



Sommet Union Africaine - Union Européenne 2017
African Union - European Union Summit 2017

29 - 30 Novembre 2017
Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

1st Africa-Europe Forum of Local and Regional Governments

27 November, 9.00 – 18.45 | Abidjan District Hall – Ivotel Plateau

An initiative by: United Cities & Local governments Africa, the Council of European Municipalities & Regions and PLATFORMA – the European voice of local & regional governments for development.

With the support of: the European Union and the African Union, the Association of Regions and Districts of Côte d'Ivoire (ARDCI) and the Union of Cities and Communes of Côte d'Ivoire (UVICOCI).

Interpretation: FR, EN, IT

Rationale of the Africa-Europe Local and Regional Governments' Forum

In Africa, as well as in Europe, the subnational governments are taking action to address global challenges, driving territorial sustainable development. Local and regional governments are actors of governance: bringing stakeholders together, they act on the mandate bestowed on them by their constituencies and they engage with other tiers of government to benefit all in their communities.

Through the world organisation United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), subnational governments have been very active partners in the design of the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda. Now is time to translate these global policy frameworks into actions at the regional and local level.

The African Union's Agenda 2063 commits to renew leadership at both the national and the local levels in order to contribute to the structural transformation of Africa so that the continent is able to take advantage of the opportunities of its huge endowment in natural and human resources and be able to address the urgent challenges it faces in terms of sustainable human development. On its part, the European Union's reviewed 'European Consensus on Development' and 'next steps for a sustainable future' explicitly recognize the role of local governments and of decentralisation processes in achieving a sustainable future and give a strong basis for the strategic partnerships between the European Union and the regional and global associations of local and regional governments.

The 5th AU-EU Summit, taking place in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire (29-30 November 2017) will redefine AU-EU Partnership's strategic orientations for the coming years. On the eve of this event, African and European leaders of local and regional governments will gather in the **first Africa-Europe Forum of Local and Regional Governments in Abidjan on 27 November 2017** to share their messages and bring the local government perspective on the future partnership between the African Union and the European Union.

The Forum will address key issues of economic development, investing in youth, migration, human mobility, climate change and access to energy. The meeting will showcase the contributions of subnational governments to sustainable development and will contribute to the 5th AU-EU Summit with concrete proposals how to make local & regional governments part of the joint AU-EU strategies.

The forum will bring together the political leadership of UCLG-Africa, CEMR and PLATFORMA and is open to other local government associations. This group of high-level representative organisations will adopt the **Declaration of the Africa-Europe Forum of Local and Regional Governments** that is the result of a series of consultations and exchanges that started with a pre-Forum on 10 July 2017 in Brussels in the context of the 5th Assizes of decentralised cooperation.



THE AFRICA-EU PARTNERSHIP
LE PARTENARIAT AFRIQUE-UE

Programme

Co-Chairs:

Mr. Cheikh Gueye, 1st Deputy Mayor of Dakar, Representative of the President of UCLG Africa
Mr. Stefano Bonaccini, President of the Region Emilia-Romagna, and President of CEMR

9:00-10:00 Opening Ceremony

Welcome word by **Mr Gilbert Kone Kafana**, the President of UVICOCI and by **Mr Jeannot Ahoussou-Kouadio**, President of ARDCI.

Addresses by the two chairs **Mr. Stefano Bonaccini**, President of Emilia-Romagna Region, Italy, President of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), and **Mr. Cheikh Gueye**, Deputy Mayor of Dakar, Representative of the President of UCLG Africa.

Address by **Mr. Mpho Parks Tau**, President of United Cities and Local Governments (CGLU)

Address by **Ms Minata Samate Cessouma**, Commissioner for Political Affairs of the African Union Commission

H.E. Mr. Barnabe Dassigli, Minister for Decentralization and Local Governance, Benin, Chair of the African Union Committee on Public Service, Local Government, Urban Development and decentralization.

