



United Cities and Local Governments
Cités et Gouvernements Locaux Unis
Ciudades y Gobiernos Locales Unidos
Committee « Peripheral cities »

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The voices of peripheral cities at the World Social Forum-WSF of Dakar

Born in the dynamic of the WSF and of the Forums of Local Authorities for Social Inclusion, our network permanently sought to carry the voice of peripheries and their engagements for cohesive metropolises as contribution to “Another world is possible and it begins in the cities”.

The voice of inhabitants and of peripheral local authorities took a new dimension at the WSF of Dakar, through an important participation in the ‘opening walk’, the success of the meeting of African urban social movements (700 people) organized by the Popular Research Center for the Citizen’s Action (CERPAC) and animated by Sidiki Daff in Guédiawaye (periphery of Dakar), the seminars of the International Observatory of Peripheries and of course the visibility of the International Assembly of the FPLA in Pikine.

They enriched the WSF by their engagements, the FPLA by their resistances and their aspirations. Convergences must be built, the forms must be found, from local to global (the process of AFRICITE 2012 in Dakar should allow it in Africa, as well as the preparation of the 3rd FPLA in Canoas - Brazil in the 2nd half of 2013), **so that the initiatives for the right to an inclusive metropolis for all could contribute to another possible world.**

International Assembly of the FPLA: “For cohesive metropolises: to listen and to act with the African popular peripheries” - 7 February 2011 - Pikine - (metropolis of Dakar - Senegal)

During the **FPLA of Getafe**, popular peripheral local authorities expressed their will to not be anymore the ‘invisible’ of the world urbanization and to carry together the right to the **metropolis for all**. Attending the FPLA in June 2010, our partners of Pikine - metropolis of Dakar (Senegal) - took up the challenge. With its 16 district’s municipalities, **Pikine, a city of almost a million inhabitants**, worked with passion and enthusiasm to welcome the network’s partners 1[1] and tens of mayors of Senegal in a FPLA International Assembly.

This initiative, despite some technical risks (electricity cut for one hour), with nearly thousand participants in its opening session, **could draw world and national attention** (presence of 3 ministers) **to the challenges of African urban peripheries** and particularly to the periphery of Dakar on “**floods**” issues.

Local councillors and representatives of civil society pointed out that “the floods” have “incommensurable” consequences for the daily live and social inclusion. If “the solutions are not simple”, they exist, as expressed by some specialists and inhabitants, but **they require “important investments [...] who cannot be supported by cities of underdeveloped countries”** (Papa Sagna Mbaye, mayor of Pikine).

^[1] Attending participants: **Brazil**: Sao Leopolo, Canoas, Varzea Paulista, Contagem, Laura C Freitas **Spain**: Getafe, Rivetted Vaciamadrid, FAMSI; **Mexico**: Iztapalapa; **Portugal**: Villa Franca C Xira; **Mali**: Bamako 1; **France**: Bondy, Clamart, Nanterre, Communauté d’Agglomération Plaine Commune, Aubagne, Montreuil, Conseil Général Val de Marne and Seine Saint Denis, Regional Council of Ile de France and Midi Pyrenees, but also **Mr Elong Bassi**, secretary-general of United Cities and Local Governments Africa, **Gustave Massiah**, member of the World Council of the WSF, **Antoine Jolly**, French Ministry for Foreign Affairs, **Bertrand Gallet**, General director of Cités Unies France.

The fight for the right to the city includes making known and answering this local urgency of Pikine's inhabitants, discussed the same day in Guédiawaye as well as the following days in the WSF by social movements present in Pikine. The network "FPLA for cohesive metropolises" played an important role in 'raising the voice' of popular peripheries so that, at local and global level, they are not anymore the '**invisible**' of the **metropolisation**. Floods issues have been discussed as urgency for cohesive metropolis of Dakar, they have been placed in the agenda of the exchanges of experience and co-operation between local authorities in the world.

The FPLA International Assembly of Pikine adopted a **declaration on floods issues**, as well as a **Call of popular Peripheral Local Authorities** to join the network "FPLA for cohesive metropolises" and to work with the African section of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLGA).

The mobilization of the international Assembly of the FPLA contributed to the success of the 9th Assembly of the Forum of Local Authorities for Social Inclusion in Dakar, February 8th. Sara Hernandez, 1st deputy mayor of Getafe presented, in the opening session, the conclusions of the 2nd FPLA for cohesive, sustainable and democratic Metropolises. During the debates, several partners ^{2[2]} of the FPLA talked about their experiences and engagements.

The FPLA animated the workshop "Public services and cohesive metropolises, a local challenge for another possible world" (the report will be ready soon).

As Patrick Jarry, mayor of Nanterre, underlined in conclusion of the Forum of Local Authorities, by mobilizing the word of peripheral cities and carrying the claim of cohesive metropolises, the network FPLA strengthens the municipal movement for "another possible world".

UCLG launches a strategic reflection

United Cities and Local Governments congress of Mexico City decided to do a consultation on its priorities and strategy to better carry the voice of peripheral local authorities. A seminar for committees' secretaries took place on 22-23 February. Our committee "Peripheral cities" underlined the need to better take into account the diversity of the "voices" of local authorities and to better valorise their initiatives, in order to enrich the message of UCLG. Next world bureau (June 2011 - Rabat) will discuss on that. We invite you to send us your contributions as well as to fill the questionnaire of UCLG secretariat

<http://www.tigersurvey.com/Survey.aspx?id=175648>

"Net Topic" European project (European program URBACT II) just ended

For 3 years, under the coordination of our friends of L'Hospitalet de Llobregat (metropolis of Barcelona - Spain), 7 peripheral European cities (3) exchanged their experiences through several thematic seminars on urban renewal, citizen's participation, metropolitan governance. The final documents are under development. Several partners of the network "FPLA" and the committee "Peripheral cities" were partners in this project.

^{2[2]} **Gerard Perreau Bezouille**, 1st deputy mayor of Nanterre; **Patrick Braouezec**, president of the Communauté d'Agglomération Paline Commune; **Gilbert Roger**, mayor of Bondy and 1st vice president of Conseil Général de Seine Denis Saint; **Jairo Jorge**, mayor of Canoas; **Sara Hernandez**, 1st deputy mayor of Getafe; **Eduardo Tadeu**, mayor of Varzea Paulista; **Fatimata Komte Doumbia**, mayor of Bamako 1; **Patrice Kaltembach**, mayor of Clamart, vice president of the Regional Council Ile de France. **Papa Sagna Mbaye**, mayor of Pikine; **Magali Giovannangeli**, 1st deputy mayor of Aubagne; **Khady Ba**, mayor of Diamagune Sicap - Mbaou; **Fernando Paulo Ferreira**, municipal councillor of Villa Franca Xira; **Moema Gramacho**, mayor of Laura C Freitas; **Idrissa Diallo**, mayor of Dalifort; **Tania Sanchez**, deputy mayor of Riveted Vaciamadrid

(3) **Barakaldo** (Bilbao metropolis - Espagne), **Kladno** (Prague metropolis - Czech republic), **Haidari** (Athens metropolis - Greece) **L'Hospitalet de Llobregat** (Barcelona metropolis - Spain), **Nanterre** (Paris metropolis - France), **Sacele** (Brashov metropolis - Romania), **Salford** (Manchester metropolis - UK), **Sesto San Giovanni** (Milan metropolis - Italy)