Workshop
Inhabitants, from the Asian Citizen Assembly 2010 to the World Assembly of Inhabitants 2011

c/o Frontier Management Centre, Bangalore

FIRST SESSION

The Zero Eviction Campaign: how people can deal with housing right violations

Evictions are the main indicator of violations of the right to housing and to the city and of the failure of MDG 7-11. Each year about 65 million people suffer or are threatened by this violence, and is it primarily the poor who suffer. There are important initiatives to address this problem, but they are often uncoordinated. They are implemented by inhabitants organizations, NGOs and social networks offering housing policies and participatory urban planning, respect for human rights, government accountability and the right of the inhabitants to be city builders, not mere customers or users of urban space.

Presentations and discussions wil seek to strengthen the coordination of actions to resist eviction and of regional and global alternatives, following a shared agenda:

- analysis of the gap between the government responsibilities to promote housing rights and the reality of violations affecting the continent;
- exchange of experiences between the different campaigns and people's strategies to prevent eviction in order to understand its weaknesses, strengths and complementarities as essential tools for the Right to the City;
- proposals for a common international platform and solidarity between housing movements (online early warning system, Zero Evictions Campaign, International Network of Volunteer Lawyers for Housing Rights Without Borders, alliances, partnerships).

SECOND SESSION

Towards the World Assembly of Inhabitants 2011

The Urban Social Forum has endorsed the steps being taken to organise a World Assembly of Inhabitants (WSF Dakar, 6-11 February 2011), bringing together more than 150 international organisations and all the main international networks campaigining in support of the right to housing and to the city, from all continents, to build a common space to exchange experiences, share strategies and decide on g-local joint initiatives to be taken by inhabitants.

Presentations and discussions will bring together the region's inhabitants organisations involved in building the WAI, to decide on the core of an international platform for the right to housing and to the city, identifying coordination strategies to develop this democratic process in the region:

- identify issues, dissemination, partners, allies
- establish a WAI Joint Steering Committee for Asia
- decide a calendar of activities, working towards the Global Steering Committee meeting (Bobigny, France, mid-October 2010) and the WAI (Dakar, 6-11 February 2011)

Speakers:

- Cesare Ottolini, IAI coordinator
- Maria Fides F.Bagasao, Leaders and Organisers of Community Organisations in Asia, LOCOA, Philippines
- Na Hyo-Woo, Asian Bridge, Korea
- Muhammad Hilaluddin, Angikar Bangladesh Foundation, Bangladesh

Others tba

Video interviews with urban social leaders
Programme (tba) in cooperation with the CIEDS Collective and Bangalore Film Society

We plan to record video interviews with urban social leaders from across the region to build up the 'inhabitants' memory' as an essential contribution to setting up the World Assembly of Inhabitants. The video interviews are part of multimedia cards intended to act as an introduction to inhabitants organisations, facilitating the exchange of experiences and paving the way for a follow-up after the Dakar WAI.
You can see here the first online multimedia cards made during the WUF-USF in Rio.

Visits to the popular districts of Bangalore
Program (tba) in cooperation with LOCOA and local inhabitants' organisations

We hope to make links between dialogue with the Asian People's Assembly and the process of building the WAI, on the one hand, and local experience, on the other, to promote the process of change.

We hope to meet a number of local residents and leaders to learn and exchange experiences.

More info: Asian Citizens Assembly 2010 – World Assembly of Inhabitants (WSF Dakar 2011)

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