusive cities of the 21st Century”. This debate concluded with an official statement unanimously approved by all municipal political groups reaffirming the role of cities in fighting social exclusion and stressing the relevance of international networks of cities in promoting inclusion policies.

This initiative intends to bring the international level debates promoted by UCLG closer to
municipal realities. To this end we strongly encourage you to promote these debates in the governments of your cities and to present the document “Let’s build the inclusive cities of the 21st Century” to your Municipal Council.

Through the following link you can find the official statement issued by the Municipal Council of Barcelona, approved on March 27, 2009:

✓ **Official statement: “Let’s build the inclusive cities of the 21st Century” (Barcelona)**

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION**

The UCLG World Secretariat, with the support of the CSIPD and other partners, participated in the call for proposals of the European Union (UE) named “Non-State Actors and local governments in development actions”, a programme aiming at strengthening local governments and civil society organizations as a pre-condition for a more open, democratic and equitable society. More specifically, the goal of this call for proposals is to foster poverty reduction in a context of sustainable development, especially by pursuing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The project presented by UCLG is entitled “For Millennium cities and local governments: achieving the MDGs at local level” and it includes two kinds of actions: on the one hand, mobilizing local government associations to launch awareness-raising campaigns on MDGs and on best practices with regard to their localisation; and on the other hand, training several cities to draw up MDG local action plans. These actions are intended for implementation in Latin America, Africa and Asia.

In order to develop this project, the UCLG World Secretariat will have the following partners: the CSIPD (through Barcelona); the Committee on Decentralized Cooperation (through the Andalusian Fund of Municipalities for International Solidarity -FAMSI), the Committee on MDGs, the Latin American Federation of Cities, Municipalities and Associations (FLACMA), UCLG Asia-Pacific; the East African Local Governments Association (EALGA); the National Association of Municipalities of Benin (ANCB); the Association of Municipalities of Mali (AMM) and the Association of Municipalities of Senegal (AMS).

Next September the European Union will notify whether or not the project has been selected.

**ON LINE FORUM ON THE CHARTER-AGENDA**

The draft of the **World Charter-Agenda on Human Rights in the City**, which was recently presented and discussed at the 8th World Assembly of the Local Authorities Forum, is currently undergoing an on line debate lead by the International Permanent Secretariat “Human Rights and Local Governments” (Nantes-Pays de la Loire, France), coordinating the CSIPD working group on “Human Rights and Local Governments”.

The draft of the Charter-Agenda, prepared by a group of international experts, is now available to municipalities, networks of cities and international networks of citizen action so that, together, they can all produce a useful document that will contribute to safeguarding human rights through local actions.

We strongly encourage you to take part in this debate and to send us your suggestions through the website: [www.spidh.org](http://www.spidh.org).

✓ **Draft of the World Charter-Agenda on Human Rights in the City**
COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2009

This year, the Committee on Social Inclusion will be holding one annual meeting, taking place on **November 21** in **Reggio Emilia (Italy)**, within the framework of the 9th Annual Conference of the **International Observatory on Participatory Democracy**.

Before this meeting, the Committee’s Coordinating Group, formally established at the 2nd Biannual meeting 2008 of the CSIPD, will gather in **Barcelona** on **June 30**.

The **Coordinating Group** is composed by the **Chair (Barcelona)**, vice-chairs (Saint-Denis, the province of Milan and Ecatepec), **Nantes – Pays de la Loire** (as coordinators of the working group on “Human Rights and Local Governments”), the Forum of Local Authorities (represented by the Diputación de Málaga, FAMSI and Nanterre -FALP), the municipality of Córdoba (Spain) and the Committee’s Secretariat.

This structure is open to any CSIPD member wishing to take an active role in defining, implementing and monitoring the work plan. We kindly ask any municipalities wanting to be part of the Coordinating Group to contact the CSIPD Secretariat.

The tasks and composition of this body are contained in the CSIPD Work Plan 2008 - 2010:

- CSIPD Work Plan 2008 - 2010

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AGENDA

1 - 4 June
**UCLG Executive Bureau**
Copenhagen, Denmark

14 – 16 June
**III World Congress on Cities for Mobility**
Stuttgart, Germany

19 – 20 June
**III National Meeting on Participatory Budgeting**
Lisbon, Portugal

30 June
**Meeting of the Coordinating Group of the Committee on Social Inclusion - UCLG**
Barcelona, Spain

1 – 3 July
**14th Mercociudades Summit**
Rosario, Argentina

July & September
**Summer School at the Centre for Social Studies (CES), University of Coimbra**
Coimbra, Portugal

16 – 22 August
**World Water Week**
Stockholm, Sweden

2 – 4 September
**5th Latin American Congress of Cities and Local Governments**
Mar del Plata, Argentina