Mission of UCLG-A at the World Bank
Washington DC, 19-21 August 2013

UCLG Africa Presidency

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1. The UCLG-A president, Mr. Khalifa Ababacar Sall, mayor of Dakar, Senegal, led a mission of the UCLG a leadership to Washington DC at the World Bank Headquarters over the period 19-21 August 2013. The UCLG-A delegation included Mrs. Jacqueline Moustache Belle, mayor of Victoria, Seychelles, UCLG-A executive committee member, representing the East Africa Region ; Mrs. Fatimetou Mint Abdel Malick, mayor of Tevraghzeina local government, Nouakchott, Mauritania, president of the Women elected officials network of Africa (REFELA), representing the North Africa Region of UCLG-A ; Mr. Mpho Muruakgomo, president of the Botswana Association of Local Authorities (BALA), UCLG-A executive committee member, representing the Southern Africa Region of UCLG-A ; Mr. Nelson Bothonyana Mogapi, the Council Secretary for Kgatleng District Council, Botswana ; and Mr. Jean Pierre Elong Mbassi, Secretary General of UCLG-Africa.

The mission was organized by the Cities Alliance and comprised working sessions with the Cities Alliance Secretariat, the World Bank Africa Region, and World Bank Institute, aiming at strengthening relations, sharing priorities and developing a structured collaboration with the aforementioned institutions.

The agenda of the mission is attached.

Working Session with the Cities Alliance Secretariat

2. The UCLG-A delegation held its first meeting with the staff the Cities Alliance Secretariat on 19 August 2013. At his welcoming remarks, the manager of the Cities Alliance Secretariat, Mr. Billy Cobbett, highlighted the critical and positive moment in which the mission is taking place, after the recovery of the UCLG-A unity during the last Africities Summit in December 2012 in Dakar, and at the eve of the relocation of the Cities Secretariat from the World Bank Headquarters in Washington DC, USA, to Brussels, Belgium, where it will be operating from now on under the umbrella of UNOPS. This relocation is meant to improve the way the Cities Alliance as a platform and its Secretariat as a facilitator would serve its aims and objectives, i.e., advocating and making the case for the management of rapid urbanization in the developing countries, and promoting cities without slums. The Cities Alliance Consultative Group have directed that Africa should be the priority region for the Cities Alliance and requested the development of a Cities Alliance Africa Strategy to guide the organization's work program accordingly. The Africa Strategy should be presented at the Annual meeting of the Alliance scheduled in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, on 4-6 November 2013.

3. In response to the welcoming words of Mr. Billy Cobbett, the UCLG-A president, Mayor Khalifa Sall, thanked the Cities Alliance for this very appreciated initiative and facilitation of a UCLG-A mission in Washington DC. He insisted that the conversation be frank and open in order to have a solid ground for strengthened partnership. On that basis he pinpointed that a true partnership supposes that: 1) African local governments be around the table and participate effectively in the governance of the Cities Alliance; 2)the formulation and orientations of what needs to be done to improve the capacity of local governance to play its role in handling the urban agenda in Africa be the prime responsibility of the national and local authorities of Africa and should not be defined without their full participation. This means that the UCLG-A should be part and parcel to the definition of the Africa strategy of the Cities Alliance; 3) the Cities Alliance should consider having the UCLG-A as its implementing agent for the part of the Africa strategy of the Cities Alliance on local governance issues, for which the UCLG-A has an evident advantage; Cities Alliance should therefore consider funding the staffing and functioning of a technical support unit within the UCLG-A secretariat.

4. The UCLG-A secretary general, Mr. Elong Mbassi, then presented the GADDEPA, the UCLG-A's long-term strategy adopted by the executive committee of the organization in October 2007. GADDEPA aims at guiding the UCLG-A work and aspirations for the next 15 years, that span from 2007 to 2021. He highlighted the interventions, outputs and products planned or being developed under the three pillars that constitute the strategic framework of the UCLG-A core business, namely, Advocacy, Lobbying and Engagement (Pillar 1); Corporate Learning and Knowledge Management (Pillar 2); Institutional Capacity Development (Pillar 3). He emphasized on the need that UCLG-A and the Cities Alliance Secretariat join forces to work with the Africa Development Bank (AfDB), which has just recruited an urban senior staff with the mandate to implement the AfDB urban strategy. A meeting is scheduled in Tunis on 9 September 2013 between UCLG-A and AfDB, to have a first discussion on the way UCLG-A will be collaborating with the AfDB on the implementation of the AfDB urban strategy. It would make sense that the Cities Alliance is part of this discussion as this organization was also cited in the AfDB urban strategy paper as one of the leading actors the AfDB would like to work with for the implementation of its urban strategy. He also suggested that the Cities Alliance be also associated to the lobbying activities targeting the Africa Union, as the UCLG-A is expecting the creation of the High Council of Local Authorities within the Africa Union framework during the session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government scheduled in Addis Ababa in January 2014, and the adoption of the Africa Charter on values and principles of decentralization and local governance at the same session.

