



United Cities and Local Governments
Cités et Gouvernements Locaux Unis
Ciudades y Gobiernos Locales Unidos



culture 21

Agenda 21 for culture
Agenda 21 de la culture
Agenda 21 de la cultura

**UCLG's Committee on culture
6th meeting
Rabat, 22 June 2011**

Report

22 September 2011

HIGHLIGHTS

The Committee on culture held the sixth meeting on 22 June 2011, in Rabat (Morocco), in the framework of the Executive Bureau of UCLG.

The Committee and its members agree to work, within UCLG and the national networks, so that the message of culture as the 4th pillar of sustainable development is included in the Rio+20 negotiations.

The Committee asks the UCLG World Secretariat to commit to fighting for the continuation of the Fund for Local Cultural Governance in 2011, 2012 and beyond, with a more flexible call for proposals recognising the diversity of the cities of the Committee and UCLG. The Fund is a very necessary and useful instrument.

The Committee congratulates itself for the progress achieved but notes that there is a lot of work to do in order to strengthen the dialogue with UNESCO. The Committee agrees to continue the current partnerships with the UNESCO culture sector.

The Committee agrees to analyse improving the use of the possibilities of Internet.

The members of UCLG are invited to prepare the succession of Barcelona (in 2013) as Chair of the Committee.

The Committee on culture asked the Executive Bureau of UCLG to identify culture as one of the strategic priorities of UCLG for the next few years.

1. Background

The Committee on culture is **a unique meeting point**. There is not another structure at a global level that gathers together cities, organisations and networks that foster the relation between local cultural policies and sustainable development.

The Committee on culture is chaired by Barcelona and vice-chaired by Buenos Aires, Lille, Montréal, and Stockholm.

The **Agenda 21 for culture** is the first worldwide document establishing an undertaking by cities and local governments for cultural development. 409 cities, local governments and organisations from all over the world were linked to Agenda 21 for culture on 1 September 2010.

United Cities and Local Governments – UCLG adopted Agenda 21 for culture as its reference document in October 2004 (Executive Bureau of Sao Paulo), constituted its Working Group on Culture in June 2005 (World Council of Beijing) which was succeeded by the Committee on culture in October

2007 (World Congress of Jeju) and ratified in November 2010 (World Congress of Mexico) upgrading the consideration of culture within the World organisation.

The **Committee on culture** was created to:

- Analyse and convey the messages of cities and local governments on global cultural issues. Advocacy, lobbying and policy development.
- Allow cities to exchange experiences and improve mutual learning. Networking and project development.

The Committee on culture strengthens UCLG: it is open to the participation of cities from all continents on an equal basis and helps the visibility of UCLG through very clear and specific initiatives.

The **mission of the Committee for 2011-2013** is "To promote culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development through the international dissemination and the local implementation of Agenda 21 for culture". The programme has **5 objectives or priorities**: (1) Policy development. (2) Development of projects. (3) Alliances and partnerships. (4) Funding and resources. (5) Better governance. The full programme is available in annex 1.

The Committee on culture held its 6th meeting on 22nd June 2011 in Rabat (Morocco) within the framework of the UCLG Executive Bureau. The issues discussed are set out next.

2. The meeting

2.1. **Welcome speeches** by Mr Saghir Mabrouk, researcher-professor at the Institut National des Sciences, de l'Archéologie et du Patrimoine in Rabat (Morocco), and Ms Catherine Cullen, Councillor for Culture at Lille City Council (France) and Vice-President of the UCLG Committee on culture.

Introduction of participants in the roundtable.

2.2. **Report on the provisional programme 2011-2013 and ongoing activities.** Mr Jordi Pascual, Coordinator of the Committee on culture, introduces the programme approved in Mexico in November 2010 and summarises the ongoing activities.

