

Cities Alliance Executive Committee Meeting  
Extra-ordinary Meeting  
4 September 2012  
Naples, Italy

*Meeting Report*

**Key Decisions and/or Follow-up Actions:**

- **Members approved the Meeting Agenda, 4 September 2012, Naples, Italy**
- **Members approved the 6 June 2012 Kampala, Uganda EXCO Meeting Report**
- **Members approved the Terms of Reference: Evaluating the Location and Hosting of the Secretariat**, with time given to send to the Secretariat any minor alterations, additions or proposed amendments by COB on Thursday 12th September 2012.
- **The Secretariat will circulate the Final TOR by 21 September 2012**, but will commence activities based on the version circulated for the EXCO meeting and hire an external consultant to lead the evaluation process with support provided by the Secretariat team of Kevin Milroy, Sr. Operations Officer/Deputy Manager and Phyllis Kibui, Operations Officer.
- **Members also welcomed and approved the offer from German Cooperation for GIZ to present to the ExCo a concrete proposal presenting what the hosting of CA would entail.**
- **Members also requested for the Evaluation team to meet with UNOPS and evaluate their hosting potential**
- **The World Bank suggested that the CA holds a discussion on Urban Policies at the Hanoi Consultative Group Meeting**
- **The Secretariat will follow-up with HFHI and UCLG to better leverage the World Urban Campaign**
- **Members agreed to ensure continued involvement in the Habitat III advocacy work**

## Meeting Summary

### Attendance:

**Executive Committee:** Goldblatt, Maehara (Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and Mouatadid (AFD) (France); Berg (Norway); Alba (Philippines); d’Cruz and Rossbach (Shack/Slum Dwellers International); Roig (meeting Chair) and Saiz (UCLG); Elong-Mbassi (UCLG-A);Badiane, Melin, (UN-Habitat); Allaoua (World Bank); Cobbett (Ex-Officio) (Secretariat)

**Regrets:** Clare Short.

**Observers:** Brazil, Ethiopia, Germany, Habitat for Humanity International, Italy, Metropolis, South Africa, Sweden, UCLG Secretariat, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States

**Secretariat:** Bertolassi, Henderson, Hohmann, Silva

**Venue:** MGallery Palazzao Caracciolo, Naples, ITALY

**See Annex I for Final Meeting Agenda**

**See Annex II for Final Participant List**

### Item 1: Opening and Welcome/Adoption of Agenda/Clearance of Previous Meeting Report

- The meeting agenda was adopted with no comments.
- No additions/comments were made to the June 2012 EXCO report. The report was approved.

The Executive Committee of the Cities Alliance decided to take advantage of the presence of many members at the World Urban Forum in Naples, and called an Extra-ordinary meeting. The meeting agenda consisted of a single item – that of the location and hosting of the Cities Alliance Secretariat. Given the importance of the issue, it was decided to invite all available and interested Consultative Group members to participate as Observers.

The issues that serve as the background to the meeting were familiar to Cities Alliance members. Over the past few years, the following matters have been discussed on one or more occasion:

- The increasing difficulty, complexity and slowness of grant-making, particular to non- World Bank implementing partners;

- The need to have more of an advocacy impact and presence in different regions, but particularly in Europe where the bulk of CA donor members are located;
- The challenges presented by the practicalities associated with increased alignment with World Bank operations; and
- The importance of maintaining the Cities Alliance as a multi-stakeholder platform, as envisaged in the recently-revised Charter.

## **Item 2: Evaluating the Location and Hosting of the Secretariat**

### ➤ *Brief presentation by William Cobbett*

At its June 2012 meeting in Uganda, the Executive Committee resolved to investigate the possibility of alternative options for the hosting of the Cities Alliance Secretariat, if such a move could improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Cities Alliance in achieving its goals. Subsequently, it has emerged that viable alternatives potentially exist.

The Secretariat undertook consultations with a number of members and partners. In addition, the Manager William Cobbett and PAF Chairperson, Clare Short, also undertook an intense visit to Europe, meeting with member representatives in Paris, Rome, Brussels, Bonn and Oslo, and consulting with Sweden by phone. Subsequently, the Manager has attempted to directly contact every member of the Cities Alliance.

The preliminary conclusion to this exercise was that viable alternatives potentially do exist to the hosting of the Secretariat at the World Bank. Most pertinently, the World Bank's German Executive Director held a very positive meeting with the Vice-President of the Sustainable Development Network to convey her Government's willingness to facilitate the transfer of part, or all, of the Secretariat to Europe, if the CA's members so desired, and so decided.