5. The president of BALA, Mr. Mpho Mouakgomo, emphsized on the need to also include among the concerns of the partnership the issue of the contribution of Africa local government to the Post-2015 agenda, and on the importance of the developmental roles of African local governments.

6. The president of REFELA said that the Cities Alliance Africa strategy should avoid the same mistakes in the past that resulted in inefficient impact of development efforts despite the level of resources mobilized in Africa. Impact depends mostly on well-targeted resources. Local governments should be the prime movers of the Africa urban agenda. Therefore accompanying the national governments efforts to better decentralize is key for any meaningful strategy addressing rapid urbanization in Africa. She also emphasized that gender equality be considered as a very critical issue for local government empowerment. That is why the UCLG-A pays a special attention

to the improvement of women leadership at the local government level and has set up the network of local elected women of Africa (REFELA), which is worth supporting in the framework of the Africa Strategy of the Cities Alliance.

7. The staff of the Cities Alliance Secretariat made the following comments to the remarks by UCLG-A delegation:1) First of all, let's acknowledge that through the UCLG, which is the standing chair of the Cities Alliance Executive Committee, the UCLG-A already participates in the governance of Cities Alliance.2) Secondly, let's agree that the partnership between the Cities Alliance and the UCLG-A on the Africa Strategy is not an option but a must for the implementation of the Cities Alliance Africa Strategy. 3) Thirdly, let's also agree that the context within which the work of this partnership is located presents a series of difficulties when it comes to promoting the urban agenda in Africa: a) in most African countries, local government is seen as an inferior administrative arm of national government; b) city growth is regarded mainly as a problem rather than an opportunity; c) many local governments, including UCLG-A members, adopt and implement policies that are most of the time hostile to the city poor.

8. Taking these realities into consideration, the Cities Alliancehas adopted a set of reforms that include a new business model, a new Charter, and the development of a Results Framework. Four intermediate outcomes have consequently been defined: 1) Rethink the national environment for getting the cities right in the national long-term development policy through Country Programs.These are being implemented in 4 African countries as a pilot: Uganda, Mozambique, Ghana, Burkina Faso; 2) Promote innovative approaches to address the most challenging issues and themes through the Catalytic Fund,which is accessible to local governments and their associations following calls for proposals; 3) Undertaking strategic activities in the form of Joint Work Programs between Cities Alliance members and with partners; 4) Generate knowledge and evidence on what works, where and why, in order to develop a compelling pro-city narrative.

9. The Africa strategy is a flagship for the Cities Alliance new business model. A roadmap has been defined that identifies five priority areas of attention : 1) Developing a compelling pro-city narrative ; 2) Developing information systems to produce accurate localized data ; 3) Empowering local governments ; 4) Better understanding and responding to informality ; 5) Responding to new actors, issues and challenges. There seems to be a lot of common ground and interactions between the priority areas of the Cities Alliance Africa strategy and the different areas of intervention highlighted in the GADDEPA strategy paper. To cite but a few, the whole Pillar 1 of GADDEPA is very well in line with the pro-city narrative focus of the Africa Strategy Roadmap. The work done by UCLG-A in the joint projects with SDI through the Know Your City campaign, or with the Cities Alliance on the City Enabling Environment Assessment (CEE) fits quite well within the information system area of the Africa Strategy Roadmap, but can also inform the pro-city narrative or the focus area on responding to new actors, issues or challenges of the Africa strategy Roadmap. By collaborating together and with the other partners within and outside the World Bank, we will make a difference (For example the Cities Alliance Secretariat received a request from UNICEF to work on child mortality index in slum areas). By thinking strategically and bringing all partners together in accordance with the rationale of the Cities Alliance Africa Strategy, we see much value in our partnership,which should contribute to refocusing attention in the strengthening of national associations of local governments. Therefore the UCLG-A is a key partner of the Cities Alliance Secretariat in the implementation of the Africa Strategy. This is why the Cities Alliance Secretariat

has arranged a series of meetings for the UCLG-A delegation for it to interact with the urban units of the Africa Region, the Transport Anchor Unit, the Disaster and Risks Management Unit of the World Bank, as well as with World Bank Institute (WBI).