2.3. **Debate on the following issues:**

a. **The Policy Statement on "Culture: 4th Pillar of Sustainable Development", approved in Mexico by UCLG, and the process towards the Rio+20 Earth Summit.**

- The Policy Statement on culture as the 4th pillar is a major work about the recognition of the importance of culture and its fundamental role in our societies. It is important to disseminate the document as it provides another way of understanding development. Keywords: diversity, participation, sharing, cross-cutting approach, governance.
- It is essential that the UCLG Executive Bureau sends a clear message to the Rio+20 Summit so that culture is recognised as the 4th pillar of sustainable development. It has also been suggested that the Rio+20 Summit also includes cultural events. One year ahead of this world event, it is important to "make noise" about the future of humanity so that culture is recognised by a large number of institutions. Rio+20 will take place from 4th to 6th June 2012.
- Our approach looks at the relation between culture and sustainable development in two ways: (1) the development of the cultural sector itself (i.e. heritage, creativity, cultural industry, arts and crafts, cultural tourism); and (2) guaranteeing the place of cultural considerations in all public policies, especially those related to education, the economy, science, communications, social cohesion and international cooperation.
- Nada Al-Hassan, representative of the UNESCO culture sector in the meeting, points out that the UNESCO messages to Rio+20 are (1) that culture is an essential component of biodiversity; (2) the environment has a cultural component; and (3) culture contributes to reducing poverty.
- Marie-Eve Bonneau, from Montreal City Council, reports that Montreal has developed a plan enabling the analysis of cultural projects in sustainable development. This plan will be submitted to the Committee on culture.

- Participants in the meeting agree to work, within UCLG and national networks, so that the message of culture as the 4th pillar of sustainable development is included in the Rio+20 negotiations.

b. Agenda 21 for culture fund, in cooperation with AECID. 2011 Call for proposals.

- The call for proposals is aimed at cities of the South wishing to implement projects related to culture and sustainable development. In 2010, UCLG launched a Fund for Local Cultural Governance promoted by the UCLG Committee on culture, the UCLG World Secretariat and Barcelona City Council, with the support of AECID (Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation). Annual allocation of 675,000 euros from the fund of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation.
- Assessment of year 1: 78 expressions of interest, 26 cities submit a project, 11 excellent projects supported. Some projects rejected because of delayed submission, electronic dossier or incomplete dossier.
- A description of the projects is available at: http://www.agenda21culture.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=83:our-fund-for-local-cultural-governance&catid=56&lang=en&Itemid=63
- Call for proposals for year 2: it is recommended that the UCLG World Secretariat takes charge of the management of the Fund. It is also necessary to guarantee a better dissemination of the information, enhance the good practices and obtain new funds. The call for proposals will be launched when funding is guaranteed.
- Comments of participants, and notably Béchir Odeimi (Technical Bureau of Lebanese Cities): Mr Odeimi advises that UCLG should take care not to assess the projects as the European Union does, asks for a more flexible call for proposals and notes the importance of working in cooperation, recognising the diversity within UCLG and reserving part of the funds for dissemination and training – capacity building.
- The Committee asks the UCLG World Secretariat to commit to fighting for the continuation of the Fund for Local Cultural Governance in 2011, 2012 and beyond, with a more flexible call for proposals recognising the diversity of the cities of the Committee and UCLG. The Fund is a very necessary and useful instrument.

c. Alliances and partnerships with UNESCO.

- UNESCO is a natural partner: the organisation of United Nations for culture and the Committee on culture of the world organisation of cities should work together. Since 2006, the Committee on culture has participated in the assessment of candidatures for the Network of Creative Cities – UNESCO. The Network currently has more than 20 partner cities, including Committee cities such as Montreal, Buenos Aires or Seville.
- The Committee, representing UCLG, is an observer to the Organs of the Convention on the Protection and the Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions of UNESCO. The Committee has been involved in the process “Towards a new framework for cultural policies”.
- Nada Al-Hassan, representative in the meeting of the UNESCO culture sector, reports that a Culture and Development Summit will be held in 2013 and that several preliminary seminars will take place in 2012. In this respect, she recommends that the cities of the Committee on culture of UCLG collect data through a survey on culture and sustainable development. She points out that UCLG is a great network with a large capacity to change things on site.
- The Committee congratulates itself for the progress achieved but notes that there is a lot of work to do in order to strengthen the dialogue with UNESCO. The Committee agrees to continue the current partnerships with the UNESCO culture sector and to prepare the presence of UCLG in the 2013 Summit.

d. Communication and website.

