HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL DEBATE WITH MINISTERS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UCLG EXECUTIVE BUREAU

INCLUSIVE AND SAFE CITIES, KEY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Local and regional governments’ key priorities for the global goals

# UCLGmeets

EXECUTIVE BUREAU

23-26 May 2018

STRASBOURG
The theme of this edition of the Executive Bureau is **Inclusive and Safe Cities, Key for Sustainable Development**.

Held in Strasbourg at the invitation of Co-President Roland Ries and co-organized together with UN-Habitat, the 2018 edition of the Executive Bureau will include a “Dialogue on Sustainable Cities” around high-level dialogues between central and local government representatives in order to emphasize the need for alignment and collaboration between all spheres of government to achieve the ambitious but achievable goals of the 2030 Agenda.

Through these dialogues, organized within the framework of the work of the United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities (UNACLA), UCLG and UN-Habitat want to bring the importance of multi-level governance to the High Level Political Forum to be held at the UN Headquarters in July this year.

The High Level Political Forum will see the UN member states reporting on their achievements around the SDGs. For the first time, SDG 11 on sustainable cities will be reported this year. 2018 will also see the first **Forum of Local and Regional Governments**, organized on 16 July under the auspices of ECOSOC, and appearing as a special event in the official programme.

The debates in Strasbourg will create an unique opportunity to share experiences at local and national level and to pave the way for a greater structural dialogue between different spheres of government, essential to achieve the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.
### THURSDAY 24 MAY
**Venue: European Parliament**

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:00-12:00</td>
<td><strong>Country Implementation of SDG 11</strong>&lt;br&gt;Meeting of national delegations organized by UN-Habitat</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Room R1.1</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30-13:30</td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong>&lt;br&gt;Espace Atrium <em>(tapis de fleurs)</em></td>
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<td>13:30-15:00</td>
<td><strong>Policy Council on Right to the City</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dialogue between Ministers and Local Governments</td>
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<td><em>Room WIC100 - WIC200</em></td>
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<td>15:00-15:30</td>
<td><strong>Coffee break</strong>&lt;br&gt;Espace Emilio Colombo</td>
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<td>15:30-17:00</td>
<td><strong>Policy Council on Opportunities for All</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dialogue between Ministers and Local Governments</td>
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<td><em>Room WIC100 - WIC200</em></td>
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<td>18:30</td>
<td><strong>Opening of the Exhibition “Nés quelque part” and Official Reception</strong>&lt;br&gt;Organized by the City</td>
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<td>of Strasbourg&lt;br&gt;<em>Venue: Place du Château, Palais Rohan</em></td>
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### FRIDAY 25 MAY
**Venue: European Parliament**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>09:00-10:30</td>
<td><strong>Policy Council on Multilevel Governance</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dialogue between Ministers and Local Governments</td>
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<td><em>Room S1.4</em></td>
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<td>10:30-11:00</td>
<td><strong>Coffee break</strong>&lt;br&gt;Espace Emilio Colombo</td>
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<td>11:00-12:30</td>
<td><strong>Policy Council on Resilient Cities</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dialogue between Ministers and Local Governments</td>
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<td><em>Room S1.4</em></td>
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<td>12:30-13:30</td>
<td><strong>High-Level Dialogue</strong>&lt;br&gt;Linking the Global Goals with the New Urban Agenda Implementation</td>
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<td>A session organized in partnership with UNACLA&lt;br&gt;<em>Room S1.4</em></td>
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<td>13:30-14:30</td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong>&lt;br&gt;Self-service</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:30-18:30</td>
<td><strong>UCLG Executive Bureau: Business Session</strong>&lt;br&gt;<em>Room S1.4</em></td>
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The High-Level Dialogue will take place within the framework of the Sustainable Cities Dialogue happening in conjunction with the UCLG Executive Bureau in Strasbourg.

The high-level segment of the Dialogue will contribute to the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) assessment of SDG11, highlighting questions relative to multilevel governance to achieve sustainable cities as well as the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

Participants will be encouraged to present a state of affairs in their own territory, constituency or country, establishing, if possible, a link with the National Voluntary Reviews and linking their work with the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

The outcome of this event will be brought to the High Level Political Forum in New York in the form of a report capitalizing on the experiences presented, bringing the challenges of implementing SDG11 and solutions to overcome the urban governance challenges.

