

---

**UCLG Culture Committee  
13<sup>th</sup> meeting**

**Paris, 5 December 2015**

**REPORT**

19 December 2015

---

**SUMMARY**

The 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Culture Committee of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) was held in Paris on 5 December 2015, in the context of the UCLG World Council, hosted by the City of Paris.

The meeting involved presentations and discussions on the main activities of the Committee during 2015 and plans for 2016. Addresses were delivered by the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Mayor of Paris, on behalf of the City which hosted the meeting; as well as by the Mayor of Bilbao, which had hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> UCLG Culture Summit in March 2015; and the Mayor of Belo Horizonte, the City which obtained the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the International Award “UCLG – Mexico City – Culture 21”. In addition, the representative of the City of Mexico presented the second edition of this International Award, which had been launched in Paris earlier that day and will be given in 2016.

The 13th meeting of the Culture Committee warmly thanked Catherine Cullen, who stepped down as Chair of the Committee after having served for three years on behalf of the Métropole européenne de Lille (MEL).

Also, the 13th meeting of the Culture Committee agreed on the Committee’s Governance Team for 2016 and approved the beginning of the work to elaborate a strategic plan of the Committee.

## 1. Background

The Committee on culture is a **unique meeting point**. There is not another structure at a global level that gathers together cities, organizations and networks that foster the relation between local cultural policies and sustainable 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 **Agenda 21 for culture** is the first worldwide document establishing an undertaking by cities and local governments for cultural development. Around 600 cities, local governments and organizations from all over the world were linked to Agenda 21 for culture in January 2015.

**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 organization.

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

- Analyze 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 mission of the Committee, approved in Mexico (2010) and extended in Rabat (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.

In the **previous meeting** of the Committee, held in Bilbao on 19<sup>th</sup> march 2015, in the framework of the first Culture Summit of UCLG, the Committee had approved “**Culture 21 Actions: Commitments on the role of culture in sustainable cities**”. This document supplements the Agenda 21 for culture and aims to be an international guide that is applicable all over the world; a tool that promotes knowledge, facilitates the exchange of good practices, and strengthens a global network of effective and innovative cities and local governments on this issue.

## 2. Summary of the meeting

### Opening and Presentation of Participants

Ms. Catherine Cullen, Chair of the UCLG Culture Committee representing the Métropole Européenne de Lille (MEL), opened the proceedings, welcoming participants and presenting the context of the meeting.

She thanked the City of Paris, represented by its 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Mayor, Bruno Julliard, for hosting the meeting, and introduced the mayors of Belo Horizonte and Bilbao. She also conveyed the apologies of the Cities of Buenos Aires and Montreal, two of the Culture Committee’s Co-Presidents, and the Cities of Angers and Milan, two of its Vice-Presidents, which could not attend.

Catherine Cullen asked all attendees to briefly introduce themselves, and a round of introductions ensued.

## **Presentation by the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Mayor of Paris**

Bruno Julliard thanked all participants for their attendance and declared that it was an honour for the City of Paris to host the meeting.

He highlighted how, by entrusting her 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Mayor with competences for cultural policy, the Mayor of Paris had made a strong political statement, which showed the importance of culture for the city even in difficult times. Bruno Julliard went on to describe the ongoing impact of the attacks suffered by Paris only three weeks earlier, on 13 November – this continued to affect both Parisians and tourists and had led to a reduction in visits to cultural facilities. But, in order to face this hard context, two things were necessary – ensuring security on the one hand, and providing hope and ensuring the future on the other. For the latter reason, investing in culture would continue to be a priority for Paris.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Mayor of Paris then introduced the main axes of the City's cultural policy. One key priority was support for creativity, including the availability of creative spaces and facilities for artists to produce and present their work in all neighbourhoods, with decentralisation as a key concern in current cultural policies – recent developments such as cultural centre Le Centquatre (le 104) and the Philharmonie de Paris attested to this. Another core concern involved ensuring equal access to culture for all, including through reinforced attention to arts education, the integration of innovative educational strategies in cultural organisations and concessions in tickets to many events and activities.