Address by **Ms Birgitte Markussen**, Deputy Managing Director – Africa Division, European External Action Service, Representative of HRVP Federica Mogherini

Opening address by **H. E. Mr. Amadou Gon Coulibaly**, Prime Minister, Côte d'Ivoire.

10:00-10.15 Coffee break

10.15-11.15

Panel 1 > [[Hyperlink for the concept note](#)]

The role of local and regional governments in fostering EU-AU Political Dialogue and Strategic Partnership

The partnership between the African Union and the European Union is first and foremost a political dialogue. The panel assesses the state of play of the political dialogues and the momentum that the 5th AU-EU summit, the recent policy declarations from AU, EU and the global agenda 2030 create to step-up the involvement of subnational governments in the political dialogues.

- **Hon. Roger Nkodo Dang**, President of the Pan African Parliament. (tbc)
- **Ms. Linda McAvan**, Member of the European Parliament, Chair of the Committee on Development
- **Mrs Jeanne d'Arc Kagayo**, Ministre of local development of Burundi, Member of the Bureau of the technical committee n°8 of the African Union
- **Mr Väino Reinart**, Undersecretary for External Economic Policy and Development Cooperation, Estonia, Presidency of the Council of the European Union
- **Mr. Hans Janssen**, Mayor of Oisterwijk, Netherlands, Member of the Committee of the Regions, member of the PLATFORMA political council
- **Mr. Mohamed Boudra**, Mayor of Al-Hoceima, President of the Moroccan association of Presidents of Local councils.



11.15-12.15

Panel 2 > [[Hyperlink for the concept note](#)]

Integration and mainstreaming local and subnational governments in the post Cotonou process and the new Joint Africa-Europe Strategy

Local and Regional governments are pragmatic actors for development. They take initiatives to respond to challenges on their territories. These contribute already to the ambitions of the AU-EU partnership. Local and Regional government initiatives however merit being upscaled through dedicated political and economic support.

The panel builds on initiatives from Africa and Europe that showcase the potential of subnational governments contribution to the AU-EU partnership as well as other partnership frameworks such as the future of EU-ACP relations, the Green Climate Fund and the SDGs – all of which call for a more direct access for subnational governments to dialogues, partnerships and access to finances.

- **Mrs Koseiyti Odette**, Member of the Networks of Locally Elected Women of Africa (REFELA)
- **Mrs. Jocelyne Bougeard**, Deputy Mayor of Rennes, representative of AFCCRE, member of PLATFORMA Political Council
- **Mrs. Linda Hes**, Councillor of Castricum, Netherlands, Representative of YELAC network of young local elected practitioners
- **Mrs. Therese Faye Diouf**, Mayor of the Diarrere Local Government, Senegal.
- **Mrs. Macoura Dao**, Mayor of Fombelo, Côte d'Ivoire, Member of the Bureau of the Union of cities and towns of Cote d'Ivoire, Member of the board of the network of locally elected women of Africa (REFELA), Winner 2017 of the excellency prize Alassane Ouattara of the best local elected representative of Cote d'Ivoire
- **Mr Mpho Moruakgomo**, President of the Botswana Local Government Association, President of CLGF
- **Mr Jean-Marie Tetart**, Mayor of Houdan, France, representative of Cités Unies France
- **Ms. Monica Barni**, Vice President Tuscany Region, Italy, member of PLATFORMA political council
- **Mr Touzi Ahmed**, Vice-President, Region of Marrakech-Safi

12.15-13.15

Panel 3 > [[hyperlink for the concept note](#)]

Financing local development

Sustainable local development cannot be realised without well-funded local strategies and local governments. The panel discusses the opportunities and challenges for local and regional governments in Africa to finance their public service responsibilities or to facilitate funding to non-government stakeholders. It will also look into the contribution from the European Union and the possibilities for European Towns and Regions to accompany their peers in the process.