- The Agenda 21 for culture has been translated into 19 languages. The Committee will welcome the translation into other languages by cities requiring it. The website is in three languages: French, English and Spanish: <http://www.agenda21culture.net>. A Twitter account has been active for some weeks: <http://twitter.com/agenda21culture> and there are Wikipedia pages in English (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agenda_21_for_culture), French, Spanish and other languages.
- Comments by participants: suggested channels are You Tube or Vimeo to easily bring together the videos, a Facebook page, the addition of an RSS feed, the collection of contents on a multilingual website and a webcast of the meetings.

- The Committee agrees to analyse improving the use of the possibilities of Internet to achieve the objectives of the programme for 2011-2013.

e. Governance of the Committee

- After the municipal elections in May 2011, and the change of the majority at the City Council of Barcelona, from 4th July 2011 a new administration will take over the Council. The name of the official in charge of the Committee on culture has not yet been revealed.
- In 2010, at the UCLG Congress in Mexico, the city of Barcelona announced its final mandate (2011-2013), and to continue the Chair of the Committee on culture until 2013. It is advisable to guarantee a rotation of the leadership. After 2013, another city must hold the presidency of the Committee. For the time being, no city has formally expressed its interest. All the cities of the Committee and UCLG are invited to reflect on this presidency and (if interested) to request the budgets and operating details. The information is available from the current presidency of the Committee (Barcelona) and at the World UCLG Secretariat.
- Proposal by Aubagne City Council (France) with a view to Marseilles 2013 (European Capital of Culture); the Committee on culture is invited to meet in this city.
- Proposal by the Technical Bureau of Lebanese Cities; the Committee on culture is invited to meet in Lebanon.
- Another city which had previously expressed its interest in holding a meeting of the Committee is Toulouse (France).
- The members of UCLG are invited to prepare the succession of Barcelona (in 2013) as Chair of the Committee.

3. Conclusions

- The Committee and its members agree to work, within UCLG and national networks, so that the message of culture as the 4th pillar of sustainable development is included in the Rio+20 negotiations.
- The Committee asks the UCLG World Secretariat to commit to fighting for the continuation of the Fund for Local Cultural Governance in 2011, 2012 and beyond, with a more flexible call for proposals recognising the diversity of the cities of the Committee and UCLG. The Fund is a very necessary and useful instrument.
- The Committee congratulates itself for the progress achieved but notes that there is a lot of work to do in order to strengthen the dialogue with UNESCO. The Committee agrees to continue the current partnerships with the UNESCO culture sector.
- The Committee agrees to analyse improving the use of the possibilities of Internet.
- The members of UCLG are invited to prepare the succession of Barcelona (in 2013) as Chair of the Committee.
- The Committee on culture asked the Executive Bureau of UCLG to identify culture as one of the strategic priorities of UCLG for the next few years.

4. Our message at the UCLG Executive Bureau

On 23rd June 2011, the works of the Committee on culture were submitted to the UCLG Executive Bureau by Ms Marie-Eve Bonneau, representative of Montreal City Council, who has been the Vice-President of our Committee since October 2010.

- She recalled that the Committee is currently pursuing the implementation of its Programme 2011-2013 seeking to "To promote culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development through the international dissemination and the local implementation of Agenda 21 for culture".
- She mentioned previous presentations at the Executive Bureau, in particular that of the Mayor of Rabat, Mr Fathallah Oualalou, and also the words of gratitude of Ms Elisabeth Gateau, Secretary General of UCLG from 2004 to 2010, which provided a good illustration of how the arts, history, archaeology and cultural diversity are the key elements of humanity: "Characteristics that should be protected and disseminated and which allow the transmission of heritage to future generations and which are also bearers of meaning and identity." The document *Culture: Fourth Pillar of Sustainable Development*, adopted by the UCLG World

Congress in Mexico, summarises this message, which is essential for local development and humanity.