Other relevant policies and measures adopted by the City of Paris included participatory budgeting, which applied to 5% of the local government's capital budget and had seen cultural facilities become the third priority sector for Parisians, after the environment and social projects. Finally, Paris was also providing support to independent bookshops to ensure their sustainability and had established culture as a transversal concern for all deputy mayors.

Bruno Julliard recalled his participation at the UCLG Culture Summit held in Bilbao in March 2015, which he deemed a great experience. In order to strengthen Paris' participation in UCLG's work in the field of culture, he expressed his City's interest in becoming one of the Culture Committee's Vice-Presidents.

Catherine Cullen thanked Bruno Julliard and welcomed Paris' willingness to strengthen its position in the Committee, stressing how Paris' cultural policies were closely aligned with the principles and objectives of the Agenda 21 for culture.

## **1<sup>st</sup> UCLG Culture Summit: presentation by the Mayor of Bilbao**

Describing 2015 as a very rich year for the UCLG Culture Committee which had included a very successful Culture Summit in Bilbao, Catherine Cullen introduced the city's Mayor, Juan María Aburto.

Juan María Aburto opened his address by expressing Bilbao's solidarity with the City of Paris following the 13 November attacks and thanking Paris' Mayor and Vice-Mayor for the work done in the context of the UCLG World Council and related activities.

With a short introduction in Basque, he went on to declare his pleasure and honour to report on the results of the UCLG Culture Summit held in Bilbao between 18 and 20 March 2015. The event was in line with the importance given to culture in Bilbao, as proven by the city's urban transformation and increasing international profile in recent decades, as well as its long-term involvement in the UCLG Culture Committee.

Aburto described the Summit's ambitious programme and how it had provided evidence of culture's contribution to social cohesion and sustainable development. Among its main outcomes was the adoption of Culture 21 Actions, the document which updates elements from the Agenda 21 for culture and fosters cities' self-evaluation and peer-learning. The Summit also

provided an opportunity to discuss the preparation of the UN's Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda and the need to integrate cultural aspects therein.

The Mayor of Bilbao concluded his presentation by describing how hosting the 1<sup>st</sup> UCLG Culture Summit had been of the utmost importance to Bilbao, confirming the city's belief in the importance of culture for sustainable development.

### **International Award UCLG – Mexico City – Culture 21: presentation by the International Advisor to the Mayor of Mexico City**

Catherine Cullen introduced Eugene Zapata, the International Advisor to the Mayor of Mexico City, who represented this city in the meeting.

Eugene Zapata recalled that the second edition of the International Award “UCLG – Mexico City – Culture 21” had been officially launched a few hours earlier in the context of the meeting of UCLG's Executive Bureau. He underlined that, after the first edition, Mexico had received many information requests about its follow-up, and this seemed to indicate that the second edition would be even more important.

Mexico City gives a critical importance to UCLG's Culture Committee, as proven by the city's investment of political will and funding. In this context, he also announced Mexico's invitation to other cities in the board of the Committee to be part of the jury of the Award, alongside the City of Belo Horizonte (as recipient of the previous edition's award in the “City” category) and UNESCO, and thanked Jordi Pascual, the coordinator of the Culture Committee, for his work in promoting and disseminating the Award.

### **Winner of the 1<sup>st</sup> International Award: presentation by the Mayor of Belo Horizonte**

Catherine Cullen then gave the floor to Marcio Lacerda, the Mayor of Belo Horizonte, the city which, with its project “Arena da Cultura” (Free School of the Arts), had been granted the International Award “UCLG – Mexico City – Culture 21”, in the “City / Local or Regional Government” category, in the 2013/14 edition.

