

# CITIES ALLIANCE ORGANISATION

In accordance with the Charter of the Cities Alliance, its governance and organisational structure includes the Consultative Group, the Policy Advisory Board, and the Secretariat.

## The Consultative Group

The Consultative Group—the Cities Alliance’s board of directors—is responsible for setting the Alliance’s long-term strategy, approving its annual work programme and budget, and reviewing its achievements. The Consultative Group consists of financial contributors to the Cities Alliance Trust Fund and the political heads of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG, the global organisation of local authorities) and Metropolis (a world association of major metropolises), who have pledged their commitment to achieving Cities Alliance goals. The Consultative Group is co-chaired by the World Bank’s vice president for sustainable development and UN-HABITAT’s deputy executive director.

Prospective financial contributors may serve as associate members for two years. Membership in the

Cities Alliance has continued to grow, with the Governments of Chile and the Philippines as well as the European Union expected to formalise their membership before the 2007 Consultative Group meetings.

The Consultative Group has also set up the six-member Steering Committee, a subset of its members, to provide guidance to the Secretariat.

## Meetings

Consultative Group meetings are held annually in conjunction with a public policy forum designed to share the lessons learned from experience and inform policy orientations and standards of practice in areas related to the Alliance’s goals. The following Consultative Group meetings have been held:

**Berlin, December 1999**—Inaugural meeting, at which the *Cities Without Slums* action plan was launched and the Charter of the Cities Alliance and its 2000 work programme were approved.

**Montréal, June 2000**—First Public Policy Forum (“Political Dimensions of Support for Cities”), Con-

sultative Group review of application guidelines and approval of the Cities Alliance Vision Statement.

**Rome, December 2000**—Second Public Policy Forum (“Local Partnerships: Moving to Scale”), Consultative Group approval of amendments to the Cities Alliance Charter, the 2001 work programme, and procedures to establish the Policy Advisory Board and the Steering Committee.

**Kolkata, December 2001**—Third Public Policy Forum (“Sustainable Partnerships for City Development”), Consultative Group review of procedures for the first independent evaluation of the Cities Alliance and approval of the 2002 work programme.

**Brussels, October 2002**—Panel discussion at the European Commission (“Achieving the Millennium Development Goal of Cities without Slums”), Consultative Group review of the independent evaluation of the Cities Alliance and approval of the 2003 work programme.

**São Paulo, October 2003**—Fourth Public Policy Forum (“Sustainable Financing Strategies for Cities and Financial Services for the Urban Poor”), Consultative Group approval of procedures for developing country membership in the Consultative Group and approval of the 2004 work programme.

**eThekweni, November 2004**—Fifth Public Policy Forum (“Making City Development Strategies Come Alive in South Africa”), Consultative Group approval of new Policy Advisory Board members and the 2005 work programme.

**Marrakech, November 2005**—Sixth Public Policy Forum (“Morocco’s Cities Without Slums Programme”), Consultative Group review of procedures for the second independent evaluation of the Cities Alliance and approval of the 2006 work programme.

**Washington, D.C., November 2006**—Seventh Public Policy Forum (“Environment, Poverty and Development in an Urbanising World”), Consultative Group discussion and approval of the findings of the second independent evaluation.

## **Members as of June 2007**

The Consultative Group includes representatives of the following groups:

### **Local authorities**

- United Cities and Local Governments
- Metropolis

### **Governments**

- Brazil
- Canada
- Ethiopia
- France
- Germany
- Italy
- Japan
- Netherlands
- Nigeria
- Norway
- South Africa
- Sweden
- United Kingdom
- United States

### **Multilateral organisations**

- Asian Development Bank
- United Nations Environment Programme
- UN-HABITAT
- World Bank

## **The Policy Advisory Board**

The Policy Advisory Board of the Cities Alliance is composed of eminent urban experts from each region. They provide guidance to the Consultative Group on key strategic, policy, and regional issues and support the implementation of Cities Alliance activities.