- **M. Tshepo Ntsimane**, Head Metros, Intermediate Cities & Water Boards, Client Coverage Division Investments; Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA)
- **Mr. Bruno Leclerc**, Director of the French development Agency (AFD) in Abidjan
- **Mrs. Maria Shaw Barragan**, Director, Global Operations, European Investment Bank
- **Mr. Paolo Ciccarelli**, Head of Unit Cities, Local Authorities, digitalization and infrastructure, Directorate General for international cooperation and development, European Commission
- **Mr. Kalev Härk**, Councillor of Valga, Estonia, Member of PLATFORMA political Council
- **Mr. Jeannot Ahoussou Kouadio**, President ARDCI, Former Prime Minister, Côte d'Ivoire

13.15-14.30

Networking Lunch



14.30-16.30

Thematic roundtables: from policies to actions

14.30-15.30	15.30-16.30
<p>Climate action</p> <p>➤ Hyperlink for the concept note</p> <p>Co-chairs :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Mohamed Sefiani, Mayor of Chefchaouen and Member of the Executive Committee of the Global Covenant of Mayors on Climate and Energy; - Mr. Ronan Dantec, Senator, France, President Climate Chance <p>Experts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Marianne Overton, CEMR spokesperson on Environment, Vice Chair of LGA England and Wales ; - M. Victor Odaga, Conseil des Gouverneurs, Kenya 	<p>Migration and human mobility</p> <p>➤ Hyperlink for the concept note</p> <p>Co-chairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Andreas Wolter, Vice Mayor of Köln, Germany - Mr. Anacko Mohamed, President of the Region of Agadez, President of the Association of the Regions of Niger (tbc) <p>Experts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Hans Janssen, Mayor of Oisterwijk, member of the CoR ; - M. Marcel Baglo, Beninese Agency for Integrated Border Management
<p>Local Economic Development</p> <p>➤ Hyperlink for the concept note</p> <p>Co-chairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Sunday Hanson Amaechi, Vice-Président Association of Local Governments of Nigeria - Mr. David Simmonds, Vice-Chair of the Local Governments Association of England and Wales <p>Experts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Luc Martens, Mayor of Roeselare, Vice-President CEMR ; - Mr Philipp Heinrigs, Senior Economist, Sahel and West Africa Secretariat / OECD 	<p>Youth empowerment</p> <p>➤ Hyperlink for the concept note</p> <p>Co-chairs :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Guy-Michel Chauveau, Mayor of la Flèche, France - Mr. Lima Dos Santos Ekeneide, Mayor of Acqua Grande, President of the Association of Mayors of Sao Tome e Principe <p>Experts :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Linda Hes, Councillor of Castricum ; - Mr. Tagro Lazare, Coordinator of Youth Service Platform, Agneby-Tiassa Region <p>With participation from the AU-EU Youth Plug-In initiative</p>

17.00-17.30

Concluding remarks from the thematic round tables

- **Mr. Frederic Vallier**, Secretary General of CEMR
- **Mr. Jean-Pierre Elong Mbassi**, Secretary General of UCLGA
- **Ms Anna Lixi**, Head of Sector Local Authorities, Directorate General for international cooperation and development, European Commission

Adoption of the Local and Regional Government Declaration to Heads of States and Governments meeting at the 5th AU-EU Summit in Abidjan



17.30-18.15

Signing Ceremony of the Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa

- European Commission, DG DEVCO – Sustainable Energy and Climate Change Unit
- African Union Commission, Department of Energy and Infrastructure

Signing ceremony with the Mayors involved in the Covenant of Mayors for Sub-Saharan Africa

Family picture

18.15-18.45

Official Delivery of the Declaration of the Africa-Europe Forum of Local & Regional Governments to the Minister of Home Affairs and Security of Côte d'Ivoire

- Closing remarks by **H.E. Mr. Sidiki Diakit **, Minister of Home Affairs and Security, C te d'Ivoire

18.45

Networking Cocktail