Marcio Lacerda introduced Belo Horizonte and explained that, under the leadership of the Municipal Foundation of Culture and its President, the City was implementing cultural policies aligned with the values of the Agenda 21 for culture. A range of measures, including decentralised cultural centres, the adoption of the Local Plan for Culture, the organisation of many free cultural events in public space and the integration of cultural aspects in other urban policies, served to prove the importance given to cultural aspects in Belo Horizonte. Although more remained to be done, these examples showed the value of culture for sustainable development.

The Mayor of Belo Horizonte also thanked the City of Paris for the kind welcoming and organisation of the UCLG World Council and conveyed his city's sadness about the events happened in Paris on 13 November 2015.

### **Committee's activities in 2015 and plans for 2016**

The coordinator of the Culture Committee of UCLG, Jordi Pascual, presented a summary of the main activities conducted in the course of 2015 and plans for activities to be implemented the following year:

- **UCLG Culture Summit:** The first UCLG Culture Summit was held in Bilbao in March 2015. A call for cities to host the second edition, foreseen for the first half of 2017, had been launched and would close on 29 February 2016.
- **Culture 21 Actions:** The new document adopted at the UCLG Culture Summit in Bilbao has been widely disseminated and is available to local governments, civil society organisations and other interested parties. A “global panel” was set up in 2015, which provided a general analysis on how cities are faring as regards the integration of culture in sustainable development.

- **Learning programmes:** On the basis of Culture 21 Actions, the Secretariat of the UCLG Culture Committee suggests to set up three learning programmes: Culture 21 Lab (a short-term workshop), Pilot Cities (a 30-month capacity-building and peer-learning programme) and Leading Cities (for cities with well-established expertise in this field, which can receive tailor-made support). These three programmes will be gradually unfold during the following years.
- **International Award “UCLG – Mexico City – Culture 21”:** Jordi Pascual highlighted the extraordinary leadership of the City of Mexico in launching this initiative. He also indicated the importance to building on the results of the first edition (mainly, through the database of good practices) and the possibility to provide advice and support to all cities interested in submitting a bid to the second edition of the Award.
- **Advocacy:** Since 2013, the Culture Committee has been extremely active, alongside other global networks, in the “Culture 2015 Goal” campaign. Although the Sustainable Development Goals adopted in September 2015 do not include a specific goal for culture, there are explicit references to cultural aspects in some targets (e.g. target 11.4 on heritage in cities) and the Culture Committee will work to explore the cultural implications of other goals and targets in the SDG Agenda. Likewise, the Culture Committee and its partners will campaign to ensure that culture is explicitly mentioned and operationalised as a key dimension of sustainable cities in the documents resulting from the UN Habitat III conference to be held in Quito in October 2016.
- **Participation in UCLG and collaboration with its sections:** The UCLG World Congress will be held in Bogotá on 12-15 October 2016, where a new meeting of the Culture Committee will also take place. In the course of next year, the Committee will also work with UCLG sections: Jordi Pascual thanked the Secretary-General of UCLG-Africa, Jean-Pierre Elong Mbassi, for his attendance of the Culture Committee meeting, and conveyed the apologies of Bernadia Tjandradewi, the Secretary-General of UCLG-ASPAC, who could not attend due to concurrent commitments. He also expressed the Committee’s interest in establishing specific learning and capacity-building programmes in Africa and Asia, as well as in further collaborating with UCLG-MEWA, the first UCLG section that had set up a specific committee on culture.
- **Communication:** the Committee is trying to improve its online presence, with dedicated pages to all Pilot and Leading Cities on the Agenda 21 for culture website and reinforced activities in social media.

Jordi Pascual also wholeheartedly thanked Sarah Vieux and Jordi Baltà, members of the Secretariat of the Culture Committee, for their impressive work throughout the year.

Following this presentation, Catherine Cullen opened the floor for comments and suggestions.

Marcio Lacerda indicated the availability of Brazil’s Frente Nacional de Prefeitos, which he chairs and the Culture Forum of which is coordinated by Leônidas José de Oliveira, to collaborate with UCLG’s Culture Committee.