The Consultative Group established the composition, terms of office, and operating procedures of the Policy Advisory Board at the December 2000 Second Public Policy Forum meeting. The board brings together civic leaders and policy advisers with a formidable range of public and private sector ex-

pertise that spans the leadership of community-based organisations, nongovernmental organisations and their networks, local authority organisations, community banks, community savings and credit schemes, commercial banks, and public sector financial institutions.

What they have in common is political experience and practical knowledge from working with poor cities and the urban poor worldwide. The board meets twice a year—spring and during the Consultative Group meetings—and has eight members: two from Africa, two from Asia, one from the Arab States, one from Eastern Europe, one from Latin America and the Caribbean, and one from the industrialised countries. The members serve on a rotating basis, typically between two and four years.

The board's annual spring meeting this year was held jointly with the African Development Bank (AfDB), on the occasion of the AfDB's review of its Urban Development Policy. Meeting in Tunis, Tunisia in April 2007, board members participated in the AfDB's Stakeholder Review Workshop, where discussions on Africa's urban future were designed to support the revision of the African Development Bank's urban development policy and preparation of an Urban Development Strategy Paper. They were joined by a number of Cities Alliance members, including AfD, GTZ, UCLGA, UN-HABITAT and the World Bank. Board members also had an opportunity to further discuss Africa's urban agenda with AfDB President Donald Kaberuka.

The board meeting in Tunis marked the annual rotation of Policy Advisory Board members, as incoming members, Lajana Manandhar, of Nepal, and President Nicéphore Soglo, of Benin, filled the regional representative positions of exiting members, Sheela Patel and Jean-Pierre Elong Mbassi, respectively. Cities Alliance partners hope to continue drawing on the wealth of experience and knowledge that they and all exiting members have offered since the board's formation.

#### **Departing Members Policy Advisory Board Members**

**Sheela Patel** is founding director of the Society for the Promotion of Area Resource Centres (SPARC), in Mumbai, India, which works in alliance with the

National Slum Dwellers Federation and Mahila Milan in a federation of community-based organisations of the urban poor, facilitating their direct participation in addressing the problems of cities and their relationship with informal settlements; and chair of Shack Dwellers International, a global alliance of grassroots community federations of the urban poor.

**Jean-Pierre Elong Mbassi** is Secretary-General of United Cities and Local Governments of Africa, based in the interim in Pretoria, South Africa; former Secretary-General of the Municipal Development Partnership for Africa; and an experienced practitioner in urban management and slum upgrading. He is the organiser of the Africities Summit, the most important platform for dialogue on decentralisation in Africa.

#### **Policy Advisory Board Members as of June 2007**

**Juanita D. Amatong** is a member of the Monetary Board of the Central Bank of the Philippines; former Secretary of Finance of the Philippines; and a former Executive Director of the World Bank Group. With an educational background in business, economics, and public administration, she has worked with international consultancies, in academia, and as a tax economist at the International Monetary Fund. She is a prime proponent of strong local government finance in the Philippines.

**José Forjaz** is the Chief Executive Officer and founder of José Forjaz Arquitectos in Maputo, Mozambique; former Senior Adviser for the Mozambican Minister for Public Works and Housing, dealing with housing policy, human settlements, planning, training, and institution building; former National Director of housing, responsible for regional and urban planning, housing, and social equipment, as well as training programmes for basic and mid-level rural and urban planning technicians; former Secretary of State for Physical Planning; and a former Member of Parliament. Widely published, he has lectured at universities around the world and is now in his fifteenth year as director of the Faculty of Architecture and Planning at Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, in Maputo.

**Yousef Hiasat** is the Chief Executive Officer of Beitna, a leading investment and financial firm in Amman; former Minister of Public Works and Housing in Jordan, with responsibility for the country's road networks, government buildings, and construction and housing sectors; former Director-General of Jordan's Housing and Urban Development Corporation, the public institution responsible for housing and urban development policies and housing schemes directed at middle- and low-income households; former Principal Adviser to the Prime Minister of Jordan, on housing and urban development issues; founding member and current President of the Morocco-based Near East and North Africa Urban Forum; and President of the Jordan Urban Management Society.