10. The Cities Alliance Secretariat also informed the UCLG-A delegation that it has just commissioned studies with the Africa Centre for Cities, University of Cape Town, South Africa, around the five main areas of the Africa Strategy Roadmap. The conclusions of the studies will be presented in a meeting hosted by the Ministry of Human Settlements in South Africa on 14-16 October 2013. All key players involved or interested in the Africa urban agenda are invited to attend. It is critical that a strong UCLG-A delegation participates in this meeting because the proceedings will be done through breakaway sessions in order to have in-depth discussions on each of the five main areas of the Roadmap. The Africa Strategy will be defined more accurately during this meeting and will be adopted during the Consultative Group Meeting scheduled on 4-6 November 2013 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. The Africa Strategy will become a joint program with partners and will serve for the preparation of Habitat III conference. The Cities Alliance Secretariat welcomes the offer to work together with the Africa Development Bank, and the African Union. A high level mission composed by the UCLG-A president (Mr. Khalifa Sall) and the president of the Cities Alliance Policy Forum (Mrs. Clare Short), with the two secretaries should be sent to Tunis during the last quarter of 2013 in order to reconnect with the AfDB president and offer the join collaboration of UCLG-A and the Cities Alliance in support of the implementation of the AfDB urban strategy. The Cities Alliance Secretariat will take the initiative of organizing this mission. The Cities Alliance Secretariat also acknowledged the request that the UCLG-A becomes one of the implementing arms of the Africa Strategy and be staffed accordingly. This request will be discussed at the next meeting of the Consultative Group of the Cities Alliance in November 2013.

11. In more concrete terms, the Cities Alliance Secretariat agreed to work with the UCLG-A on:

- *Advocacy and Engagement (Pillar 1 of the GADDEPA)*, including (1) the Africities Summit for which the form of collaboration will have to be defined in order that the Cities Alliance is closely associated with the preparation of the coming 2015 event; (2) the local governance barometer for which a connection should be made with the Global City Indicators Facility (GCIF), the Global City Indicators of UN Habitat, and the Africa Centre for Cities, University of Cape Town, at the initiative of the Cities Alliance Secretariat. The barometer would be also the tool for communication package and dialogues on decentralization; (3) the Award Scheme to promote role models in local governance. The Cities Alliance Secretariat is ready to work on the formulation of the concept, format and implementation process of the Award Scheme.

- *Corporate Learning and Knowledge Management (Pillar 2 of the GADDEPA)*, including (1) the Africa Local Government Academy; (2) the Africa Cities and Local Governments Report.

- *Institutional Capacity Development (Pillar 3 of the GADDEPA)*, including (1) the staffing of the UCLG-A Secretariat through the creation of a technical support unit and the implementation second ment mechanisms with the support of Cities Alliance members; (2) REFELA; (3) the Youth Empowerment Program; (4) the Partnership with Traditional Rulers; (5) the Transparency and Integrity program.

Meeting with the Urban Development and Services Unit of the Africa Region (AFTUS)

12. The meeting took place at the Africa Building of the World Bank on 20 August 2013 from 9:30 to 12:30 with the urban development staff led by Mrs. Mukami Kariuki, Manager, East and Southern Africa Regions; and Mr. Alex Bakalian, Manager, Western and Central Africa Regions. The UCLG-A president recalled that Mr. Wolfenson, one of the former World Bank's president, started the move to better work with other key development stakeholders beyond the national governments. He encouraged the establishment of regular consultations with NGOs and Parliamentarians, but did not establish any structured relations with local authorities. This should be corrected and there is a need for the Bank to create a process of regular dialogue with local governments particularly in Africa where the implementation of decentralization policies is changing the institutional landscape on the continent. Local authorities should from now on be considered as mature and reliable interlocutors, in particular when it comes to taking up the urban challenge. The Bank should also consider setting up mechanisms allowing direct access of Bank's resources to the local governments. So far the Bank finances the local governments through the national governments. This is not consistent with the changing landscape brought about by political democratization and decentralization underway on the continent. Most of the time when the local government leadership is from the opposition party, the ruling party is not keen to release resources to this local government even if the needs are there; hence the need for the Bank to consider working directly with local governments. The Bank needs to evolve on this issue.