The City of Taipei expressed its willingness to support the Culture Committee’s activities in Asia.

Jean-Pierre Elong Mbassi congratulated the Culture Committee for its work and indicated the aim to reinforce the presence of African cities within it. In this respect, he thought it was important to place particular emphasis on the intangible dimension of culture, which is more relevant in the African context.

Speaking on behalf of Jeju, Jeyon Kim stressed the positive impact of its participation in the Pilot Cities programme in 2014, including by reflecting on how to take advantage of local cultural wealth for sustainable development. She also expressed Jeju’s aim to become a Leading City in the future.

Berta Sureda introduced herself as the new commissioner for culture in the City of Barcelona. She stressed that the new cultural policies in Barcelona are based on the Agenda 21 for culture and expressed the aim to work actively within the Culture Committee.

Salim Korkmaz announced that a meeting of the Culture Committee of UCLG-MEWA would take place in Istanbul in July 2016, as a side event to the meeting of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, and invited all participants to attend.

Clarisa Ruiz Correal expressed Bogotá's solidarity with Paris. She described her city's involvement as a Pilot City in 2014 and a Leading City in 2015, including the self-evaluation exercise undertaken on the basis of Culture 21 Actions, a very interesting experience which she wished other cities would pursue as well. Bogotá's cultural policies have been strongly informed by the Agenda 21 for culture. She also expressed her satisfaction at seeing how several cities were investing in arts education, and wished to see many of those present at the UCLG World Congress in Bogotá next October.

Paulo Pais stated that chairing the Culture Committee of UCLG had been very important and enriching for the Métropole Européenne de Lille (MEL). Although MEL was now stepping down as chair, it aimed to continue its involvement in the Committee as a Leading City.

### **New Governance of the Committee on Culture**

Jordi Pascual explained that two circulars had been sent, in October and in November, asking cities to express their interest in becoming members of the Governance team of the Committee on Culture. The new Governance team would be in place for 10 months, because all UCLG Committees were to be evaluated in the framework of the next UCLG World Congress and their continuity would only be confirmed then. Feedback received from cities in recent weeks was as follows:

- Mexico City, Buenos Aires and Montreal aim to remain as Co-presidents of the Committee (although the latter would take a final decision on its membership to the Governance team during the World Council in Paris)
- Angers, Barcelona and Milano aim to remain as Vice-presidents of the Committee.
- Belo Horizonte, Bilbao, Bogotá, Jeju, Paris and Porto Alegre aim to become new Vice-presidents of the Committee.

Jordi Pascual asked all attendees if there were any objections to these candidatures.

[NOTA BENE: A message from the City of Montreal to the Secretariat of the Committee was received on 8 December 2015. The message communicated that the City of Montreal had been elected as new President of Metropolis, the metropolitan section of UCLG. The message communicated that, after 8 years of leadership in the Governance team of the Culture Committee, Montreal had decided to step down and to continue as a member. The coordinator of the Committee, Jordi Pascual, immediately wrote and sent a message to Montreal, thanking Montreal for its continued support and thought leadership.]

The new Governance team of the Culture Committee for 2016 will, therefore, include two Co-presidents and nine Vice-presidents.

Co-presidents: Mexico City and Buenos Aires

Vice-presidents: Angers, Barcelona, Milano, Belo Horizonte, Bilbao, Bogotá, Jeju, Paris and Porto Alegre.

### **End of the meeting**

Catherine Cullen took the floor for a closing statement. After 10 years in the Committee and 3 as Chair, she was stepping down and thanked all Committee members, and very especially its coordinator Jordi Pascual, for the close collaboration and many achievements over this period. She indicated her aim to continue working alongside the Committee, so as to have culture recognised within sustainable development. All participants gave her a round of applause.

Jordi Pascual praised Catherine Cullen for her extraordinary work in the Committee. He also suggested that she could become a Special Advisor on culture and sustainable cities and thus pursue her work within the Committee.