**PROGRAMME**

**WELCOME AND SETTING THE SCENE**

Maimunah Mohd Sharif  
Executive Director of UN-Habitat

Brune Poirson  
State Secretary for Ecological and Solidarity Transition of France

Stefano Bonaccini  
President of Emilia-Romagna, Italy, President of the Council of European Municipalities and Provinces

Roland Ries  
Co-President of UCLG, Mayor of Strasbourg

**THE CHALLENGE OF URBAN GOVERNANCE: A CONTRIBUTION FROM MAYORS AND MINISTERS ACROSS THE WORLD**

Yasutomo Suzuki  
Mayor of Hamamatsu, Japan

Zweli Mkhize, (tbc)  
Minister for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, South Africa

Rose Christiane Ossouka Raponda  
Mayor of Libreville, Gabon, UCLG Vice-President for Africa

Representatives of national governments (tbc)

Gudrun Mosler-Törnström  
President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe
In the framework of the 2018 Executive Bureau, taking place in Strasbourg, the UCLG Policy Council on the Right to the City and Inclusive Territories is hosting a High-Level Dialogue on Sustainable Cities between Mayors and Ministers. During the 2016 World Congress in Bogotá, UCLG committed to put the ‘Right to the City’ at the heart of urban territorial governance. Growing inequalities create new forms of poverty and exclusion. In their daily tasks, local and regional governments face the responsibility of tackling socio-spatial exclusion and promoting social justice, integrating migrants, preventing discrimination and urban violence, and protecting social rights to ensure prosperity and well-being.

The New Urban Agenda, approved in Quito in October 2016 also refers to the Right to the City in paragraph 11 and note the efforts of some national and local governments to enshrine this vision in their legislation, political declarations and charters. The UCLG Policy Council on Right to the City and Inclusive Territories is the place where UCLG members are invited to share their views and policies on the Right to the City and its implementation. On this occasion, the session will profit from the presence of central governments to discuss policies and strategies to ensure urban development in more democratic and inclusive ways, including supporting inclusive housing policies, universal access to basic services, work with communities to upgrade slums and support the social production of habitat. It will also analyze a human rights-based approach to promote gender equality and the respect of minorities, e.g. for migrants.

The key outcomes of the session will be shared with the UCLG Executive Bureau during its business session. The conclusions will also be included in the report on the Strasbourg Dialogue to the High Level Political Forum in July 2018.
QUESTIONs TO THE SPEAKERS

1. THE RIGHT TO HOUSING
   • Which local experiences have successfully enabled access to adequate housing and helped to fight poverty in this regard? In what way are you addressing this issue?
   • What commitments at the national level should be established to guarantee the right to housing and how should central governments work with local and regional governments in reinforced multilevel mechanisms?
   • What common messages could local governments bring to the HLPF this July?

2. MIGRATION AND UNIVERSALITY OF RIGHTS
   • What commitment could be issued from UCLG to defend human rights related to migration?
   • In what way can local governments and cities provide access to local services for migrants and fight against phenomena such as social exclusion or racism? How is your city addressing the inclusion of newcomers?
   • Why is further recognition still needed at the global level in regard to local action and migration?
   • How could cities and national governments work together on the global governance of migration and what messages could be shared in view of the Global Compact on Migration?

3. IMPLEMENTING HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGH MUNICIPAL ACTION
   • How can local governments tackle issues related to the universal dimension of human rights, such as gender equality or non-discrimination?
   • How can we link local policies with the implementation of global charters for Human Rights in the city (such as the European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City)?
   • How can political commitment to mainstream human rights in the city be increased?

4. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND THE NEW URBAN AGENDA FROM A RIGHT TO THE CITY PERSPECTIVE
   • How can local governments ensure full access to public services, facilities and space for all?
   • What is your city doing to “leave no one behind”?
   • How can we make sure that a rights-based perspective is well-included in the implementation and monitoring process of the SDGs?
   • What benefits could it bring in terms of strengthening cooperation between stakeholders and increasing impact?
   • How can local governments cooperate with civil society in order to make cities more inclusive and cohesive?
   • How can we advance the recognition of local stakeholders (including civil society) in the implementation and monitoring process of the SDGs?
In the framework of the 2018 Executive Bureau, taking place in Strasbourg, the UCLG Policy Council on Opportunities for All, Culture and City Diplomacy is hosting a High-Level Dialogue on Sustainable Cities between Mayors and Ministers.

More concretely, this session will debate how to protect the core values of culture and citizen participation, how to foster city diplomacy and cooperation through capacity development, and how to promote solidarity and peace as the bases for sustainable development.