In preparation for the Naples meeting, and to ensure that the focus was on the future of the Cities Alliance, the Secretariat prepared a **Terms of Reference for Evaluating the Location and Hosting of the Secretariat**. This Terms of Reference was proposed to provide a framework for the evaluation of both the existing arrangements at the World Bank, and any alternative(s) that EXCO might approve for further consideration.

It was proposed that the Secretariat will undertake this task with the support of (i) a consultant(s) familiar with the work of the Cities Alliance, and (ii) with personnel of the proposed hosting agency or agencies. The results of this exercise will be presented to the Consultative Group at its meeting in Hanoi on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> November, for a more formal discussion and, if possible, decision.

### **Statement by German Cooperation**

#### ➤ *Franz Marré, BMZ*

Coupled with the reasons mentioned above and based on the findings of the 2011 Independent Evaluation by COWI/AS, EXCO members expressed their support for the Terms of Reference for

Evaluation the Location and Hosting of the Cities Alliance. Members emphasised the need to ensure that any change of location would be viewed from the perspective of the enhanced effectiveness and efficiency of the Cities Alliance.

In the spirit of improving the Cities Alliance, German Cooperation committed to presenting to the ExCo in Hanoi more detailed information on the full implications and offer by GIZ to facilitate the hosting of the CA Secretariat in Europe.

Initial ideas are for the Secretariat to be based in Brussels with GIZ hosting the programme, with no other intervention from GIZ, save through EXCO and CG meetings. All the members are very keen to maintain the multi-stakeholder platform of the Cities Alliance. Germany and some European partners will find a way to cover the cost of moving the programme. Italy stressed its preference for a multilateral platform, and endorsed the inclusion of UNOPS within the scope of the investigation.

## **Member Discussion and Approval of Terms of Reference and Next Steps**

Members emphasized the important progress made in the work of Cities Alliance since its creation, and particularly since the adoption of the new Business Model. They acknowledged and commended the facilities that have been provided by the World Bank since the launch of the Cities Alliance.

Members continued to stressed the importance of the issue under review, and repeatedly emphasized that the location and hosting of the Cities Alliance should be viewed from the effectiveness of the Partnership, and carry the support of members. Cities Alliance serves each member differently, whether it provides technical assistance funding or helps to influence the international agenda and debate around urban policies. Cities Alliance members reiterated their desire for Cities Alliance to be the place where members can have the ability to support and create new, innovative ideas, and stressed the importance attached to multi-stakeholder nature of the partnership. With Habitat III approaching in 2016, members believe that it is very important for the Cities Alliance to be as strong as possible, and located in the best possible place. Some members further called for the need to renew the political commitment at the highest level by all members in order to make a significant contribution to the definition and implementation of the new development agenda being currently forged internationally.

The World Bank will support whatever decision Cities Alliance members make and will continue to engage with the Cities Alliance, regardless of its location, as long as its priorities coincide with those of the Bank's. In hosting the Cities Alliance, the Bank must follow the administrative and operational guidelines set by its Board. There is a growing emphasis on urban development and the role of cities, and the World Bank offered to host a discussion on Urban Policies as part of the Hanoi CG.

- **Members approved the Terms of Reference: Evaluating the Location and Hosting of the Secretariat**, with time given to send to the Secretariat any minor alterations, additions or proposed amendments by COB on Thursday 12th September 2012.
- **The Secretariat will circulate the Final TOR by 21 September 2012**, but will commence activities based on the version circulated for the EXCO meeting and hire an external consultant to lead the evaluation process with support provided by the Secretariat.

- **Members also approved the offer from German Cooperation for GIZ to elaborate a hosting agreement of the Cities Alliance in time for presentation at the CG Meeting in Hanoi, 1-2 November 2012**
- **Members also requested for the Evaluation team to meet with UNOPS and evaluate their hosting potential**
- **The World Bank suggested a discussion on Urban Policies at the Hanoi Consultative Group Meeting**

## **Other Business**

### **Habitat III**

At least four members of the Cities Alliance are also members of the World Urban Campaign (WUC). HFHI offered to work with those members and the Secretariat to provide information to the WUC for use as advocacy work towards the Habitat III agenda 2016.

It was cautioned that a comprehensive urban agenda still requires much work before Habitat III and it was suggested that members use the Cities Alliance as an entry point to the debate.