He also expressed his special gratitude to the Métropole Européenne de Lille for its continued support, which had allowed the Committee to carry out outstanding work in recent years.

Finally, he indicated that a new Strategic Plan would be debated and approved at the Bogotá meeting in October 2016. A draft of this document (annex 3) had been circulated earlier and he invited all participants to send their comments.

After this, Catherine Cullen thanked all participants for their attendance and closed the 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Committee.

### **3. Annexes**

- The agenda of the meeting is presented in Annex 1.
- A list of participants can be found in Annex 2.
- The draft strategic plan can be found in Annex 3

### **Contact**

**UCLG Culture Committee**  
UCLG  
Carrer Avinyó, 15  
08002 Barcelona

Email [info@agenda21culture.net](mailto:info@agenda21culture.net)  
Web [www.agenda21culture.net](http://www.agenda21culture.net)  
Twitter [@agenda21culture](https://twitter.com/agenda21culture)

## **Annex 1 Agenda**

**Place.** Paris City Hall (Hôtel de Ville). Salle de Conférence

18.00 Official opening of the meeting by **Ms Catherine Cullen, President of the UCLG Committee on culture**

18.05 Presentation from the **First Vice-Mayor of Paris, Mr Bruno Julliard, on the cultural policies of Paris.**

18.20 Presentation from the **Mayor of Bilbao, Mr. Juan María Aburto, on the 1<sup>st</sup> UCLG Culture Summit**, held in Bilbao on 18-20 March 2015

18.25 Presentation from the **Councillor for culture of the City of Mexico, Mr Eduardo Vázquez, on 2nd edition of International Award “UCLG – Mexico City – Culture 21”.**

18.30 Presentation and discussion of the **Committee’s activities in 2015 and plans for 2016**, including:

- Culture 21 Actions: follow-up and Global Panel
- Capacity-building and peer-learning programmes: Leading Cities, Pilot Cities, Culture 21 Lab
- Preparation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> UCLG Culture Summit (2017)
- #culture2015goalcampaign: follow-up
- Preparation of the UCLG World Congress Bogotá (2016)
- Preparation of Habitat III Quito (2016) and Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments.
- Partnerships
- Communication activities: website, newsletter and others
- Funding of the Committee
- Presentation of a draft Strategic Plan for the Committee.
- Next meeting of the Committee
- Other issues in the agenda for 2016

18.45 **New governance** of the Committee on Culture.