13. The UCLG-A Secretary General presented the evolving situation of the urban agenda in Africa, and the impact of the decentralization agenda underway on the continent. He informed the meeting that at its coming assembly of Heads of State and Government, the African Union will have on its agenda the adoption of the Africa Charter on Values and Principles of Decentralization and Local Governance, and the creation of a High Council of Local Authorities among the Africa Union institutions. This is the result of a strong lobbying effort conducted by UCLG-A and targeting the Africa Union Commission and the ministers of local governments of Africa gathered in the All Africa Ministerial Conference on Decentralization (AMCOD). The secretary general also informed that UCLG-A is in contact with the African Development Bank (AfDB) on the implementation of the AfDB urban strategy and of the wish of UCLG-A that any World Bank urban strategy in Africa is defined in consistency with the AfDB strategy in order to reinforce synergies and impact. He finally presented the GADDEPA, the UCLG-A long-term strategy and insisted that the urban strategy of the Bank be informed by the GADDEPA strategy, since it is the expression of the demand by the local authorities of Africa.

14. In responseMrs. Mukami indicated that the Bank is working with local governments where decentralization is in place. This is happening in Uganda and Tanzania, and discussions are underway in Kenya. This is done through subsidiary agreements concluded following the Bank and countries' agreements.The Bank does not practice sub-sovereign lending so far. Subsidiary agreements are implemented to make sure that the resources reach the targeted local governments.

15. The Africa's urban agenda has 3 focus areas : (1) Re-orienting policy and regulatory action at national, sector and city level ; (2) investing in strategic infrastructure, basic services and the urban environment ; and (3) Building systems to develop and manage urban areas. The AFTUS will

implement its strategy through three core lending business lines that are: a) Metropolitan and sector-wide infrastructure, institutional strengthening and environmental interventions; b) Secondary/tertiary city multi-sector interventions targeted at multiple localities; c) Basic service delivery and informal settlement upgrading. These business line scan be pursued separately or several business line scan be combined in a single operation.

16. Mrs. Mukami confirms that AFTUS is particularly interested in the local government barometer mentioned in the GADDEPA and welcome any collaboration with UCLG-A on this matter. In reaction to this offer, the Cities Alliance representative in the meeting says that this issue will be addressed in a meeting due to take place on 14-16 October 2013 in South Africa (Johannesburg or Pretoria) at the invitation of the Minister of Human Settlements of the Republic of South Africa. The meeting will also address the Cities Alliance Africa Strategy and it could be good if a staff from the urban development and services unit of the Africa Region of the World Bank could participate. The key questions to answer when confronting any partnership with the UCLG-A are the following: 1) how to mobilize resources to build institutional capacity of the UCLG-A, so that it can have a meaningful dialogue on the Africa urban challenge; 2) how to capacitate municipal associations in order that they are more active in the development debate at national level?

17. In conclusion, Mr. Balakian said it was indeed necessary to start a structured dialogue with local governments in Africa. One way to kick start the process is to have a dedicated side event on decentralization by devolution at the World Bank Spring Meetings (April 2014), around a theme that could be: 30 years after the first generation lending of the World Bank in urban development in Africa, what have we learnt and how do we move the agenda of urbanization and of decentralization forward for the coming generation? M. Balakian also welcomed the idea to work on the local government barometer in order to consolidate data harvesting and benchmarking. He said that AFTUS would be happy to participate in the preparation of the coming 2015 Africities Summit, and in the Africa Local Government Academy. He also confirmed the interest of AFTUS to be part of the Award Scheme and welcome UCLG-A concrete proposals in this regard. He finally mentioned that the work done by AFTUS on urbanization review and systems of cities inspires regional projects. AFTUS is willing to share this review in order to receive comments by UCLG-A.