**Lajana Manandhar** is Director of the Lumanti Support Group for Shelter NGO in Kathmandu, advocating for housing and other rights for the urban poor at the city, national and international levels. She has also worked to implement community-based upgrading projects in Nepal's slum and squatter communities. The 'Slum and Squatter Community Empowerment Programme', initiated in Kathmandu under her leadership, and which has brought change in the living conditions of slum dwellers through improving access to housing and basic facilities, empowering women through microfinance and improving relationships with government, has now been replicated in three cities in Nepal.

**Clare Short** is the United Kingdom's former Secretary of State for International Development. A Member of Parliament for more than 20 years, she continues to represent the constituency of Birmingham Ladywood. Former Director of Youthaid and the Unemployment Unit, she also worked at the Home Office and as Director of All Faiths for One Race, a community-based organisation promoting racial equality in Birmingham. A former Opposition spokesperson on overseas development, Shadow Minister for Women, and Shadow Secretary of State for Transport, she is a member of the Helsinki Process on Globalisation and Democracy and an Associate of the Oxford Research Group.

#### **Nicéphore Soglo**

Benin's Prime Minister from 1990 to 1991 and President from 1991 to 1996, he was elected Mayor of Cotonou in 2003 by the city's council. During his earlier years in government, he worked within the Ministry of Finance, becoming Minister of Economy and Finance. With an educational background in private and public law from the University of Paris, Sorbonne, and the École Nationale d'Administration in France, he has served in numerous international financial institutions, including at the International Monetary Fund, as a member of the World Bank's Board of Executive Directors, and as an Executive Director of the Central Bank of West African States. He was also involved in drafting the Articles of Agreement of the African Development Bank.

**Paulo Teixeira** is a Member of Parliament in Brazil and Chair of the Urban Reform Caucus in the Brazilian House of Representatives (*Frente Parlamentar da Reforma Urbana*). He is former Councillor for the Municipality of São Paulo, Brazil; former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development of the Municipality of São Paulo, responsible for the development of a large-scale slum upgrading and land tenure programme; a member of the United Nations Millennium Task Force 8 on Improving the Lives of Slum Dwellers; and a member of the UN-HABITAT Advisory Group on Forced Evictions. He was recently elected Chair of the Urban Reform Caucus in the Brazilian House of Representatives

**Ana Vasilache** is founding Director of the Partners Romania Foundation for Local Development, a Bucharest-based NGO that supports democratic processes of governance and decentralisation and works to strengthen the managerial capacities of local governments in central, eastern, and south-eastern European countries; and former Head of the Settlements Management Office in the Ministry of Public Works and Regional Planning in Bucharest. She has extensive experience with planning legislation and designing and facilitating participatory strategic planning processes.

## The Secretariat

The Cities Alliance Secretariat, housed within the World Bank headquarters, carries out the Alliance's mandates and manages its operations.

### Staff as of June 30, 2007

**Akporji, Chii**—Communications Officer  
**Aubry-Kendall, Françoise**—Resource Management Analyst  
**Carlin, Anne**—Communications Consultant  
**Chabrilat, Pascale**—Urban Economist  
**Clark, Mark**—Consultant/Programme Assistant  
**Cobbett, William**—Manager  
**Csorba, Ildiko**—Programme Assistant  
**Haer, Andrea**—Operations Consultant  
**Henderson, Susanna**—Programme Assistant  
**Merrick, Andrea**—Programme Officer  
**Milroy, Kevin**—Senior Operations Officer  
**Persson, Pelle**—Senior Programme Officer  
**Puspa, Erika**—Knowledge Management Analyst  
**Rajivan, Krishnaswamy**—Senior Urban Finance Adviser  
**Rama Krishnan, Venkateswaran**—Financial Management Specialist  
**Tebbal, Farouk**—Senior Urban Specialist



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Housing in Yemen