



## **AFRICITIES SUMMIT**

**NAIROBI - KENYA, 18 – 22 September 2006**

**« Building local coalitions for effective implementation of the Millennium Goals in African Local Governments »**

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### **DECLARATION BY MINISTERS 22 September 2006**

#### **PREAMBULE**

Noting that the rationale of the Africities Summit is based on the premise that success in the decentralization process in Africa depends on continuous dialogue between central and local governments in relation to shared responsibilities, functions and resources and that it is further based on the realization that this success depends on the sharing of experiences at a pan-Africa level while keeping a strategic watch on emerging lessons and themes at the international level.

Taking note of the Africities summit held in Nairobi, Kenya from the 18<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> September 2006 under the theme “Building local coalitions for effective implementation of the MDGs in African Local Governments” with the participation of Ministers, Mayors, Councillors, Local Governments Specialists, Development Partners, Civil Society and NGOs.

Noting the objectives of Africities:

Thanking the partners for their contribution to the success of the summit.

Acknowledging the importance of sharing information and experiences on decentralization.

- Ministers welcome and commit themselves to work towards finalization of AMCOD and undertake to sensitize it at the national and local level.
- Ministers affirm their commitment to decentralization within the framework of their respective member countries and in the spirit of the guidelines of decentralization.
- Ministers commit themselves to create the necessary national framework conditions for meaningful partnerships with the development partners.
- Realizing the deadline for the MDGs Ministers commit themselves to accelerate the transfer of adequate resources for speedier implementation of the MDGs.
- Ministers encourage practices in local government that promote transparency, accountability and social contract / service charter with their citizens.

- Ministers encourage initiatives by local governments within each country's legal framework to enter into partnerships with:
  - Donors
  - Private sector
  - Civil society
  - NGOs
- Ministers mandate Cameroon, Senegal, Rwanda (members of the interim bureau) and Kenya, to expedite the accession of AMCOD to African Union specialized agency status.

#### MOTION BY MINISTERS

The chairman, members of the provisional bureau and Ministers of AMCOD express their gratitude to his Excellency Honorable Mwai KIBAKI, President of the Republic of Kenya, the Government and people of the Republic of Kenya for the warm hospitality accorded to all the participants of the Africities summit and further congratulate them for the successful organization of the event.