



## **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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### **Special Session N° 13**

#### **“Political Dialogue - Capacity Building of Regional and National Associations of Local Governments”:**

##### **Africities: Presentation of the session**

As basic service providers, local governments can contribute to poverty reduction. In order to really achieve this, local governments should be in a position to act as effective, transparent and efficient service providers. But is that the case? And how can local governments strive towards that position?

In order to support these Local Government Associations, Association Capacity Building activities are undertaken in partnerships between LGAs from the South and the North. In many nations local governments form associations to represent them towards central level, to support them in the daily operations and for the purpose of mutual learning. Also South-South exchange is emerging not only within the framework of ACB projects, and with donor support from the North, but also through initiatives undertaken by LGAs themselves.

The average national context in which LGA's in developing countries operate, and the average characteristics of the member local governments with little or no real access to own revenues, make that achieving sustainability for these organisations and at the same time performing as demanded by their members, is a long term process. This is exactly why such ACB efforts should be characterized by long term partnerships. Examples of ongoing ACB partnerships are VNG International The Netherlands – ALGAK Kenya; FCM Canada - ANAMM Mozambique; and KS Norway – LGAZ Zambia. These associations will present their partnerships during a session on ACB at Africities.

The session wants to make an inventory of the achievements and the weak points of past and ongoing ACB-projects, in order to facilitate the development of even more effective ACB activities in the near future. The session will not be conclusive, but tries to draw the attention of the donor community on these specific capacity building activities. It will also identify the main issues for further assessments, and further reflection, and the challenges Northern and Southern Local Government Associations face in view of future ACB projects and programmes.

##### **Format of the programme**

- 9.00 – 9.10 Welcome and Opening by Mr Augustine M.R. Odipo – EALGA Secretary General
- 9.10 – 9.30 Presentation on Association Capacity Building between Partner Local Government Associations by Anne-Lies Risseeuw – VNG – the Association of Netherlands Municipalities.
- 9.30 – 12.00 Four presentations of ongoing Association Capacity Building partnerships
- 9.30 – 10.00 Partnership between FCM (Federation of Canadian Municipalities) and ANAMM (the National Association of Municipalities of Mozambique) and MDP (Municipal Development Programme)

The presentation is made by Mr George Matovu and Mr Philip Kundishora (both MDP) and Mr Francisco Majaia (ANAMM).

The presentation focuses on setting up a local government association.

- 10.00 – 10.30 Partnership between KS (Norway) and LGAZ (Local Government Association of Zambia)  
The presentation is made by Ms May Endresen (KS) and Mr Dan Longwe (LGAZ)  
The presentation focuses on the provision of a Councillors' Training as a form of service delivery for members.
- 10.30 – 11.00 Tea break
- 11.00 – 11.30 Partnership between VNG (the Netherlands) and ALGAK (Kenya)  
The presentation is made by Ms Judy Oduma and Mr Hamisi Mboga (both ALGAK)  
The presentation focuses on the lobbying and advocacy activities undertaken by ALGAK in the national constitutional review process in Kenya.
- 11.30 – 12.00 UMQ (Union of Municipalities of Quebec Canada)  
The presentation is made by Mr Marc Gascon, mayor of St-Jérôme and vice-president of UMQ.  
The presentation focuses on the role of and opportunities for Local Government Associations in the national political arena
- 12.00 – 13.00 Panel discussion formulating points of common interest from the four presentations (strong and weak points of existing ACB-activities) and formulating challenges for future ACB-projects and programmes.

*Proposed composition of the panel:*

- Mr Augustine M.R. Odipo – secretary general EALGA
- Ms Carol Kardish – regional programme director for Africa and the Middle East FCM
- Mr George Matovu - managing director MDP
- Mr Philip Kundishora – policy adviser MDP
- Ms May Endresen – adviser KS
- Mr Dan Longwe – ALGAZ
- Mr Marc Gascon, mayor of St-Jérôme and vice-president of UMQ
- Ms Judy Oduma – programme officer ALGAK
- Mr Hamisi Mboga – secretary general ALGAK
- Ms Anne-Lies Risseuw – senior project manager VNG