- The Committee on culture hopes that the Executive Bureau will firmly advocate this position of culture, the 4th pillar of sustainable development, on the occasion of the Rio+20 Summit, which will take place in 2012, and also recommends that all the UCLG cities explicitly adopt this approach on a local scale.
- The Committee on culture hopes that culture will be identified as one of the strategic priorities of UCLG for the next few years.

5. Annexes

- The Programme 2011-2013 of the Committee on culture is in annex 1.
- The agenda of the meeting is reproduced in annex 2.
- The list of participants is in annex 3.
- The Agenda 21 for culture (2004) and the UCLG Policy Statement "Culture: the Fourth Pillar of Sustainable Development" (2010) are available in our website.
- The pictures of the meeting, as well as some pictures of the Congress are available in the photo Gallery of our website.

Contact

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Annex 1.

Programme 2011-2013 of UCLG's Committee on culture. Approved in Mexico City on 17 November 2010

Mission

To promote culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development through the international dissemination and the local implementation of Agenda 21 for culture

Priority 1.

Policy development

UCLG and its Committee on culture are locally, nationally and internationally well-known for its leadership in processes that relate culture and sustainable development. Sound and collaborative research is the engine of these activities.

- 1.1. To achieve a wide dissemination of the Policy Statement of Mexico (November 2010) on culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development.
- 1.2. To launch a campaign so that UCLG is present at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (2012) lobbying for culture to become the fourth pillar of sustainable development. To participate in international projects aiming to achieve this objective.
- 1.3. To continue the work of research and development, with new reports on issues related to Agenda 21 for culture. Those reports need to be closely related to the development of urban policies for culture. Possible topics:
 - "Culture and sustainable development"
 - "Culture and development cooperation"
 - "Culture and local governance"
 - "Creative industries and local development"
 - "Glossary of concepts on culture and development"
- 1.4. To liaise with the World Secretariat so that any report produced by the Committee is presented to the statutory bodies (Executive Bureau or World Council) of UCLG, and thus becomes an official UCLG "policy paper".
- 1.5. To begin the process to approve a new Agenda 21 for culture in 2014 (that is, 10 years after the approval of Agenda 21 for culture in 2004). Work could begin in 2011 in order to identify conceptual tensions, clarify language and write an agenda with goals and targets (qualitative and quantitative). The process would guarantee the involvement of practitioners (cities and local governments) as well as academics. It also would guarantee that all continents are involved. To identify a city for the possible summit in 2014.

Priority 2

Development of projects

UCLG and its Committee on Culture develop specific projects in the field of exchanging experiences and good practices on culture and sustainable development

- 2.1. To consolidate a fund for cultural development, especially dedicated to the governance of culture and the local implementation of Agenda 21 for culture. The first edition of this Fund was launched in 2010 by Barcelona City Council and AECID (Spanish Development Cooperation Agency). To guarantee that the Fund has several donors. To grow in budget. To simplify procedures. To invite the World Secretariat of UCLG to become the manager of the Fund.
- 2.2. To analyse the creation of a peer-review scheme for cultural development. The scheme would be aimed at officials and officers of cities and local governments.
- 2.3. To continue the communication through the website <http://www.agenda21culture.net> and its corporate image. To reach 20 languages in the website by 2012. To upload 100 resources a year. To produce (at least) 8 circulars and 8 newsletters each year. To improve the visibility of the "brand Agenda 21 for culture". To broadcast messages from the social networks Facebook and Twitter.
- 2.4. To produce at least 6 articles a year on the cultural policies of very relevant cities and local governments.
- 2.5. To explore the realization of seminars and webinars in the fields of training and capacity building for culture and development, in partnership with international and national funding agencies.

Priority 3

Alliances and partnerships.

Networking and advocacy allow cities to have an active presence in the international agenda on culture and sustainable development.