The key outcomes of the session will be shared with the Executive Bureau during its business session. The conclusions will also be included in the report on the Strasbourg Dialogue to the High Level Political Forum in July 2018.
1. **CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

- What participatory planning mechanisms have succeeded in your city/territory in including most vulnerable groups – those who often do not participate in basic participatory processes, like elections – into participatory planning mechanisms?
- What competences or resources would you further need to attain this goal?
- How can national policies and legislation support participatory policies at local level?

2. **CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

- What is the connection between natural and cultural resources?
- How is national government involved in the governance of cultural and natural heritage in this context, and what would you need to enhance policymaking in this regard?

3. **CULTURAL DIVERSITY**

- How are national governments providing an adequate legal and financial framework for cities to fully develop their cultural potential?
- Which initiatives are being implemented in your cities and regions to support cultural diversity, to promote dialogue and exchange between all cultures and enrich inhabitants’ creativity?

4. **PROSPERITY**

- How can local governments promote local economic development policies that create greater opportunities for all?
- What policies can be promoted to support informal activities that are often the only alternative for subsistence, particularly for many young people and women in developing countries?
- How can national government stimulate and support local governments to generate local economic alternatives?

5. **CITY DIPLOMACY, PEACE AND DECENTRALIZED COOPERATION**

- How can decentralized cooperation contribute to the implementation of the NUA and the 2030 Agenda?
- How can national legislation and policies support decentralized cooperation?
- How can international institutions be partners and positively contribute to this process?
HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE BETWEEN MAYORS AND MINISTERS

Hosted by
THE UCLG POLICY COUNCIL: MULTILEVEL GOVERNANCE

09:00 – 10:30 · 25 May 2018
Room S1.4, European Parliament

In the framework of the 2018 Executive Bureau, taking place in Strasbourg, the UCLG Policy Council on Multilevel governance is hosting a High-Level Dialogue on Sustainable Cities between Mayors and Ministers.

The UCLG Policy Council “Territorial, Multilevel Governance and Sustainable Financing” is the place where UCLG members share initiatives and hold in-depth discussions about policies and their consequences at the different levels of government, as well as to propose paths for the development of new model of governance.

This session will gather both ministers and mayors to discuss how to build governance capabilities, implement effective partnerships with multiple stakeholders, and ensure accountable and transparent governance. It will focus on the territorial approach to development, including national urban policies and how to strengthen sub-national and public financing systems.

The key outcomes of the session will be shared with the Executive Bureau during its business session. The conclusions will also be included in the report on the Strasbourg Dialogue to the High Level Political Forum in July 2018.

CO-CHAIRS

Mercè Conesa Pagès
President of Barcelona Provincial Council, Spain

Mónica Fein
Mayor of Rosario, Argentina, Vice-President of UCLG for Latin America

SPEAKERS

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTATIVES

Gustavo Baroja
President of the Association of Autonomous Provincial Governments of Ecuador (CONGOPE)

Patrick Jarry
Mayor of Nanterre, Chair of the UCLG Forum on Peripheral Cities

Mohamed Sefiani
Mayor of Chefchaouen, Morocco, Chair of the UCLG Forum on Intermediary Cities

MINISTERIAL DELEGATIONS

Ann Nafi Aussi Balbol
Minister, Minister of Construction, Housing, Municipalities and Public Works, Iraq

Landry Ngono Tsimi
Inspector General, Ministry of Decentralization and Local Development, Cameroon

RESPONDENT

Rémi Rioux
Director General, French Agency for Development (AFD), President of International Development Finance Club (IDFC), France
1. MULTILEVEL DIALOGUE MECHANISMS
   - What are the dialogue mechanisms between the different spheres of government, and particularly between national and subnational governments, that were put in place in your country to achieve sustainable cities and communities?
   - How they are working with civil society?

2. ALIGNMENT OF NATIONAL AND LOCAL PRIORITIES WITH THE SDGs
   - What are the experiences of better coordinating national, regional and local development plans and strategies in your country?
   - Are there any policy or incentive mechanisms that have been created or strengthened to facilitate subnational governments’ involvement in the SDGs, to share national and subnational priorities and to support the harmonization process?

3. NATIONAL URBAN POLICIES AND BALANCED TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT
   - Has your country developed an integrated approach for urban and territorial policies?
   - How have local and regional governments been or are being involved in the process?
   - How far do cities and territories feel included in these national strategies to bring the urban agenda close to national and regional priorities?

4. STRENGTHENING URBAN PARTICIPATORY PLANNING
   - Could you please share your experiences to foster integrated and participatory planning at city or territorial level?
   - Do the national regulatory framework and policies support local and regional authorities to promote integrated and participatory planning in cities and territories?

