

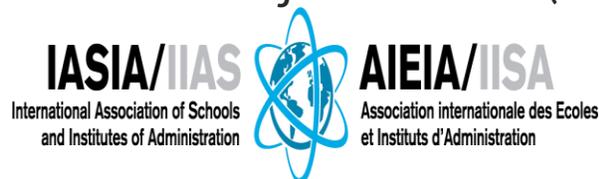


FORUM CITIES AND REGIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION 2019
organised by the European Commission and the European Committee of the Regions
04-05 February 2019, Brussels, Belgium



The Side Event organized by UCLG Africa on:
“Cooperate around Migration”
05 February 2019, from 14h30 to 18h00

In Partnership with
The International Institute of Administrative Science (IIASA)
& the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA)



**At the Headquarters of the International Institute of
Administrative Sciences (IIAS)
Rue du Commerce 96, 1040, Brussels, Belgium
Room C121**

Context

Decentralization, local governance and local development in Africa have been in recent years in a geopolitical context marked both by huge opportunities (the African Union Agenda 2063, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Climate Change Agenda, the New Urban Agenda, the Sendai Framework for Risk Reduction, the

Sustainable Development Financing Agenda), but also the structural and conjunctural challenges facing the African Local Authorities on a daily base. Migration is one of those issues. It is even a kind of fixation in relations between Europe and Africa, causing controversies between these two Continents, within countries as well as at the territorial level.

It's an issue that polarizes and causes tensions among the hosting countries and those who refuse to be host lands and territories; those who make the free movement of people an asset or an opportunity, and those who see it as a risk to be addressed and blocked.

There is no need to show that migration benefits from a solid human and legal framework. The whole history of Humanity has been marked by movements of people. Countries have been created from migratory movements. The development and progress of many nations has been dependent on such movements, making it an extremely important and sensitive subject.

The Article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) states:

« 1. Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State. 2. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country. ».

SDG 11 calls for cities and human settlements to be inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

The UN Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (Pact of Marrakech, abbreviated PMM), aims to bring together countries of departure, countries of transit and countries of destination for migrant people around a common vision of this phenomenon, and to promote greater international cooperation in this area, through both government and human rights-based approaches.

More recently, at the end of the 8th edition of the Africities Summit, the African Local Authorities adopted a **Charter on Migration** (attached to this Concept Note) where they undertake, on one hand, to «enforce the rights of migrants in its locality, to facilitate their peaceful integration into hosting communities, and to promote cohesion and conviviality between the hosting communities and the migrant populations; and on the other hand, to draw the attention of National Governments to the fact that it is the right to come and go that stabilizes migratory flows, and therefore ask all National

Governments to facilitate the provision of legal entry and circulation visas to migrant populations in order to dry up the source of illegal and irregular migrations ».

Finally, at the end of the work of the 11th Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), held in Morocco, in Marrakech, from 5 to 7 December 2018, under the theme "**Honouring International Commitments to Unlock the Potential of All Migrants for Development**", the two co-chairmen of the Forum (Germany and Morocco) highlighted not only the huge challenge of migration, which together with the climate change, is the most important challenge of the 21st century, but also that human mobility is a global issue, and that migration must be seen as "**a basis for development**" and "**an opportunity for all parties, especially for host and home countries and the migrants themselves**". They also stressed the need to involve Local Authorities and to take into account the local dimension in the implementation of the Global Compact on Migration. The achievements of the ten years of existence of this Global Forum mark a historic turning point and progress in the global governance of the migration issue.

The Forum of Cities and Regions for Development Cooperation organised by the European Commission and the European Committee of the Regions the 04th and the 05th February 2019 in Brussels, Belgium and which will specifically questions the place and responsibilities of Local and Regional Authorities in European policies, will be a timely opportunity to:

- On one hand, spark an intelligent debate and a serene dialogue on the deep causes of migration and the need for a holistic, multi-dimensional, multi-stakeholders and multilevel approach to ensure that migration is no longer seen as a phenomenon of crisis, misunderstanding and tension, and to think about forms of partnerships and cooperation based on the multiple opportunities offered by this phenomenon;

- On the other hand, check the adhesion around the Charter of the Local Governments of Africa on Migration, adopted at the end of the 8th edition of the Africities Summit of UCLG-Africa, as well as the capacity of the Local Authorities to concretely engage in order to identify to what extent decentralized cooperation is indeed a promising lever, especially at the South /South level, and to raise awareness and discuss issues of European migration policy and ways to build a pan-African voice of Local Authorities on the migration.

UCLG-Africa takes this timely opportunity and this space of dialogue to organize a Side Event, on February 5, 2019, from 14:30 to 18:00, on "**Cooperate around Migration**" at the Headquarters of the International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS), Street "Rue du Commerce 96", 1040, Brussels, Belgium, Room C121.

Main objective:

Sharing and disseminating the Charter of Local and Subnational Governments of Africa on Migration adopted at the end of the Africities Summit 8 and create an intelligent and serene dialogue about the content of the Charter and about strategies that make migration a real opportunity for the different actors and stakeholders involved.