- 3.1. To go deeply into the strategic relation with UNESCO, especially on these issues: Convention of 2005 on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, Cultural Policies and Intercultural Dialogue, and the Network of Creative Cities. UCLG will also explore the possibility of presenting Agenda 21 for culture to the General Conference of UNESCO in 2011.
- 3.2. To go deeply into the strategic relation with the European Union, especially on the implementation of the European Agenda for Culture.
- 3.3. To go deeply into the strategic relation with the Council of Europe, especially in the Intercultural Cities programme and CultureWatchEurope.
- 3.4. To explore contacts and develop a relation with other UN agencies and programmes such as UN-Habitat, UNDP and UN-Sustainable Development.
- 3.5. To continue the relation, and to explore the realisation of specific projects, with the networks of cities that are active in the field of cultural policy development, such as Eurocities and Mercociudades, as well as with the OWHC – Organisation of World Heritage Cities and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability.
- 3.6. To continue the relation with the IFACCA – International Federation of Art Councils and Culture Agencies. To explore the realisation of specific projects.
- 3.7. To continue the relation with civil society organisations, networks and NGOs devoted to international cultural cooperation. To explore the realisation of specific projects.

Priority 4

Funding and resources

The Committee on Culture, in close cooperation with the World Secretariat, obtains funding to support the implementation of specific projects and guarantee the long-term sustainability of the activities

- 4.1. The city of Barcelona guarantees the resources of the Secretariat of the Committee and the means which are needed to meet this work programme 2011-2013.
- 4.2. To present the cultural programme of UCLG to national and international agencies and donors. To go deeper into the agreement with AECID – Spanish Development Cooperation Agency on the fund for cultural development.
- 4.3. To present the cultural programme of UCLG to private corporations and foundations, in order to establish agreements for sponsorship.

Priority 5

Better governance

A committee with active members, with shared responsibilities and very dynamic. A committee aligned with the priorities of UCLG.

- 5.1. To guarantee a very close cooperation with the World Secretariat of UCLG in all strategic matters.
- 5.2. To achieve more membership, especially in Africa and Asia-Pacific.
- 5.3. To agree upon specific responsibilities on particular issues, especially among Chair and Vice-chairs.
- 5.4. To continue the cooperation with the UCLG Committees whose programme has common topics to ours, such as the Committees of Millennium Development Goals, Development Cooperation, City Diplomacy, Social Inclusion or the Alliance of Civilisations.
- 5.5. To continue the cooperation with the sections of UCLG (regional sections and Metropolis). To analyse the feasibility of joint projects with the sections, especially with in the organisation of training seminar and capacity-building programmes.
- 5.6. To analyse the creation of an external advisory board of experts, as well as the creation of a label “Expert on Agenda 21 for Culture” in order to support those cities wishing to locally implement Agenda 21 for culture.

Annex 2
Agenda of the meeting.
22nd June 2011

Languages

The meeting will be in English, French and Spanish. Simultaneous translation.

Venue

Sofitel Rabat Jardin des Roses Hotel
(This hotel is the main site of the Executive Bureau of UCLG.)

Draft programme

16.30 – Official opening of the meeting.

16.40 – Report on the programme for 2011-2013 and the ongoing activities.

17.00 – Discussion on the following issues:

- The policy statement on Culture as the Fourth Pillar of Sustainable Development, approved in Mexico and the process to the Rio+20 Summit in 2012.
- Agenda 21 for culture Fund, in cooperation with AECID. Call 2011.
- Partnerships and alliances with UNESCO.
- Communication and website.
- Governance of the Committee.

18.25 – Conclusions.

18.30 – Pictures and end of meeting.

