

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF ITEMS AND KEY DECISIONS

This document presents abstracts of all the documents to be discussed during the Committee on Statutory Affairs and aims to serve as an easy guide to the sessions.

Full information will be found in the Committee on Statutory Affairs package.

ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ITEM 2: REPORT OF THE WORLD COUNCIL IN BOGOTÁ

The World Council met on 15 October 2016 in Bogotá, on the occasion of the 5th UCLG World Congress – Summit of Local and Regional Leaders.

The session was mainly devoted to the election of the new Presidency and ratification of the new governing bodies, however, Habitat III and items relating to the core business of the organization were also on the agenda: the work plan and strategic priorities for 2017, the partnership with the European Union, policy papers on local economic development and public space, and future statutory meetings.

The 5th World Congress in Bogotá gathered over 3,500 participants including elected officials, delegates from regional and national governments, the private sector, civil society, academia and the international community, from over 110 countries.

Organized back-to-back with the Habitat III Conference in Quito, the UCLG Congress, which included 156 sessions with 285 speakers, dealt with strategic topics for the future of our communities and defined priorities for the future of the World Organization. It further saw the election of the new Presidency for the 2016-2019 mandate.

A detailed report of the meeting of the World Council will be presented in the working document.

Recommendation:

- **Adopt the detailed report of the meeting.**

ITEM 3: REPORT 2017: ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES OF A GLOBAL NETWORK

2017 is the first year of the mandate of the leadership appointed in Bogotá. The work of UCLG has had the Bogotá Commitment as the red thread of the joint action.

Acknowledging 2017 as a key year to gear UCLG global actions towards the implementation and monitoring of the global agendas, the annual report enclosed presents the highlights of our joint action.

The work of the Presidency has been balanced between the internal focus to strengthen participation and the involvement of all parts of the network, sections and member-led initiatives, on the one hand; and international work, continuing to consolidate relations with other networks and being the face and voice of local government in numerous global forums, on the other hand. The World Secretariat has facilitated the consultation process and the finalization of strategic priorities; in close collaboration with committees and members, it has

also put in motion the new consultation mechanisms, and further deepened strategic partnerships that consolidate the work of Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments.

With the localization of the global agendas at its core, the report acknowledges that, auspiciously, the global multi-level governance system is looking favorably towards local government. An overarching framework, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – alongside the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on financing sustainable development – provide a 'supremely ambitious and transformational vision' of our economies and societies, and sets a course for sustainable development that will leave no one behind.

It further exemplifies UCLG and its membership's determination to mobilize the means required to implement the 2030 Agenda through revitalized partnerships. At the same time, our joint actions are testament to the fact that the achievement of the global goals are impossible without proper enabling environments, and demonstrate our work to promote policy changes in this sense.

The report presented in this item will be completed by an oral statement by President to the Council, and should not be considered an exhaustive account of actions by the network. The work delivered by committees and working groups as well as the sections will be subject to separate reporting.

The second attachment presents a brief overview of the four working areas under the partnership with the European Union. Members will be able to have an overview at a glance through a traffic light system where green represents fully achieved activities, and blue and yellow represent ongoing activities.

Recommendation:

- **Take note of the 2017 Report and share it widely with members and partners.**

ITEM 4: RENEWAL OF UCLG'S PARTNERSHIP WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION 2018-2020

As presented to the Executive Bureau in Madrid the Strategic Partnership with the European Union, signed in January 2015 for a five-year period and attached to a three-year support programme (2015-2017) has marked the work of the World Organization in all its dimensions.

The first three years of the implementation of the partnership can be described as a resounding success. It has allowed UCLG to expand its activities and to strengthen ties with the different parts of the network that have actively participated in defining the work plan and, in some cases, benefited from specific financial support. Furthermore it has created greater synergies and working relations with other sister local government associations such as CLGF and AIMF.

Following a request by the European Commission (EC), UCLG submitted in July an action proposal for the next phase of implementation of the Strategic Partnership: 2018-2020.