- **The Secretariat will follow-up with HFHI and UCLG to better leverage the opportunities offered by to the World Urban Campaign and to ensure a prominent role for the CA in the build-up to Habitat III**

## **Next EXCO Meeting**

**Tuesday 30 October 2012, 6-9 PM, Hilton Hanoi Opera Hotel**

**ANNEX I**

**Executive Committee Meeting  
4 September 2012  
FINAL AGENDA**

**Venue:** MGallery Palazzo Caracciolo, Via Carbonara 112, 80139 - NAPOLI, Italy Tel: (+39)081/0160111

<b>TUESDAY, 4 September 2012</b>		
<b>19h00</b>	<b>Welcome Coffee/Tea</b> ( <i>light snacks</i> )	<b>Room:</b> San Carlo
<b>19h00 – 19h15</b>	<b>Item 1: Opening and Welcome</b> <i>Josep Roig, Secretary General, UCLG and EXCO Chairperson</i>  <i>William Cobbett, Manager, Cities Alliance</i>  ➤ Approval of meeting report - Uganda – June 2012 ➤ Approval of agenda	<b>Handouts:</b>  1-Agenda  2-June 2012 Meeting Report
<b>19h15 – 20h45</b>	<b>Item 2: Evaluating the Location and Hosting of the Secretariat</b>  ➤ <i>Brief presentation by William Cobbett</i>  <b>Statement by German Cooperation</b> ➤ <i>Franz Marré, BMZ</i>  <b>Member Discussion and Approval of Terms of Reference</b>	<b>Handouts:</b>  3-Background Note  4-Terms of Reference
<b>20h45 – 21h00</b>	<b>Closing Remarks</b> <i>Josep Roig, Secretary General, UCLG and EXCO Chairperson</i>	
<b>21h00 – 23h00</b>	<b>Cocktail Reception</b>	<b>Venue:</b> Courtyard Two

**ANNEX II**

**List of Participants**

<b><u>MEMBER</u></b>	<b><u>PARTICIPANT</u></b>	<b><u>AFFILIATION</u></b>
FRANCE	Mr. Goldblatt Ms. Emilie Maehara Mr. Hassan Mouatadid	Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs AFD
NORWAY	Mr. Erik Berg	Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs
SDI	Ms. Celine d’Cruz Ms. Anaclaudia Rossbach	SDI Secretariat SDI Secretariat
PHILIPPINES	Ms. Celia Alba	
UCLG	Mr. Josep Roig Ms. Emilia Saiz	United Cities and Local Governments United Cities and Local Governments
UCLG-A	Mr. Jean-Pierre Elong Mbassi	United Cities and Local Governments Africa
UN-HABITAT	Mr. Alioune Badiane Mr. Thomas Melin	UN-Habitat UN-Habitat
WORLD BANK	Ms. Zoubida Allaoua	World Bank
SECRETARIAT	Mr. William Cobbett	Cities Alliance Secretariat
<b><u>OBSERVERS</u></b>		
BRAZIL	Ms. Ines Magalhaes Ms. Junia Santa Rosa Mr. Omar Borges do Prado Filho	Ministry of Cities Ministry of Cities CAIXA
ETHIOPIA	Mr. Sissay Dejene	Ethiopian Cities Association Secretariat
GERMANY	Mr. Franz Marré Mr. Gunter Meinert	BMZ GIZ
HFHI	Mr. SteveWeir Ms. Jane Katz	HFHI HFHI

# Cities Alliance

Cities Without Slums

	Ms. Susanna Rojas-Williams	HFHI
ITALY	Ms. Loredana Stalteri Ms. Anna Zambrano	Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs
METROPOLIS	Mr. Alain Le Saux	Metropolis
SOUTH AFRICA	Mr. Thabane Zulu Ms. Monika Glinzler	Department of Human Settlements Department of Human Settlements
SWEDEN	Mr. Mikael Atterhog	Sida
UGANDA	Mr. Samuel Mabala	Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development
UCLG	Mr. Ricardo Martinez Mr. Mohamed Boussraoui	UCLG Secretariat UCLG Secretariat
UNITED KINGDOM	Mr. Stephen Young	DFID
UNITED STATES	Ms. Nancy Leahy	USAID
<b><u>SECRETARIAT</u></b>		
	Ms. Regianne Bertolsassi Ms. Susanna Henderson Mr. Rene Hohmann Mr. Federico Silva	Cities Alliance Secretariat Cities Alliance Secretariat Cities Alliance Secretariat Cities Alliance Secretariat