Registration

- Please use the documents attached to register to the meeting

Annex 3
Participants to the meeting

Participants			
<i>City, local government or organisation</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Surname</i>	<i>Title</i>
<i>Cité, gouvernement local ou organisation</i>	<i>Prénom</i>	<i>Nom</i>	<i>Fonction</i>
<i>Ciudad, gobierno local u organización</i>	<i>Nombre</i>	<i>Apellidos</i>	<i>Cargo</i>
Aubagne (Fr)	Magali	Giovannangeli	Première Adjointe au Maire, Ville d'Aubagne - First Deputy Mayor
Aubagne (Fr)	Slimane	Toudert	Cabinet du Maire, Ville d'Aubagne - Mayor's Office
Barcelona, Ajuntament de (Es)	Jordi	Pascual	Coordinator, UCLG's Committee on culture
Bureau Technique des Villes Libanaises (Lb)	Béchir	Odeimi	Directeur
Buenos Aires (Ar)	Nerio	Pace	Coordinador General de Relaciones Internacionales y Protocolo, representante de la vicepresidencia de la Comisión de cultura de CGLU
El Atef / Taourirt (Ma)	Saghir	Mabrouk	Président de la Commune Rurale el Atef / Taourirt. Professeur de l'Enseignement Supérieur Institut National des Sciences de l'Archeologie et du Patrimoine du Ministère de la Culture / Maroc
Fes (Ma)	Abdelhak	Souitat	Directeur de la Médiathèque
Lille (Fr)	Catherine	Cullen	Adjointe au Maire déléguée à la culture, et vice-présidente de la Commission culture de CGLU
Manaus (Br)	Luis Carlos	Mestrinho	Director for International Affairs
México DF (Mx)	Eugene	Zapata	Asesor Internacional Jefatura de Gobierno de la Ciudad de México
Montréal, Ville de (Ca)	Marie-Eve	Bonneau	Agente de développement culturel
Nanterre (Fr)	Antonio	Aniesa	Responsable de relations Internationales et coordinateur de la Commission Villes Périphériques de CGLU

National Confederation of Municipalities (Br)	Marcelo José de Lima	Dutra	Coordinator
UCLG – FLACMA	Carlos	Pinto	Secretario General Adjunto de FLACMA (sección América Latina de CGLU)
UCLG – MEWA	Cenk	Tikiz	General Coordinator of UCLG – Middle East and West Asia
UCLG World Secretariat	Edgardo	Bilsky	Policy Officer
UNESCO, secteur de la culture	Nada	Al-Hassan	Spécialiste du Programme en charge des initiatives sur la culture et le développement
Apologies			
Aide aux Musiques Innovatrices - AMI (Fr)	Ferdinand	Richard	Directeur de l'AMI
Barcelona, Diputació de (Es)	Eduard	Miralles Ventimilla	Assessor Relacions Culturals
Buenos Aires (Ar)	María Victoria	Alcaraz	Directora del Centro Cultural Sanmartín, representante de la vicepresidencia de la Comisión de cultura de CGLU
Cultural Development Network - Victoria (Au)	John	Smithies	Director
Fundación Temas de Arte (Ma, Es)	Victor	Del Campo	Presidente, Fundación Temas de Arte Fomento y desarrollo de industrias culturales
Fundación Temas de Arte (Ma, Es)	Zineb	Lalou	Coordinatrice
Metropolis (Int)	Agnes	Bickart	Executive Officer
Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition Féminine du Québec	Denis	Lemieux	Conseiller en développement durable
Novi Sad (Sr)	Biljana	Mickov	Project manager in culture
Porto Alegre (Br)	Sergius Antônio	Marsicano Gonzaga	Secretário de Cultura
Québec, Ville de (Ca)	Julie	Bérubé	Conseillère en relations internationales
Reseaculture21.fr (Fr)	Christelle	Blouët	Coordinatrice
Sevilla (Es)	Paz	Sanchez Zapata	Directora general del Área de Cultura
Stockholm (Se)	Madeleine	Sjöstedt	ViceMayor, City of Stockholm, and vicepresident of the Committee on culture of UCLG
Toulouse, Ville de (Fr)	Eric	Fourreau	Cabinet du Maire
UCLG Committee on Social Inclusion and Participative Democracy	Eva	Garcia Chueca	Executive Secretary
University of Coimbra - Centro de Estudos Sociais (CES) Centre for Social Studies,	Nancy	Duxbury	Senior Researcher

