

THE E-NEWSLETTER FOR THE CITIES ALLIANCE

April 2007

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WE WELCOME YOUR ARTICLES

We invite Cities Alliance members and partners to submit articles on their activities, with a strong focus on impacts and lessons learned there from. For further details on providing such submissions send an email to:

info@citiesalliance.org

CITIES ALLIANCE NEWS

Cities Alliance Policy Advisory Board to Meet in Tunis, 24-26 April 2007

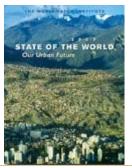
This year's spring meeting of the Cities Alliance Policy Advisory Board will be a joint event with the African Development Bank (AfDB). The meeting, to be attended by AfDB President Donald Kaberuka, will provide a significant opportunity for the Alliance's Board members to exchange views with the AfDB on the issue of Africa's urban future, particularly in light of the AfDB's review of its draft Urban Development Policy.

The Alliance's Policy Advisory Board is composed of eminent urban experts from each region. It brings together civic leaders and policy advisers with a formidable range of public and private sector expertise that spans the leadership of community-based organisations, NGOs and their networks, local authority organisations, community banks, community savings and credit schemes, commercial banks, and public sector financial institutions. What they have in common is practical knowledge and political experience in working with poor cities and the urban poor worldwide. Board members provide guidance to the Alliance's Consultative Group on key strategic, policy, and regional issues and support the implementation of Cities Alliance activities.

WorldWatch launches *State of the World 2007: Our Urban Future* Worldwide in Collaboration with Cities Alliance

The WorldWatch Institute launched *State of the World 2007: Our Urban Future* in January, 2007 in Washington, DC. This year's publication focuses on the ways urbanisation affects humans and the global environment. Future publication launches will take place in Brazil, Germany, India, Italy, Japan and South Africa. CA representatives





UCLG Executive Bureau Meeting, Hosted by Mayor of Paris, Discusses Preparations for Jeju, Korea

The United Cities and Local Governments' (UCLG) Executive Bureau met in Paris on March 15 and 16 at the invitation of Bertrand Delanoë, Mayor of Paris and Co-President of UCLG. The meeting brought together some 200 mayors and local and regional councillors to discuss issues impacting cities. The plenary session focused on the impact of climate change and highlighted the risks to cities worldwide. Paco Moncayo Gallegos, Co-president of the UCLG and Mayor of Quito, led the discussions and stated that his city is threatened by water shortages as a result of climate change and shifts in glacial runoff. He advocated that cities work together to tackle the risks of climate change. As a result, the Executive Bureau adopted the Paris Declaration on Climate Change that stresses the urgent need to launch concerted, local government efforts to combat climate change to safeguard populations and their future.

The Executive Bureau also discussed upcoming initiatives and events, including the proposed UN 'International Guidelines on Decentralisation.' The guidelines support the empowerment of local authorities and will be presented at UN-HABITAT's Governing Council meetings in April in Nairobi. Delegates also finalised details of the second UCLG World Congress, 'Changing Cities are Driving our World,' to be held in Jeju, Korea from 28 – 31 October 2007. Conference themes will include the future of humanity and climate change, local governments as peacemakers, and a fairer world through a new model of governance by 2015.

At the invitation of UCLG Secretary General Elisabeth Gateau, Programme Manager William Cobbett attended the Paris meetings on behalf of the Cities Alliance.

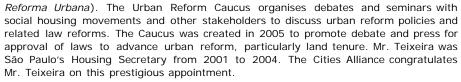
 $\underline{http://www.cities-localgovernments.org/uclg/index.asp?pag=newsD.asp\&L=EN\&ID=177}.$

Cities Alliance welcomes two new members to its Policy Advisory Board

Ms. Lajana Manandhar and Mr. Nicéphore Soglo will join the CA's Policy Advisory Board (PAB) to replace two original members, M. Jean Pierre Elong Mbassi and Ms. Sheela Patel, who have just rotated off the board. We look forward to welcoming Ms. Manandhar and Mr. Soglo at the PAB's spring meetings in Tunis in late April, 2007. For more information on the impressive credentials of the new members and future activities of retiring members, please see: http://www.citiesalliance.org/publications/homepage-features/march-07/pab-07.html.

PAB Member Elected Chair of Urban Reform Caucus of Brazilian House of Representatives

Paulo Teixeira, CA Policy Advisory Board Member, has been elected Chair of the Urban Reform Caucus in the Brazilian House of Representatives (Frente Parlamentar da





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