



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

29 - 30 Novembre 2017  
Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

## **1<sup>st</sup> Africa-Europe Forum of Local and Regional Governments**

27 November, 9 :00 – 18 :00  
Hotel du district Abidjan – 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 African Union  
The Association of Regions and Districts of Côte d'Ivoire (ARDCI)  
The Union of Cities and Communes of Côte d'Ivoire (UVICOCI)

Interpretation: FR, EN, IT, SP

### **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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 AU-EU Local Government Forum 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> Assizes of decentralised cooperation.



THE AFRICA-EU PARTNERSHIP  
LE PARTENARIAT AFRIQUE-UE

## Programme:

### Co-Chairs :

**Mr. Khalifa Sall, UCLG-A President**

**Mr. Stefano Bonaccini, CEMR president**

### 9:00-10:00 Opening Ceremony

Welcome word by the President of ARDCI and the President of UVICOCI

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

Address by **Mr. Stefano Bonaccini**, President of Emilia-Romagna Region, President of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)

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

Address by **Mr Neven Mimica**, Commissioner cooperation and development, Commission of the European Union (tbc)

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

### 10:00-11: 00 Panel 1

### The role of local and regional governments in fostering EU-AU Political Dialogue and 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 5<sup>th</sup> AU-EU summit, the recent policy declarations from AU, EU and the global agenda2030 create to step-up the involvement of subnational governments in the political dialogues.*

- **Hon. Roger Nkodo Dang**, President of the Pan African Parliament. (tbc)
- **Mrs. Linda McAvan**, Member of the European Parliament, Chair of the Committee on Development
- **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.
- **Mr Väino Reinart**, Undersecretary for External Economic Policy and Development Cooperation, Estonia, Presidency of the Council of the European Union
- **Mr. Carlos Martinez Minguez**, Mayor of Soria, Co-President CEMR, Vice-President UCLG
- **Mrs. Rose Christiane Ossouka Raponda**, Mayor of Libreville, Vice-president UCLG



11:00-12:00

Panel 2

**Integration and mainstreaming local and subnational governments in the post Cotonou Agreement and the upcoming 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. Celestine Ketcha Courtes**, Mayor of Bagangte, Cameroon, President 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.
- **Mr Jean-Marie Tetart**, Mayor of Houdan, representative of Cités Unies France
- **Mr Mpho Moruakgomo**, President of the Botswana Local Government Association, President of CLGF
- **Ms. Monica Barni**, Vice President Tuscany Region, Italy, member of PLATFORMA political council
- **Mr. Mohan Laensar**, President Association of the Regions of Morocco

12:00-13:00

Panel 3

**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 be 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.*

- Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA)
- **Mr. Bruno Leclerc**, Director of the French development Agency (AFD) in Abidjan
- **Mrs. Maria Shaw Barragan**, Director of lending Operations in Africa, Caribbean, Pacific, Asia, and Latin America, European Investment Bank (European Investment Bank)
- **Mr. Paolo Ciccarelli**, Head of Unit Cities, Local Authorities, digitalization and infrastructure, Directorate General international cooperation and development, European Commission
- African Development Bank (tbc)

**Discussants**

- **Mr. Kalev Härk**, Councillor of Valga, Estonia, Member of PLATFORMA political Council
- **Mr. Jeannot Ahoussou Kouadio**, President ARDCI, Former Prime Minister, Côte d'Ivoire.

13:00-14:30

**Networking Lunch**





14:30-16:30

**Thematic roundtables : from policies to actions**

<p><b>Climate action (RT 1)</b></p> <p><b>Co-chairs :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mr. Mohamed Sefiani</b>, Mayor of Chefchaouen and Member of the Executive Committee of the Global Covenant of Mayors on Climate and Energy;</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Ronan Dantec</b>, Senator, France, President Climate Chance</li> </ul>	<p><b>Migration and human mobility (RT 2)</b></p> <p><b>Co-chairs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mr. Andreas Wolter</b>, Deputy Mayor of Köln; Germany</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Anacko Mohamed</b>, President of the Region of Agadez, President of the Association of the Regions of Niger. (tbc)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Local Economic Development (RT 3)</b></p> <p><b>Co-chairs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chairman of Ikeja Local Government, Lagos, Nigeria (tbc)</li> <li>- <b>Mr. David Simmonds</b>, Vice-Chair of the Local Governments Association of England and Wales</li> </ul>	<p><b>Youth empowerment (RT 4)</b></p> <p><b>Co-chairs :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mr. Hans Janssen</b>, Mayor of Oisterwijk, Netherlands, Member of the Committee of the Regions</li> <li>- <b>Mr. David Simango</b>, Mayor of Maputo, Mozambique. (tbc)</li> </ul> <p><b>With participation from the AU-EU Youth Plug-In initiative</b></p>

17:00-17:30

**Concluding remarks from the thematic round tables**

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

**Adoption of the Local and Regional Government Declaration to Heads of States and Governments meeting at the 5<sup>th</sup> 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**





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**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**

- Closing remarks by **H.E. Mr. Sidiki Diakité**, Minister of Home Affairs and Security, Côte d'Ivoire

**18:45**

**Networking Cocktail**



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