Specific objectives and expected results

- Situate the place and the role of the regional and local governments in the Global, African and European dialogue on Migration ;
 - Highlight the role and responsibilities of cities and territories in the management of migration flows and the reception of refugees and migrants, whether in countries of origin, transit or reception ;
 - Identify and discuss good practices in governance and management of migration at the local level, including identifying the capacity building needs of local elected officials ;
 - See to what extent partnership and decentralized cooperation can be strategic levers to change the perception of crisis migration to migration-opportunity ;
 - Establish joint and concerted actions at territorial and local level to meet the needs of refugees and local populations and to the international commitments;
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- Identify strategic areas to be pursued by European and African local and regional governments and around which to articulate the political dialogue with the European authorities, particularly in the framework of the Post-Cotonou negotiation, which will include a fundamental chapter on migration, recalling that the Charter of Local and Subnational Governments of Africa on Migration has indeed clear elements on it.

Date and venue:

February 5, 2019, from 14:30 to 18:00.

Venue: The Headquarters of the International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS), Street "Rue du Commerce 96", 1040, Brussels, Belgium, Room C121.

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Draft Agenda (update 24 January 2019)

Time	Activity
14h30	Welcoming and registration of participants
15h00	Official opening of the Side Event - Welcome speech by Mr. Jean Pierre Elong Mbassi, Secretary General of UCLG-Africa - Address by the Representative of the European Commission and or the Unit in DEVCO Responsible for Migration (TBC). - Address by the the President of IIAS/AISIA or his Representative (TBC). - Adress by the Representative of UCLG(TBC)
15h15-16h00	Panel I: The Charter of Territorial Governments of Africa on migration: the challenges of migration, role and responsibilities of Local Governments in Africa Moderator: Mr Innocent Uwimana, President of the Rwandan Association of Local Government Authorities (RALGA), Vice-President of UCLG Africa, East Africa, Rwanda <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the commitments around migration and the adherence to the content of the Charter? What are the challenges for local and regional governments in Africa? Exchange and sharing of positive experiences and difficulties for the regions of departure, transit and reception. 2. Establishment of common and concerted actions at territorial and local level to meet the needs of migrants and local populations: identification of needs and support for local authorities; proposals (exchange of experiences, capacity building ...). 3. How to mobilize all Local Authorities in Africa around the Charter? What are processes to put in place? What is the expected role of UCLG Africa (setting up a Taskforce and a platform for exchanges and reflection)? Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Soham Elwardini, Mayor of Dakar, Senegal, Vice-President of UCLG-Africa, West Africa - Mr. Aboubacrine CISSE, Mayor of the City of Timbuktu, Mali. - Mrs. Zandile Gumede, Mayor of the City of Durban, South Africa. - Mr Anyang Nyong'o, Governor of Kisumu, Kenya. - Mr. Mohamed Anako, President of the Regional Council of Agadez, Niger (TBC)
16h00-16h45	Panel II: Partnership and Decentralized Cooperation: new forms of cooperation as strategic levers to change the perception and the governance of migration Moderator: Mr. Georges Mutabaazi, President of the Association of Local Authorities of Uganda (ULGA), Uganda.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. South / South cooperation on migration: role of migrant associations, situational analysis , perspectives and proposals; 2. Europe-Africa decentralized cooperation: for better integration of immigrants (OECD report), what are the experiences, results, and prospects? 3. How to strengthen the strategic position of Local Authorities in multi-stakeholder and multi-level (policy) dialogues on migration; how to build the voice of Local Authorities and make it heard? 4. How to promote a new governance of the management of migration flows based on innovative experiences in decentralized cooperation, while putting local governments at the heart of the mechanisms, particularly between Europe and Africa <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A European speaker of UCLG (TBC) - Mr. Aboubacar Bah, President of the Association of Municipalities of Mali, Mali - Mrs. Célestine Ketcha Courtès, President of REFELA, Cameroon - Mr. Omar Hjira, President of the Oujda Communal Council, Morocco - Mr. Adama Guindo, Mayor of the city of Kayes, Mali
<p>16h45-17h00</p>	<p>Coffee break</p>
<p>17h00-17h45</p>	<p>Panel III: European migration policy: a major challenge for the next Europe-Africa cooperation framework</p> <p>Moderator: Rev. Mpho Moruakgomo, President of the Association of Communes of Botswana (BALA), Vice-President of UCLG Africa, Southern Africa, Botswana</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The United Nations Global Compact on Migration and Unilateral European Migration Policy; the main thrusts of the current European migration policy towards Africa (security approach, relocation of borders and landing centers, readmission agreements / return policy at the heart of migration policy, establishment of the Trust Fund and financing project (without local authorities); a divided and confused Europe, a political crisis rather than a migration crisis; 2. Europe-African Union political dialogue and post-Cotonou cooperation framework; EU guidelines in the framework of the next ACP Framework Agreement, ineffectiveness of EU / AU policy dialogue processes, division of Africa into different instruments; Positions of African Local Authorities: Declaration of Valetta and Charter of Migrants; how to disseminate them and sensitize African Local Authorities and European Authorities, how to build a single front (Local