The proposal builds on the assessment of the first two years of implementation of the partnership and seeks to adapt to the new global context by calling for the localization of the global development agenda. Given the strategic objectives of the organization, UCLG proposes to organize its work within the partnership agreement under the following headings: advocacy; monitoring and reporting; learning; and strengthening the network.

The feedback from the European Union has been positive and it has invited UCLG to include the proposal until 2021. A transitional agreement for 2018 will be arranged according to the yearly work programme to be adopted by the Council

A brief overview of the assessment of the implementation of the partnership and outlines the key components of the proposal for the 2018-2021 phase will be included in the documents.

Recommendations:

- **Take note of progress made;**
- **Provide any relevant feedback on the proposal.**

ITEM 5: PRIORITIES FOR THE 2016-2022 MANDATE

UCLG started the consultation on the revision of its strategic priorities in 2015, in view of the renewal of the leadership in Bogotá, and the Habitat III Conference and adoption of the 2030 Agenda – an important framework for UCLG’s work internationally.

The Strategic Priorities cover a six-year period and are revised every three years on the occasion of the Congress, where their relevance are considered. Their development is an interactive exercise among all parts of the network. They take into account the new international environment and policies, build on the three-year research on the state of decentralization in the GOLD report and UCLG’s strategic partnership with the European Union and other key partners, as well as the commitment of the network towards the facilitation of the Global Taskforce of Local Regional Governments. They are further inspired by the President’s Manifesto.

The backbone of the UCLG priorities is the notion that UCLG is not only strategically positioned to respond to the complex and interconnected challenges we face, but will also require convergence in solutions. The task ahead is both large and ever-present. It is for that reason that the functions of the UCLG leadership, and of political representatives in particular, must become inclusive and build on our diversity.

The Executive Bureau in Madrid agreed that following intensive years of advocacy, UCLG and its members can celebrate significant achievements in the international agenda. In the coming period, UCLG will need to reinvent itself to be fit for purpose to facilitate the implementation of the new global agendas at local level and to influence them with the local perspective.

This item presents the UCLG Strategic Priorities 2016-2022 that were recommended for adoption by the Executive Bureau and serve as bases for our 2018 Work Plan. This item presents the Executive Summary. A full document will be included in the set.

Recommendation:

- **Adopt the UCLG Strategic Priorities for the mandate 2016-2022.**

ITEM 6: 2018 WORK PLAN

2017 saw UCLG focus on implementing partnerships to achieve international agendas, launching the GOLD V process, increasing the engagement of our political leadership and consolidating our role as a learning network.

The proposed work plan for 2018 is supported by our partnership with the European Union for the period 2018-2021. It seeks to build on our advocacy work over the past two years and adapt to the new global context by focusing on the localization of the global development agenda. The facilitation of the amplified voice of local and regional governments needs to be the main focus of UCLG, beyond logos and institutions, and particularly through the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments.

The actions of the work plan are built around UCLG’s strategic priorities, namely:

- a) Advocate for increased national and international support for, and recognition of, local and regional governments in the achievement of the global agendas. Raise awareness of the global goals among local and regional governments so that they can implement them.
- b) Bring local monitoring and reporting information to global fora to voice local and regional governments’ interests and bring their experiences and visions to complement central government reporting.

- c) Facilitate learning, decentralized cooperation and exchange among local governments.
- d) Identify and highlight successful implementation efforts at local level.

In addition, special efforts will be made to support UCLG's Regional Sections, to set up the local4action hub, and to facilitate political participation through new consultations mechanism, in particular the UCLG policy councils.

The document will provide an overview of activities envisaged. ~~This item includes the work plans for the different Committees for the upcoming year. Their operations and relations to the general work plan will be further developed in the first quarter of 2018.~~

Recommendation:

- **Adopt the 2018 work plan.**

ITEM 7: REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Treasurer will verbally present the key recommendations of the Financial Management Committee to the World Council.