Meeting with World Bank Institute (WBI)

18. The meeting with WBI took place on 20 August 2013 on 14:00 to 16:00. The Bank participants in the meeting were : Mrs. Christine Kessides, Urban Manager and André Herzog, Senior Urban Specialist, Mr. Rene Peter Hohmann, Urban Specialist from the Cities Alliance Secretariat. WBI is dedicated to capacity development, promotion of innovation in knowledge and learning (using ICT Tools and methods); and implementation of collaborative governance. It supports the Bank's portfolio in urban development in three areas: a) planning, finance and governance; b) inclusive service delivery; c) public safety and resiliency. WBI proposes Practitioner Learning focusing on the "how to" and good practice around the following areas: sustainable land use planning, street addressing, municipal finance, successful water utility reform, urban crime and violence prevention, disaster risk management, safe and resilient cities, cities and climate change, integrated urban transport planning, upgrading informal settlements. Training activities are delivered through face-to-face sessions and e-learning courses. E-Learning courses are delivered through a tutor for 40 participants. The courses are accessible to individual or groups. 4 to 8

modules are delivered per week. After having successfully completed the evaluation, a certificate is delivered to the trainee. WBI works with partner institutions on the customization and the delivery of the courses. To that effect it provides assistance for the technical platform in the delivery of e-courses.

19. Few examples of the collaborative work of WBI were mentioned. In Mozambique, through Bank operations, WBI worked with the Municipality of Maputo and the University and launched a Master Program on Slum upgrading with the financial support of Brazil and Italy. 28 participants are taking the course. In South Africa, WBI worked with the Africa Centre for Cities of the University of Cape Town on the State of South African Cities Report. It collaborates with the department of the Human Settlements on national capacity development, professionalization and improving on the job programs. A workshop is planned on 3-4 September 2013 with 12 South African universities, the department of Human Settlements, the department of Finance and SALGA, to customize the WBI courses to the South Africa context. WBI is also collaborating with the Cities Alliance and SDI to develop a course on slums enumeration and upgrading. WBI is also co-organizing a meeting scheduled in Brazil on 2-3 December 2013 on local government capacity development, with the support of IPSA. WBI is also working with UN Habitat on an event to be held in Medellin, Colombia, from 5 to 11 April 2014. WBI also encourages Knowledge Exchange including South-to-South knowledge exchange programs comprising dialogues among countries; advisory assistance to practitioner networks (local government associations, urban institutes and research centers); learning notes; and virtual platforms of peer exchange and knowledge dissemination. WBI supports Collaborative Governance through "city-to-city dialogues" (C2Cs). Through C2Cs programs, WBI assists multi-stakeholder teams to apply leadership skills.

20. After a short presentation of the UCLG-A and GADDEPA, the UCLG-A Secretary General reminded that by 2005 WBI and UCLG-A exchanged on the way the latter could be accredited as a center of excellence for local governments in Africa. The process did not go through because of the crisis that UCLG-A witnessed during the years 2006 through to 2009. At the Africities Summit that took place in Marrakesh, Morocco in December 2009, mayors and local authorities asked the UCLG-A secretariat to develop an Africa Local Government Academy (ALGA) with as objectives to, 1. Accredit training institutes that deliver courses for local governments elected officials and staff; 2. Propose training courses for local governments senior staff; 3. Promote innovative programs in local governments capacity building and institutional development. The UCLG-A asks therefore that WBI considers assisting in the setting up of the ALGA, in particular by sharing its experience on what works and what does not, sharpening up the way forward to develop the ALGA, and collaborating with UCLG-A in customizing the WBI courses to the African context. The UCLG-A is also interested in the training material available at the WBI and Cities Alliance members that can serve for training courses proposed by the ALGA.

21. In response, the WBI staff indicated that the best way is for UCLG-A to have some colleagues to take one or two of the e-courses to experience the model first-hand. WBI is prepared to provide free access to the e-learning courses to the UCLG-A staff ready to register. The first e-learning course will start in September 2013. The calendar of the other e-learning courses will be shared with UCLG-A in due course. WBI would also consider providing a facilitator role for the delivery of some of the courses in the future, and possibly become involved in customizing the courses with certain partner institutions. As a way forward, 1)WBI proposes to share the information on ALGA