	<p>Authorities, States, Continent) vis-à-vis European interventions (see Charter), development of a program of concrete actions to support Local Governments (Trust Fund);</p> <p>3. Build a pan-African voice of Local Authorities on migration for the next negotiations and to foster political dialogue at the level of the African continent and Europe / Africa: strategic vision and concrete proposals; participation in political dialogue; on what terms?)</p> <p>4. What are the processes and methods to be implemented: expected role of UCLG Africa?</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Rhissa Feltou, Mayor of the Commune of Agadez, Niger - A Representative of a City of Libya(TBC). - Ms. Claire Mandouze, Special Advisor of UCLG Africa, Belgium
<p>17h45- 18h00</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of the Conclusions of the Side Event, by Dr Najat Zarrouk, Director of ALGA of UCLG-Africa and Mr Léonard Emmanuel Nick BOMBA, Coordinator, National Program of Training on City Jobs, Cameroon. - End of the work - Group Picture



Charter of Local and Subnational Governments of Africa on Migration

We, Local and Subnational Governments of Africa gathered on the occasion of the 8th edition of the Africities Summit held in Marrakech, Morocco, from November 20 to November 24, 2018:

Based on the various international treaties guaranteeing the rights to persons in a situation of travel or migration, hereinafter referred to as migrants;

Recognizing that migration and the displacement of populations are historical and global phenomena that affect the entire planet, including Africa, where nearly 50 million people are considered as migrant or displaced;

Stressing the important role played by migration and displacements in the development of human societies in general, and of African societies in particular;

Recalling that the vast majority of migratory flows and population displacements in Africa occur within the continent; and that migrant populations often leave a local or subnational government to settle temporarily or permanently within another local or subnational government in Africa or outside Africa; ;

Aware of the fact that actions aimed at providing sustainable responses to the root causes of migration are generally the same as those aimed at developing initiatives that meet the needs of local populations, and should be anchored in the development of territories and be in line with the dynamics of regional integration;

Adopt the Charter of local and subnational governments in Africa on Migration which states that any local and subnational government that adheres to the Charter,

A) pledges to:

- 1) enforce the rights of migrants in its locality, to facilitate their peaceful integration into hosting communities, and to promote cohesion and conviviality between the hosting communities and the migrant populations;
- 2) draw the attention of National Governments to the fact that it is the right to come and go that stabilizes migratory flows, and therefore ask all National Governments to facilitate the provision of legal entry and circulation visas to migrant populations in order to dry up the source of illegal and irregular migrations;
- 3) help migrant populations in danger in the name of solidarity and fraternity due to all human beings without distinction;
- 4) support and promote the formation of associations of migrant population in its locality, with a view to facilitating dialogue and cooperation on migration issues with the local communities of origin and the communities of residence of migrant populations both in Africa and outside Africa ;
- 5) put the migrant populations in the spotlight during the celebration of the Africa Day on May 25th of each year, and of the International Migration Day on December 18th. These celebrations must, among other things, offer the opportunity for cultural, artistic or gastronomic exchanges between the migrant populations and the populations of the hosting communities;
- 6) cooperate with the local and subnational governments that welcome migrants from its locality both in Africa and outside Africa, in order to establish mutually beneficial links with the Diaspora, and to involve them in the efforts of growth and sustainable human development of their communities of origin;
- 7) join the African and global network of welcoming cities and territories, whose goals are to promote local policies that respect the principle of hospitality, the sharing of best practices in this area, the support of voluntary territories, and the partnership with all the associative actors engaged in supporting migrant populations;
- 8) contribute to popularize the campaign of ratification to the Charter of Local Governments of Africa on Migration, with the aim to have at least 5,000 additional African communities ratify the Charter by 2021.

B) Opposes firmly and unequivocally:

9) all forms of xenophobic violence and discrimination against migrants both on the Africa continent and in other regions. In this regard, any public official or citizen who makes racist or xenophobic statements against migrants or who is involved in smuggling and in human trafficking must immediately be brought before the competent authorities;

10) local, national or international policies that criminalize migration and criminalize the provision of assistance to migrant populations as, contrary to international humanitarian law;

11) the construction on its territory of detention camps to accommodate African migrant populations expelled from other parts of the world;

12) the treatment of the issue of migration and displaced populations from the sole security-based perspective, ignoring the benefits of migration for the dissemination of knowledge and technologies, its contribution to the support of the populations and to local development in the communities of origin, its invaluable role in promoting diversity and bringing people together, as well as developing mutual understanding in the hosting communities, and contributing to the creation of an atmosphere conducive to peace and harmony in the world;

13) the development assistance policies which condition the benefit of aid programs on the implementation of the return and readmission on their territory of the migrant populations expelled from other parts of the world;

14) the cooperation programs intended to tackle the root causes of migration not taking due account of the central role of local and subnational governments in their definition, and without the effective participation of these governments in their implementation.

Done at Marrakech on November 21, 2018

The Participants