Recommendations:

- **Take note of the Treasurer's report;**
- **Approve the decisions presented.**

ITEM 8: CONSULTATION MECHANISMS: WORK PLANS AND REPORTS

The work developed by Committees and Working Groups has always significantly contributed to the work of the UCLG network as a whole. The achievements seen since their inception have been great, and those same achievements and lessons learnt allow us to move ahead and reflect on the progress made in fostering the upscaling of practices, and to define a strategy that will lead us to develop a new narrative for our movement.

Throughout the past year, options have been explored to expand work and enhance relations between the World Secretariat and specific strategic Committees. We are now looking at enhancing relationships between the political leadership and the Committees.

The World Secretariat was mandated to operationalize these decisions and conversations were held with the existing Committees and Working Groups, including during a two-day campus in January this year. Further discussions took place during the Presidency meeting and UCLG Retreat in February.

The conclusions of these discussions were presented to the Executive Bureau in Madrid, which shared its overall appreciation of these new consultation mechanisms and agreed to propose them to the World Council for approval.

Under this item, the World Council will ratify the new mechanisms agreed and will acknowledge the work done by the Committees and Working Groups in the period 2010-2016.

Recommendations:

- **Ratify the renewed structure of consultation mechanisms**

ITEM 8.1: RENEWED CONSULTATION MECHANISMS: WORK PLANS 2018

In the renewed structure approved in Bogotá and developed throughout this year, the Committee on Statutory Affairs mandated the World Secretariat to explore possibilities to implement the Policy Councils and revisit the consultation mechanisms. The current proposal was ratified by the Executive Bureau in April this year.

Besides the existing Committees dealing with institutional aspects (Financial Management Committee, Committee on Statutory Affairs and Standing Committee on Gender Equality), a number of consultation mechanisms will be active during the 2016-2019 mandate.

Recommendations:

- **Take note of the work plans envisaged for 2018;**
- **Mandate the consultation mechanisms to carry out the work plans for 2018.**

ITEM 8.2: COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS: REPORTS OF ACTIVITIES 2017

In the renewed structure approved in Bogotá and developed throughout this year, the Committee on Statutory Affairs mandated the World Secretariat to explore possibilities to implement the Policy Councils and revisit the consultation mechanisms. The current proposal was ratified by the Executive Bureau in April this year.

It was approved that, on a technical level, a number of Committees and Working Groups, would no longer work under this format their tasks would be continued under different mechanisms.

Recommendations:

- **Take note of the written reports of activities for 2017;**
- **Acknowledge the great contributions made by members.**

ITEM 9: REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATUTORY AFFAIRS

A report on the discussions held during the Committee on Statutory Affairs will be presented orally.

The key points on the agenda included the recruitment of the UCLG Secretary General, updates on representation in UCLG governing bodies and the appointment of the Global Women's Caucus, updates on statutory meetings, and membership issues.

Recommendations:

- **Take note of the report presented;**
- **Consider the recommendations made.**

ITEM 10: UCLG WORLD CONGRESS 2019

The 2019 Congress will provide the opportunity to present progress in the implementation of the SDGs and their impacts at local level. It should also be the occasion to show the evolution of our World Organization within the framework of its 15th anniversary.

A call for candidatures was launched in the first quarter of 2016. As a result, several expressions of interest were sent to the World Secretariat but no formal candidacy was presented.

The Committee on Statutory Affairs, during its extraordinary session in Barcelona in September 2016, discussed the need to evaluate the format and dimension of the Congress in view of the experience in Bogotá, and recommended the extension of the deadline to submit candidacies to host the 2019 World Congress until March 2017, in order to allow more deliberations with potential hosts and to ensure fine-tuning with the new UCLG strategy to be adopted this year.

The Executive Bureau in Madrid took note of the potential candidatures received for the next Congress and agreed to receive candidatures until September 2017 in order to take a decision at the World Council in Hangzhou.

The Committee on Statutory Affairs will present its recommendations to the World Council.

Recommendation:

- **Consider the recommendation made.**