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THE PIKINE DECLARATION FOR INCLUSIVE METROPOLISES

It is now available in several languages the final declaration of the International Assembly of the Peripheral Cities Forum (FALP), which was held in Pikine (Senegal) during the 8th Local Authorities Forum (FAL) and the 9th World Social Forum (WSF).

With the participation of many peripheral cities from the host country and from other countries, such as Brazil, Spain, France, Mali, Mexico and Portugal, the FALP International Assembly held on 7 February 2011 highlighted the problems that are currently affecting African peripheral cities, with particular emphasis on flood management.

The meeting also enabled the conclusions of the 2nd FALP (Getafe – Spain, June 2010) to be presented in Africa and to convene participating cities to attend the third forum, which will take place in Canoas (Brazil) in 2013.

The conclusions at Pikine also enhanced the debates that took place on the next day at the 8th FAL, where the FALP – UCLG Committee on Peripheral Cities was responsible for the organisation of the workshop “Public services and inclusive metropolises: a local challenge for another possible world”.

For more information:
- Final declaration FALP Assembly – Pikine
- 2nd FALP Final Declaration - Getafe 2010

REPORTS BY THE FAL WORKING GROUPS HELD IN DAKAR

A total of 6 working groups were held in Dakar on 8 February 2011 during the 8th Forum of Local Authorities for Social Inclusion and Participatory Democracy (FAL). Based on the theme of “Local power and global crisis,” the sessions covered various issues in order to offer local solutions to the current global crisis.

Reports available:
- Participatory democracy and local power
- Decentralised cooperation and city diplomacy: the challenges of decentralised cooperation in Africa
- Emancipation and gender
- The environment, climate change and the right of access to water
- Building inclusive cities through the right to the city: the social inclusion of migrants

For more information: www.redfal.org
THE GLOBAL CHARTER-AGENDA FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE CITY IN AFRICA AND ASIA

The Global Charter-Agenda for Human Rights in the City is an initiative that the Committee is promoting with the support of Nantes – Pays de la Loire region in order to foster the implementation of local human rights policies. After a drafting phase (2007-2008) and several participatory debates (2009 – 2010), the project has begun its adoption and dissemination phase which is expected to conclude at the next UCLG World Council, taking place in Florence in late 2011.

The added value of the Charter-Agenda lies in the fact that it does not only contain a series of legal articles, but also provides a series of specific action plans for the application of each of the rights mentioned in the text.

The Charter was discussed extensively at the World Social Forum in Dakar on 10 February 2011. The participants in the workshop were the cities of Nantes (France), Várzea Paulista (Brazil), Bamako 1 (Mali), the Pays de la Loire region (France) and civil society organisations such as HIC (Habitat International Coalition) and Amnesty International Belgium – Francophone Section. The objective of the activity was to discuss the “agenda,” i.e. to propose specific political initiatives to contribute to the implementation of the human rights listed in the Charter.

Elsewhere, the city of Gwangju (South Korea) has hosted from 16 to 18 May the World Human Rights Cities Forum, where the International Secretariat of Human Rights from Nantes – Pays de la Loire (SPIDH) presented the Charter-Agenda. This forum is an initiative by the 18 May Memorial Foundation and the city of Gwangju which aims to strengthen the networking of cities in the field of human rights.

For more information:
- Report on the Charter-Agenda workshop in Dakar
- http://eng.518.org and www.spidh.org

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING IN DAKAR

The 1st Biannual Meeting 2011 of the Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights was held in Dakar on 10 February.

The meeting was chaired by the President of the Committee and Deputy Mayor of Barcelona, Mr. Ricard Gomà. 34 people participated in the session on behalf of 26 cities or institutions from Africa (Madagascar, Mozambique, Senegal), Latin America (Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, the Dominican Republic) and Europe (Spain, France, Portugal).

The meeting focused on one single topic, which was presenting the results of the research that the Committee promoted in 2010 to expand the bank of policies contained in the Social Inclusion Observatory. The work was done by the Centre for Social Studies (CES) under the direction of Prof. Boaventura de Sousa Santos and the executive coordination of Giovanni Allegretti and Paula Meneses. The minutes of the meeting can be consulted here.

NEW POLICIES AVAILABLE IN THE SOCIAL INCLUSION OBSERVATORY

In 2007, the Committee laid the foundations for the creation of an International Observatory on Local Social Inclusion Policies. The initiative aimed to place a consultation tool for the design and implementation of local social inclusion policies at the disposal of the members of the Committee and UCLG cities. On the basis of this empirical data, the Observatory also seeks to enable conceptual reflections on social inclusion, participatory democracy and human rights.

Fifteen innovative policies were documented in 2007. In late 2009, thanks to the support of several government bodies (Barcelona City Council, Barcelona Provincial Council, Malaga
Provincial Council, the Government of Catalonia and Plaine Commune), a new international search was undertaken for benchmark cases in the field of social action.

As a result of this work, 50 new policies implemented by cities in various regions around the world have been documented, covering issues as varied as: the promotion of multiculturalism, community development, access to basic services, gender, human rights, the environment, eradication of poverty, etc.

The case studies are for the present available in the language in which they were written (generally English) but they are currently being translated into the Committee’s working languages (Spanish, English and French).

The new policies are available in the “Social Inclusion Observatory” section of the Committee’s website:

- www.cities-localgovernments.org/CISDP

**NEXT UCLG BUREAU IN RABAT**

The next UCLG Executive Bureau will take place in Rabat (Morocco) from 22 to 24 June 2011. This body, made up of a total of 114 cities, the host city, the President, the Co-Presidents and the Treasurer of the UCLG, meets every six months in order to monitor the organisation's work.

The meeting in Rabat will be a key point in the strategic exercise that UCLG is currently undertaking and will also be the venue for several parallel meetings.

These include the meetings of some committees, as well as a meeting organised by UCLG - Africa on local Finances. The third edition of the GOLD international study, which deals with local financing systems, will be presented at this meeting.

For more information:

- www.cglu-juin2011.com
- www.cites-localgovernments.org

**AGENDA**

16 – 18 May
*World Human Rights Cities Forum*
Gwangju (South Korea)
Organised by: 18 May Memorial Foundation and the Gwangju Metropolitan City Government

28 May – 26 June
*Workshops on Strengthening Women’s Participation in Local Governance*
Kelowna, Prince George and Esquimalt (Canada)
Organised by: Federation of Canadian Municipalities

22 – 24 June
*UCLG Executive Bureau*
Rabat (Morocco)
Organised by: UCLG and Rabat City Council

30 June – 1 July
*Preparatory meeting for the 8th Conference of the European Charter for Human Rights in the City*
San Sebastián (España)
Organised by: San Sebastián Town Hall and UCLG Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights

30 June – 1 July
*International Colloquy 2011 “Transparency and public ethics: a challenge to democracy”*
Strasbourg (France)
Organised by: Council of Europe and Strasbourg City Council

18 July
*Local governance and the participatory budget*
Rabat (Morocco)
Organised by: ENDA ECOPOL