Dear members of the UCLG Commission on Strategic Urban Planning, dear partners,

On behalf of the mayor of Rosario, Argentina, and the mayor of Durban, South Africa, we would like to thank you for your active participation in the committee meeting during the last World Council of UCLG. We consider our last meeting in Istanbul has been a highlight for the UCLG agenda of urban development planning that is supported by the committee on Strategic Urban Planning. We hope to receive further inputs and support of the members to follow up the agenda for the next year and to meet expectations, especially regarding the policy paper, to articulate a local government position.

Please find the minutes of the meeting and a draft agenda for the next year attached. We also attach the draft of the policy paper as presented in Istanbul. The power point presentations will be uploaded to our website. We will welcome any suggestion and remain at your full disposal.

Please send your recommendations to s.hoeflich@cities-localgovernments.org or sbarrios@rosario.gov.ar
Wishing you a fruitful start of the year 2009, best regards,

Your UCLG committee team

Strategic Urban planning at the UCLG World Council
Minutes of Meeting
Agenda 2009
Policy Paper on Strategic Urban Planning

a Local Governments perspective

28th November 2008, 9.00-12.00

Mónica Bifarello
Former General Secretary Municipality of Rosario, Argentina
Current Secretary of Regions and Municipalities, Province of Santa Fe, Argentina

Istanbul Commission Strategic Planning presentation Work in Progress
Preface

• Creation of a commission on Urban Strategic Planning in the World Council Jeju, Corea November 2007
• UCLG activities in Africa and Latina America through the Cities Alliance UCLG City Future programme
• UCLG has been articulating policy from Local Authorities in the fields of social inclusion, finance
• Partnership with Cities Alliance advocating for attention to cities: cities- nations- donors

• Purpose of this Session:
  – Present ‘Annotated Outline’ and frame for case studies
  – Agree on the fact and methodology to develop a policy paper
  – Elicit comments and suggestions
Structure and Intentions

• Four Chapters building on practical 1st hand experience
1. Objective and Context – urbanization, globalization, decentralization
2. Solutions Provided- Criteria, concept, values
   • Which of criteria have to be taken into account in the discussion, decision, implementation of development strategies of cities and regions?
3. Local Action- system of actors, sustainability, diversity, coherence
   • What have been lessons learnt, challenges, what has been the transformation and where has it happened?
4. Conclusion and Declaration – the importance of planning
   • The local governments, why and what for do we plan?
Target group

- Local Governments and local actors involved in the strategic urban and development planning process

- National and international actors from the public and private sector involved in processes of urban development.
Objective

• A position and recommendations of Local Governments on strategic planning for Local and Territorial Development carried forward through UCLG (declaration)

• A policy orientation on the value of Strategic Urban Planning for Local Development and Management.

• guide through the topics of strategic urban and local development planning based on experiences.

• demonstrate the role of local governments in the planning processes.
Chapter 1: Context

- Urbanization
  - local and national economies.
  - challenges regarding accelerated growth and social inclusion
  - The interdependence centers and peripheries

- Globalization
  - Impact of globalization
  - Balance between opportunity and challenges

- Decentralization
  - Decentralization, governance, municipal reform:
  - National and local legislative frameworks (competences)
  - Instruments and means to facilitate, and manage development.
Chapter 2: Solutions provided by Strategic Planning
Criteria, concept, values

• Financial, social and environmental sustainability.
• Poverty reduction - harmonization of formal and informal sectors.
• Environmental Quality and Challenges posed by Climate Change
• Citizen participation
• Cooperation and interaction of different stakeholders
Chapter 3: Local Governments and urban strategic planning in different regions

- highly sustainable
- mayor transformations

The main difficulties, lessons learned and future challenges, regarding:
- Legal context
- Leadership
- Economic development
- Implementation level
- Impacts
- Processes and learning
Chapter 3: Local Governments urban strategic planning in different regions

- The system of local actors
  - city mayors and local leaders
  - Public Private Partnerships
  - knowledge platforms.
  - City associations and networks.
  - Supra local entities
  - The strategic planning process
  - Formulation and decision
  - Methodology
  - Capacities
  - Diversity and coherence of the plans
  - Normative and strategic planning. Outreach of plans
  - Present situation and long term orientation. Crisis and planning. Prospective and diversity of future scenarios
Case Studies:
Guiding questions

– characteristics of your city, concerning place, history size, principle activities, challenge of your city
– Urban Strategic Planning: what is our understanding? What were the steps/phases? Where and why did we start? What were the most important success factors?
– Implementation process: What were the challenges during the implementation? What were the lessons learnt?
– Enabling environments: What are the framework conditions (legal, fiscal, competencies) and how did they influence/encourage the process?
– Inspired by exchange, can we talk about general changes of methodologies; how far can we talk about trends? (global, regional)
Chapter 4: Declaration
The importance of planning

– The local governments, why and what for do we plan?
– UCLG advocating a local government position on strategic urban planning, based on the experiences
– A vision of the committee on urban strategic planning provides orientation to the UCLG bodies
– Conclusions and recommendations for cities with or without previous experiences on planning, networks and global actors

What are our main needs and strengths? What do local governments claim for, what do local governments offer?