18.55 **Other issues**

19.15 **End of the meeting**



## Annex 2 Participants

<i>City, local government or organisation</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Surname(s)</i>	<i>Position</i>
<b>Official members</b>			
Barcelona	Berta	Sureda	Commissioner for culture
Barcelona	Carles	Sala	Director, Infrastructures, Heritage and Coordination; Institute for Culture
Barcelona	Esteve	Caramés	International Relations, Institute for Culture
Belo Horizonte	Marcio	Lacerda	Mayor
Belo Horizonte	Stephania	Aleixo	Secretary for International Relations
Belo Horizonte	Leonidas	De Oliveira	President, Municipal Cultural Foundation
Bilbao	Juan Maria	Aburto	Mayor
Bilbao	Mikel	Alvarez	Councillor
Bilbao	Aitor	Bilbao	Chief of Cabinet
Bilbao	Leandro	Ardanza	Technical Secretariat
Bilbao	Jesus	Manzano	International Relations
Bogotá	Clarisa	Ruiz Correal	Secretary for Culture
Cuenca	Monserrath	Tello Astudillo	Councillor for Culture
Diyarbakir	Harun	Ercan	Advisor of co-mayors
Jeju (Province)	Jeyon	Kim	Coordinator, International Relations
Jeju (Province)	Hyun Min	Kim	Director, Culture Division
Jeju (Province)	Eunjoo	Chae	Coordinator, Culture
Jeju (Province)	Mi Hwa	Hyun	Assistant Director, International Relations
Métropole européenne de Lille (MEL)	Paulo	Pais	Director, International Cooperation
Mexico City	Eugene	Zapata	International advisor to the Mayor
Paris	Bruno	Julliard	1st Deputy Mayor and Councillor for culture
Paris	Sophie	Boulé	Responsable du Pole coopération, Directorate for International Relations
Paris	Sophie	Zeller	Deputy Director, Artistic Creativity, Directorate for Cultural Affairs
Paris	Claire	Berger-Vachen	International Relations, Directorate for Cultural Affairs
Paris	Lauren	Bouillot	Cabinet of Bruno Julliard
UCLG-Africa	Jean-Pierre	Elong Mbassi	Secretary General
UCLG-MEWA	Gökce	Yanik	Project Officer
UCLG-MEWA	Salim	Korkmaz	Coordinator for International Relations
Special Advisor	Catherine	Cullen	Former chair of the UCLG Culture Committee
<b>Observers</b>			
Gaziantep	Ahmet	Ertürk	Head of Foreign Affairs
Jeonju	Yeonji	Kim	International Relations Manager
Leeds	Cllr Alex	Sobel	Councillor
Taipei	Chingyu	Yao	Advisor
Taipei	Li-Fang	Chou	Deputy Mayor
<b>UCLG</b>			
UCLG – World Secretariat	Pere	Ballester	Director of Resources
Committee on culture	Jordi	Pascual	Coordinator
Committee on culture	Jordi	Baltà	Consultant and expert
Committee on culture	Sarah	Vieux	Communication Officer

<b>Apologies</b>			
Angers	Alain	Fouquet	Councillor for culture
Angers	Pascale	Marchand	Councillor on Music, Performing and Visual Arts
Buenos Aires	María Victoria	Alcaraz	Vice Minister of Cultural Heritage
Concepción	Álvaro	Ortiz Vera	Mayor
Concepción	Mauricio	Castro	Director, Cultural Centre
Dakar	Abdoulaye Elimane	Kane	Advisor on Cultural Affairs
Gabrovo	Tania	Hristova	Mayor
Gabrovo	Yonka	Agalova	Director for culture
Izmir	Funda Erkal	Öztürk	Head, Culture Department
Konya	Mücahit Sami	Küçüktiöli	Head, Culture Department
Lisboa	Catarina	Vaz-Pinto	Vice Mayor on Culture
Lyon	Marc	Villarubias	Coordinator, Cultural Cooperation programmes
Malmö	Fredrik	Elg	Chief Development Officer, Culture Department
Mexico City	Eduardo	Vázquez Martín	Secretary of Culture
Mexico City	Martin	Levenson	Advisor to the Secretary of Culture
Milan	Filippo	Del Como	Councillor for Culture and Vice-President of the UCLG Culture Committee
Milan	Antonella	Amodio	Department of Culture
Montréal	Manon	Gauthier	Member of the Executive Committee of the City Council, responsible for Culture, heritage, Design, Space of Life and Status of Women
Ouagadougou	Emmanuel	Kouela	Director, Culture and Tourism
Panamá	Alexandra	Schjelderup	Director, Culture
Plaine Commune (Agglomeration Community)	Patrick	Braouezec	President
Plaine Commune (Agglomeration Community)	Valentine	Roy	Officer, Culture
Porto Alegre	Roque	Jacoby	Councillor for culture
Porto Alegre	Vitor	Ortiz	Representative, Secretariat for Culture
Sao Paulo	Nabil	Bonduki	Secretary for Culture
Vaudreil-Dorion	Michel	Vallée	Director, Arts and Culture
Wuhan	Cheng	Jieru	Deputy Secretary General
Arterial Network	Peter	Rorvik	Secretary General
Association AML	Ferdinand	Richard	Director
Conarte Internacional	Lucina	Jiménez	Vice-president
Conseil des Arts du Canada / Canada Council for the Arts	Simon	Brault	Executive Director
Cultural Development Network – Victoria, Au	John	Smithies	Director
Culture Action Europe	Luca	Bergamo	Secretary General
Interarts Foundation	Eduard	Miralles	President
Les Arts et la Ville	Lynda	Roy	Director
Les Arts et la Ville	David	Pepin	Project Coordinator and Deputy Director
Réseau Culture21.fr	Christelle	Blouët	Coordinator
South Africa Local Government Association (SALGA)	Xolile	George	Executive Director
UCLG Bureau for Lebanon, Syria and Jordan – Cités Unies Liban	Béchir	Odeimi	President and Director of the Technical Bureau of Lebanese Cities
VNG International	Renske	Steenbergen	Project Manager

