



Région



Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur

EUROPEAN PLATFORM OF REGIONAL/LOCAL
AUTHORITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

With the support of the European Commission



Regions and Development:
The role of Regions in a new global framework
29 May 2009 - Marseille

Meeting Venue:

Hôtel de Région

27, place Jules Guesde - 13481 MARSEILLE Cedex 20

DRAFT AGENDA

(03/04/2009)

Aims of the meeting:

Continue the debate opened by the EC Communication on "Local Authorities: Actors for Development".

Propose actions for improving the participation of Regions, in connection with local authorities, in development policies, improving the effectiveness of this participation in a global framework.

Contribute to preparing the Regions' and local authorities' participation in the "2009 Decentralised Cooperation Convention".

28 May 2009

20.00 Dinner at the *Hôtel de Région*

29 May 2009

9.30 Welcome by Mr **Michel Vauzelle**, Member of the French Parliament and President of Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region, and Mr **Claudio Martini**, President of the CPMR, President of Tuscany and a representative of the South

10.00-11.15 Session 1: Exchange of experiences and best practice: Territorial approach

The territorial approach and multi-level governance are the two counterparts of a new reflection currently underway on the renewed functioning of the EU, which must be carried out through the participation of its regional and local authorities. These two principles have already been implemented within the so called "cohesion" policy and debates are currently underway on the opportunity to broaden these approaches to other European sector-based policies in the future. There is increasing recognition of the need to take action with the territories, through their capacity to adapt, to be innovative in coming face to face with new global challenges.

In the specific area of development aid, the Regions and Cities are increasingly active, under various forms, with varying degrees of involvement and financial amounts, but with the same will to contribute to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. This participation, which the European institutions have ignored for a long time, has begun to be recognised and taken into account.

Development is currently hindered by two major challenges: the allocated amounts which could be called into question in times of crisis, and the lack of effectiveness due in part to dispersion, to the lack of appropriation, harmonisation, etc.

How do the Regions and local authorities in general, take action? Which policies and actions do they carry out? With which partners (other local authorities, States, Europe, international patrons) and within which frameworks? How can these actions and the special vision that the Regions have of territorial realities contribute to improving aid?

This morning will be a question of sharing experiences and regional best practice, often carried out with other local authorities, focusing on how regional authorities take action and how the “territorial approach” is taken into account. To achieve this, it is necessary to present the territorial approach and its contribution to helping aid effectiveness, knowing that it is a concept which can bring together various realities. It is important to demonstrate the added value of “Regions” in this framework, and that they are ready and willing to take steps forward together for more effectiveness and to become integrated in multi-actor mechanisms.

➤ Examples of Regions that coordinate and/or facilitate the exchange of information and actions carried out by actors from their territories towards partners from the South;

➤ Example of the state approach: European regions which work on a southern state scale and try to do this whilst bringing together partners for greater effectiveness, to take action in the best possible manner within the territory;

➤ Nordic example of State-Region cooperation within a southern territory;

Initial debate

11.15-11.45: Coffee break

11.45-13.00 Continuation of the session: Aid effectiveness

➤ CPMR Inter-Mediterranean Commission presentation of the territorial approach advocated for better aid effectiveness (The Paris Declaration in the Mediterranean area), Mr **Jean-Claude Turret**, Director of the Institute of the Mediterranean;

➤ Regions and climate change: towards North-South territorial partnerships in a multilateral framework, Mr **Christian Guyonvarc’h**, Vice-President of the Region of Brittany (F) and Co-Chair of the Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development (nrg4SD);

➤ Implementing the participation of regional and local authorities in European cooperation processes, Mr **Angelo Baglio**, Head of Unit, DG Aidco, European Commission.

Debate and exchanges with the floor

13.00-14.15: Lunch on site

14.15-18.30 Session 2: Methodological requirements - Instruments in support of the territorial approach and in support of more effective aid

Following the presentations and discussions of the morning session, uses, instruments and methodologies to promote effective and collaborative “territorial” action within the Regions and Cities, action which integrates within multilateral mechanisms, should be proposed. For this, it is necessary to have a better understanding of the Regions’ participation (amounts, distributions, geography, themes...) and to understand and improve the introduction of these actions at local (with other regional and local authorities), national, European and global level.

14.15-16.15 Introduction of the Regions and Cities in new aid mechanisms

The consequent upshot of European bodies giving greater consideration to the regional and local level: new practices and methods of working must be set up in partnership with all stakeholders at regional, national and European levels (especially development agencies) in order to effectively participate in aid policies.

➡ Round table with representatives of Regions from the North and the South, development agencies, European States, the Directorate General Development of the European Commission and the UNDP.

- Mr **Olivier Luyckx**, Head of Unit "Aid effectiveness and relations with Member States", D.G. Development, European Commission;
- Ms **Cécile Molinier**, Director of the UNDP Geneva;
- Mr **José Montilla Aguilera**, President of the *Generalitat de Catalunya* (tbc);
- President of a Brazilian State (Governor do Estado);
- Mr. **Philippe Chedanne**, Head of External Relations, French Development Agency;
- A representative of a City.

16.15-16.45: Coffee break

16.45-18.00 Collaborative organisation of regional and local authorities between themselves: joint action so as to be better heard

In addition to redefinition work and further developing the links between the Regions and other partners involved in development aid, it is important for the Regions and local authorities in general to have better coordination between themselves, to increasingly discuss their practices and to promote their actions vis-a-vis other partners, in order to have their voices better heard.

It appears fundamental that regional and local authorities from the "North" can discuss in an organised and regular way with local authorities from the "South", in order to guarantee that their actions be carried out on a partnership basis and in a useful manner, as well as to contribute to strengthening the role and capacity of local authorities from the South and to ensure that a common voice be heard by national, European and global bodies.

➡ Procedures, methods to improve/implement in order to work together between Northern, North-South, South-South local authorities and Regions:

- Mr **Michael Häupl**, President of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (*CEMR – Lead Partner of the Platform of Regional/Local Authorities for Development*), (tbc)
- Presentation of the Regional and Local Euro-Mediterranean Assembly (ARLEM), Mr **Michel Delebarre**, First Vice-President of the Committee of the Regions (tbc);
- Local Authority Africa Caribbean Pacific (ACP-LGP) Platform, Mr **Charles Katiza**, President of the ACP-LGP;
- Asian Representative of the UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments);
- Mr **Claudio Martini**, President of FOGAR, President of the CPMR, President of Tuscany.

Debates – Discussions

18.00-18.30 The Regions' proposals for a territorial approach to aid

Preparation of the Cooperation Convention

Final Declaration

18.30: End of proceedings

Interpreting will be provided in English, French and in Spanish depending on the number of participants.