5. FINANCING THE GLOBAL AGENDAS AND LONG-TERM URBAN INVESTMENTS
   - What kinds of initiatives or reforms are needed to allow national and subnational governments to finance the localization of the SDGs and New Urban Agenda more significantly and effectively?
   - How can we promote a shift in the financial sector to promote long-term investment more focused on sustainable urban areas and human settlements?
HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE BETWEEN MAYORS AND MINISTERS
Hosted by
THE UCLG POLICY COUNCIL: RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE CITIES

11:00 – 12:30 · 25 May 2018
Room S1.4, European Parliament

In the framework of the 2018 Executive Bureau, taking place in Strasbourg, the UCLG Policy Council on Resilient and Sustainable Cities is hosting a High-Level Dialogue on Sustainable Cities between Mayors and Ministers.

The UCLG Policy Council “Safer, Resilient and Sustainable Cities, Capable of Facing Crises” is the place where UCLG members share initiatives and hold in-depth discussions about policies and their consequences at local and global level.

This session will discuss how to strengthen disaster risk governance, invest in resilience, and enhance disaster preparedness. It will focus on opportunities and responses to emerging crises in urban areas for inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable territories; and for urban communities to have the capacities to address risks and mitigate the impacts of crises, both man-made and natural. The dialogue will also approach environmental policies to improve sustainability and resilience in urban settlements (pollution, waste, energy), as well as responsible consumption and production (circular economy, recycling, etc.).

The key outcomes of the session will be shared with the Executive Bureau during its business session. The conclusions will also be included in the report on the Strasbourg Dialogue to the High Level Political Forum in July 2018.

CO-CHAIRS
Roland Ries
Mayor of Strasbourg, France. President of Cités Unies France, Co-President of UCLG, Co-Chair of the UCLG Mobility Community of Practice

Fatimetou Mint Abdel Malick
Mayor of Tevragh-Zeina, Mauritania, Vice President of REFELA for the Northern Region

SPEAKERS
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTATIVES
Ahmad Kamareddine
Mayor of Tripoli, Lebanon

Iván Arciénaga
Mayor of Sucre, Bolivia, Vice-President of UCLG for Latin America

Alexey Shaposhnikov
Chairman of Moscow City Duma, Russia

Paco Toajas
Mayor of Las Cabezas de San Juan, Spain, Co-Chair of the UCLG Local Economic and Social Development Committee

MINISTERIAL DELEGATIONS
Mohamed Ali Al Mutawa
General Director, Ministry of Housing, Sultanate of Oman

National government representative, Morocco (tbc)

RESPONDENTS
Ahmad Kamareddine
Mayor of Tripoli, Lebanon

Nasseneba Hadja Touré
Mayor of Odienne, Yvory Coast

Osman Toprak
Deputy Mayor of Gaziantep, Turkey

Marcos Montoiros
NGO and Civil Society Liaison Officer, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
QUESTIONS TO THE SPEAKERS

1. CLIMATE CHANGE AND RESILIENCE
   - Many cities are front-runners and develop new alternatives to reduce their environmental impact. How are your countries, cities and communities preparing to meet these challenges?
   - What do you feel are the most urgent and pressing actions in this regard, taking into account different contexts and variables?

2. SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY
   - Would you present a few examples from your communities, in which innovation and sustainability in mobility, accessibility and transport have improved resilience and inclusiveness?

3. GENDER EQUALITY AND PUBLIC SPACES
   - How could urban policies be more sensitive to gender equality needs? What initiatives and policies would you say have been developed with these objectives in mind in your community?
   - Do you perceive this issue is given adequate relevance in the policy debate at local, regional and national levels?
   - How can political implication to mainstream human rights in the city be increased?

4. POLLUTION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT
   - What do you think local governments can do to really alter and reduce the environmental impact of cities?
   - Which local competences do you think may best provide a solution in this domain, and which experiences or practices would you like to share?

5. SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT
   - Are there any practices in your community which have contributed to these achievements?
   - How important do you think resilient urban-rural linkages can be, in order to sustain local development in the face of the threats of climate change to territories?
   - Can rural communities and smaller towns contribute to a more locally-oriented system of cities?
   - Do you have any practices that may show positive examples in this regard?

6. SENDAI FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION
   - In your opinion, what mechanisms or policies could make this alignment possible in the short term, and easier for local and regional governments?
   - Which initiatives and policies at national and territorial levels you think are feasible to integrate the Sendai Framework in your strategies and implement it at territorial level?