# **DRAFT**

## **STRATEGIC PLAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE OF UCLG**

The mandate of the current **governance team of the Committee** expires on 5 December 2015. The internal agreements we reached during the meeting of the Committee in Barcelona (20 September 2012) are coming to an end.

Therefore, the meeting of Committee to be held in Paris on 5 December 2015 at 6pm will have to:

1. **Elect a new governance team** for 2016. The most logical scenario is that current cities in the team stay, probably with some new cities.
2. **Launch a process leading to the elaboration of a Strategic Plan of the Committee.** This is something we discussed and agreed to write in Bilbao (19 March 2015). This document will guarantee long-term stability and will offer a clear operational frame to all cities. Also, it will intend to provide a stable budget that relies on a wider number of cities. Please see pages 2-4 for a draft "Strategic Plan". The Strategic Plan should be the subject of a specific working meeting, probably in May or June 2016. On the other hand, if in the context of preparations of the World Congress in Bogotá (13-15 October 2016), UCLG's statutory bodies ratify the existence and mandate of the Committee on Culture, a new Strategic Plan could be adopted by the Committee in Bogotá, where a new governance team (2017-2019) could also be elected.

## **COMMITTEE ON CULTURE OF UCLG STRATEGIC PLAN. DRAFT**

### **UCLG AS THE WORLD ORGANISATION OF CITIES**

1. UCLG is the world organisation of cities. It advocates for democratic local self-government. It understands development as sustainable, inclusive and people-centred. It provides to cities and local governments the cutting-edge advice on local policies. It promotes learning, exchanges, cooperation and good practices.
2. The Committee on culture of UCLG is the global platform of cities and local governments to learn, to cooperate and to launch policies and programmes on the role of culture in sustainable development.
3. This Strategic Plan is based on the Terms of Reference for the Operation of Committees and Working Groups, amended by the UCLG Executive Bureau in April 2010.

### **FOUNDATIONS**

4. The founding document of the Committee on culture of UCLG is Agenda 21 for culture. Approved in 2004, Agenda 21 for culture is the first worldwide document promoting policies and actions by cities and local governments for

cultural development. Other key documents of the Committee are the Policy Statement "Culture is the fourth pillar of sustainable development" (2010) and the toolkit "Culture 21 Actions (2015).

5. The Committee affirms that culture is one of the four dimensions of sustainable development. Culture is as essential to sustainable development as its economic, social and environmental dimensions. The Committee believes that holistic and integrated development can only be achieved when the cultural component of development (creativity, heritage, knowledge and diversity) is factored into all approaches to sustainable development.

### **MISSION**

6. The mission of the Committee is "to promote culture as an essential dimension of local sustainable development through the international dissemination and the local implementation of Agenda 21 for culture".
7. The "slogan" of the Committee is "Culture in Sustainable Cities".