during the meeting with the South African institutions beginning of September 2013, and provide to UCLG-A progress made in the reflections on national capacity development program in South Africa; 2) WBI will have a colleague, Catherine Farvacque-Vitkovic, to attend the UCLG Congress in Rabat October 1-2, so that she can learn more about the UCLG-A programs and explore in particular further collaboration opportunities in the framework of the Local Government Academy concept and plans. Catherine Farvacque-Vitkovic could also make a presentation in a suitable congress session, and have further discussions on: i) feedback on the ALGA project; ii) WBI's experience with capacity building programs, in particular from activities in the Balkans as well as in other regions. She can also share experience with new/adapted self-assessment instruments on municipal finance and land use planning, as well as experience with a good governance program that WBI have supported; 3) WBI is ready to partner with UCLG-A in order to test in Africa the delivery of the slums upgrading training course just completed with the support of the Cities Alliance; 4) WBI could partner with UCLG-A in the preparation of a global roundtable on urban capacity development during the next World Urban Forum scheduled in April 2014, with the aim to develop a lobbying activity targeting Habitat III UN Conference in 2016.

Meeting with the Finance, Economics and Urban Development, Sustainable Development Network

22. The meeting took place from 4:14 to 5:30. Mrs. Zoubida Allaoua, director, Urban and Disaster Risk Management (UDR), and Mr. Sameh Naguib Wahba, Manager, Urban and Resilience Management Unit (UDRUR) attended the meeting. In his introductory remarks, the UCLG-A president thanked Mrs. Zoubida for having spared some time to meet with the UCLG-A delegation despite the very busy schedule of her department. After having introduced the rest of the UCLG-A delegation, he asked what the state of play on urban and local governments issues was in the new setting of the World Bank.

23. In response, Mrs. Zoubida said that the Bank was going through a critical transformation moment and this is the right time to raise the issue of the dialogue with local authorities in which the Bank is not doing very well so far. Everybody is now convinced that cities are the place where the bulk of wealth is created, where the battle of basic services and the fight against poverty will be won or lost. But cities are also the most exposed places when it comes to climate change impact on human beings. The center of gravity of the political economy primarily focused on countries is changing towards more cities and territories focus, which is why local authorities should become full interlocutors. The new World Bank president is sensitive to this question and has set up a Task Force to reflect on the Bank's priorities in its development agenda: urbanization, gender, structural investments, sustainability and resiliency. The World Bank president has decided to accelerate the rate of poverty reduction up to 3%, and to improve the living conditions of the 40% most impoverished. The World Bank president is very sensitive to the conclusion of the Potsdam Institute, which warned that there is a 10-year window of opportunity for action, for moving from a high to a low carbon development path and for adopting eco-benefit and resilience approach to development. Cities are at the heart of this transformation and the Bank should be ready to open new space for cities and local governments both in terms of consultation and access to finance.

24. There is a challenge within the Bank to move from a sector-based approach to a more territorial and spatially integrated approach in the management of the Bank's business lines. Three

main pillars have been defined as priority interventions for the Bank: 1) poverty reduction, 2) access to basic services and 3) climate change and resilience. The aforementioned Task Force prioritized climate change with a lot emphasis on cities. The Task Force proposed to catalyzeWorld Bank climate change action through: a) access of cities to finance through creditworthiness and preparing long term capital investment plans with low carbon path; b) innovative approach to handle the urbanization challenge: rapid urbanization demands that the Bank has face-to-face discussion with municipal authorities, and adjusts its financial instrument to be able to address the new and changing world brought about by climate change. The World Bank Spring meetings in April 2014 can offer an opportunity to start a structured dialogue between the Bank and local authorities in Africa. In addition the focus on cities brings to the fore the need to generate geo-referenced data. A regional study on Africa urbanization has been completed, and its results will be shared and discussed at the C40 meeting scheduled in Johannesburg, South Africa, in April 2014. The Bank is also envisioning to creating a Global data Board with free access.

25. In summing up the discussions, the UCLG-A president acknowledged the good news of a renewed interest for cities and local authorities within the Bank. He emphasized the fact that mayors need a lot of support in order for them to be in a position to create conditions for prosperity in their cities. Cities should be capacitated to plan ahead, including for defining investments plans and financial plans. There should also be a capacity building program for cities to improve their development pattern towards a low carbon path. In reaction to those remarks, Mrs. Zoubida announced that the World Bank is consulting key partners in order to launch the World Bank president's initiative to catalyze Climate Change Resilience in cities. This initiative aims to build a strong Cities Coalition on Climate Change. This coalition will include major players such as C40, Clinton Partners, New Cities Foundation, etc. A call to cities to participate in this coalition will be issued soon, and it is expected that African cities will be responding positively.