### **ACTIVITIES**

8. The main activities organised by the Committee are: (a) An international Award on culture in sustainable cities (biennial, on even years). (b) A Culture Summit on culture and sustainable cities (biennial, on odd years). (c) A programme to support the Leading Cities of the Committee, based on leadership, advocacy, communication, learning and cooperation. (d) A programme to support Pilot cities, based on capacity-building and learning. (e) The "Culture 21 Lab" capacity-building and information programme. (f) A database of good-practices. (g) A strong presence in internet with the portal [agenda21culture.net](http://agenda21culture.net) and social media. (h) The participation in UCLG programmes and projects. (i) Partnerships and alliances with other organisations and civil-society networks. (j) Global advocacy and lobby on the place of culture in sustainable cities. (k) Research on issues related to the place of culture in sustainable cities. (l) The support to thematic and regional seminars, conferences and meetings on culture in sustainable cities.
9. The Committee has a strategic plan (3-5 years).
10. Based on the strategic plan, the Committee approves an annual programme.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

11. All direct and indirect members of UCLG can become members of the Committee on culture.
12. Cities and local governments that wish to become members of the Committee need to fill the "Standard registration template for committees and Working Groups of UCLG" and to send it to UCLG World Secretariat.
13. Based on the information received by UCLG World Secretariat, the Secretariat of the Committee on culture regularly updates the list of members.

### **LEADING CITIES**

14. The Leading Cities of the Committee on Culture are the most visible cities of the Committee. The Leading Cities have very solid conceptual and practical experience in the place of culture in sustainable cities. The Leading Cities are active and they receive support from the Secretariat of the Committee, annually, in these three domains "Leadership and Advocacy", "Communication" and "Cooperation and Learning".

15. Cities and local governments can become Leading Cities: (a) after having completed a "Pilot Cities programme" or (b) they are directly co-opted by simple majority of existing Leading Cities.
16. Each Leading City contributes to the budget of the Committee with an annual budget of 16,000 euro.
17. Each Leading City is committed to stay as such for a minimum period of two to three years.

#### **PILOT CITIES**

18. The Pilot Cities of the Committee on Culture are cities interested in promoting awareness-raising, the design of new policies and measures and peer-learning on culture and sustainable cities.
19. The Committee on Culture has designed a programme to support these cities, with a common methodology that is adapted to the specific needs of each participating city. The programme lasts for just over 2 years.
20. In order to achieve geographic balance, the Committee on Culture works in close collaboration with UCLG Sections to promote and adapt the programme to regional needs.

#### **GOVERNANCE TEAM OF THE COMMITTEE**

21. The governance of the Committee is made up of at least 7 cities operating as a collegiate body. The governance involves one or more President(s) and/or Co-president(s) and one or more Vice-president(s).
22. The governance team of the Committee meets every three months, in a presence or teleconference meeting.
23. The governance team of the Committee represents the Committee in the statutory meetings of UCLG and in key international meetings.
24. The governance team of the Committee may create an Advisory Council of 2 or 3 experts, that is, very prominent figures in culture and sustainable cities.

#### **OFFICIAL MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE**

25. The Committee on culture organizes two meetings annually.
26. The key meeting is held as a "leadership and learning seminar".
27. Another meeting takes place in the framework of the statutory meetings of UCLG.
28. The meetings of the Committee on culture of UCLG are open to observers (such as civil society organisations, universities, national governments, international networks and international organisations).

#### **BUDGET**

29. The budget of the Committee is annual and it is approved by unanimity by the governance team of the Committee.
30. The annual income is composed by (a) the contributions of Leading cities (16,000 € each), (b) the contribution of the city organising the International Award (80,000 € every two years), (c) the contribution of the city organising the Summit (75,000 € every two years), (d) the contributions of the Pilot cities programmes, (e) specific activities (regional or thematic seminars, other partnerships with cities and networks), and (f) sponsorship.

#### **SECRETARIAT**

31. The Secretariat coordinates the activities of the Committee and is responsible for the implementation of the strategic plan and the annual programme.
32. The Secretariat of the Committee on culture is based in the headquarters of UCLG.

Jordi Pascual  
Coordinator  
UCLG Committee on culture  
26 November 2015