Meeting with the Africa Transport Unit

26. The UCLG-A delegation met with Mr. Thierry Desclos, senior Urban Transports specialist, and Roger Gorham, Transport Economist on 21 August 2013 from 9:30 to 10:30. The meeting started with introductory remarks by the manager of the Cities Alliance Secretariat, Mr. Billy Cobbett, who explained that the Cities Alliance was interested in including a transport element in its Africa Strategy. The UCLG-A president, Mr. Khalifa Sall pinpointed that mobility was among the most daunting issues to address, in particular in major cities, but also more and more in medium-size cities of Africa. Formulating appropriate policies for mobility planning and management has proven to be very difficult. And due to the urban sprawl, many city dwellers spend a lot of their time and money in commuting. In many cities, the notion of public transport does simply not exist. Local authorities duties are often reduced to try and rule on private buses and taxis operators. The issue of pollution is another dimension of urban mobility, since the fleet is often constituted with second hand old vehicles imported from abroad. This is an area where assistance is needed for city local authorities to become more active and efficient.

25. To respond to the demand on mobility arising from cities all around the world, the Urban Transport Anchor Unit of the Bank has launched the Leaders in Urban Transport Planning program (LUTP). The rationale behind the LUTP is that Urban Transport should be local. The governance mechanism should enable local authorities to have a voice in the definition of urban transport

services. The LUTP is being implemented as a pilot in five cities in East Africa: Addis, Kampala, Nairobi, Mombasa, Dar-as-Salam. There is need in all these cities to set up a Metropolitan Transportation Authority that would take charge of the planning and management of urban mobility in the agglomeration.

26. For capacity building purposes, LUTP has developed a training course on the management of urban mobility. The training course benefit from the support of the following organizations: the World Bank, the French Development Agency (AFD), the Center for Mediterranean Integration of Marseille (CMI), the World Conference on Urban Transports (CODATU), the Energy Sector Management Assistance Program (ESMAP), the Australian Government, the French Government, the Public Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (PPIAF). Since 2012, 12 training sessions have been organized, of which 5 were in South Africa, mainly for English-speaking countries. For the French-speaking countries, one session took place in Marseille, France; another one is scheduled on 21-27 September 2013 in Rabat, Morocco. Each session is open to 30/40 candidates, and lasts 7 days. The sessions include presentations, case studies, working groups, and reports on fieldwork. The Bank wishes to support this program for 3 years and hand it over afterwards to regional institutions that are willing to continue its delivery. It should be noticed that taking the LUTP training course costs 5 000 Euro per participant and per session. The costs include the air flight, accommodation, and pedagogic fees. The LUTP would be interested if an institution like UCLG-A would like to be among the regional implementing agencies of the training courses, particularly for East Africa and West Africa. The issue of mobility in secondary cities is worth considering as well, but raises the question of funding.

27. As a way forward it was agreed that: 1) UCLG-A should be part of the LUTP process; 2) UCLG-A should help mobilize participants for the Rabat training session in September 2013 and be part of the delivery of this session; 3) UCLG-A would work with the Africa Transport Anchor Unit to reflect on the question of mobility in secondary cities and in slums areas; 4) UCLG-A would work with the LUTP team to define and customize the LUTP training courses to East Africa and West Africa.

Meeting with Africa Disaster Risk Management Unit

28. The meeting was held on 21 August 2013 from 10:45 to 11:15. Mr. Christoph Pusch, Practice Leader, Disaster Risk Management Unit, Africa Region attended the meeting, together with Asmita Tiwari, Disaster Risk Management Specialist; Mr. Doeke Geert Wielinga, Senior Disaster Management Specialist; and Mr. Francis Ghesquiere, Head of Secretariat, Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery. After the presentation of his delegation, the UCLG-A president went on pointing out that local authorities are at the frontline in providing support to the population in case of disasters. Unfortunately most of the assistance programs, including by the World Bank, are not targeting local governments. Many cities in Africa are witnessing climate change hazards, including floods, coastal erosion, landslip, etc. What can they do to formulate and put in place risks prevention and disasters management measures? Cities in Africa want to be fully informed, concerned and assisted in their preparedness to face climate change impacts.

29. In response, the Practice Leader, Mr. Pusch, confirmed that the Bank is interested in direct cooperation with local authorities in the field of risks and disasters management. He acknowledged that responsibilities pertaining to disasters management and risks mitigation are at the local level:

Risk mitigation programs and master plans, code enforcement, improved building quality, fire brigades, etc. Urban resilience is a top priority for the Bank, which invests 1.5 billion US dollars to assist countries in risks prevention and disasters management. The problem is that so far the entry point for cities to access the Bank's fund is the ministry of finance, but this does not refrain the Bank from doing the work on the ground directly with local governments. Mr. Wellinga emphasized the fact that disaster risks management is a crosscutting issue. Disaster risk planning and urban planning have to work hand-in-hand. There is also a need to link people to this issue for them to understand their role in disaster management so that, they can for example protect a land dedicated to be a filter bed for storm water management. The Unit has developed a Risk assessment tool used for geo risk surveys and land use planning, that it can share with UCLG-A. Mrs. Asmita Tiwari confirmed that the Bank is conducting studies on risks assessment in 5 cities in Africa, including Senegal and Mozambique, on flood mitigation, which conclusions can also be shared with UCLG-A.

30. After the presentation by the Disaster Risk and Management team, Mrs. Fatimetou Mint from the UCLG-A delegation reiterated once more on the fact that in an event of disasters, local authorities are the most solicited to find solutions. Why not working directly with them and provide them with direct financial assistance? Furthermore, the Bank has an extensive knowledge of the situation of most countries and cities. Would it not make sense that the Bank define a program targeting cities at risk, and start working with them to prevent the ill effects of climate change, and can the Bank partner with the UCLG-A for the delivery of such program? What the Bank does to assist specifically women in cities hit by a disaster, since they are the most hit and the weakest in society? And finally is there any provision to support cities after a catastrophe?

31. The Risk and Prevention Management team admitted that looking at women as instrumental in risks prevention and management is a very valuable suggestion. Women are most of the time mobilized at the reconstruction phase. This is not enough. In general terms, the risk management community is far behind schedule when it comes to mobilizing women in risk and disaster management. The Disaster Risk and Management team also said that the Bank is sensitizing countries for them to invest in disaster risks. Unfortunately the demand from countries only comes after experiencing disasters. There is need for a strong campaign on disasters prevention and emergency interventions in case of catastrophe. The recourse to the media would fruitfully complement the sensitization effort. The global facility for disaster management may develop a specific sensitization tool for city mayors. These activities can be implemented through a partnership between Cities Alliance and GFDF/ISDR that could be open to the UCLG-A in the Africa Region. Further discussions should be held on the way such activity could be funded, including through the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery.

Wrap Up Session with the Cities Alliance Secretariat

32. At their wrap-up session on 21 August 2013 at 11:30 to 12:00, the Cities Alliance Secretariat and the UCLG-A delegation agreed on the following:

UCLG-A

1. to attend and contribute in the meeting on the Africa Strategy of the Cities Alliance in South Africa on 14-16 October 2013.

2. to attend and contribute in the Cities Alliance Consultative Group meeting in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso on 4-6 November 2013, where the Africa Strategy of the Cities Alliance will be approved.

3. to partner with WBI on the preparation of a side event during the next World Urban Forum in April 2014on human capacity development to address the urban challenge.

4. to partner with CA Secretariat, WBI and the Transport Anchor Unit of the Bank for the customization and delivery of the training course on slum upgrading and the course on Leaders in Urban Transport Planning (LUTP).

5. to define which role Cities Alliance and the Africa Region of the Bank will play in the preparation and organization of the Africities Summit in 2015.

Cities Alliance Secretariat

6. to organize a mission of the president of the Cities Alliance policy forum and the UCLG-A president to Tunis at the AfDB headquarters to meet with the president of the African Development Bank, during the fourth quarter of 2013.

7. to liase with the Africa Region of the World Bank for the organization of a side event on the Bank and the decentralization agenda in Africa, during the Spring Meetings of the Bank in April 2014, in order to start a direct dialogue between the Bank and the local Authorities in Africa.

8. to contribute to the staffing of the UCLG-A Secretariat and to consider the demand by UCLG-A to become an implementing agent for the CA Africa Strategy.

9. to work with the UCLG-A on the implementation of the city barometer and facilitate the link with the Global City Indicators Facility (GCIF).

10. to mobilize a large partnership within the Bank and among CA members for the operationalization of the Africa Local Government Academy (ALGA).