

## **Draft Resolution for Africities VI Inhabitants Session**

05 December 2012

We, the undersigned organisations, hereby respectfully submit the following Resolution affirmed by the Thematic Session on "Associations of Inhabitants" at Africities VI for consideration at the Political Session of the Summit for adoption into the operational programme of the UCLGA

Recognizing that

1. development policies founded on a neo-liberal paradigm will continue to promote the growth of urban populations of Africa and the decrease of cultivated land in the coming decades
2. participatory and inclusive planning policies are needed based on an alternative urban social vision founded on the enforcement of human rights, the environment, the common goods and the rights of all inhabitants to be co-creators and co-managers of the territories
3. respect for the aspirations and rights of all citizens should be the over-riding consideration in policy formulation,
4. the complexity of our cities requires democratic, progressive, decentralized and dynamic management systems not only from political and bureaucratic players but also well-informed and responsible participation by the citizens themselves,
5. associations of inhabitants are a legitimate and important component of the social and political life of cities,
6. forced evictions resulting from market-driven pressures are wide-spread in most countries of Africa and result in increased suffering for the urban poor

We therefore submit the following recommendations to:

### **The Mayors and Local Authorities of Africa**

1. to welcome associations of inhabitants as legitimate and productive urban stakeholders of an alternative urban social pact and to promote these through appropriate mechanisms
2. to support and encourage community-led initiatives aimed at improving neighbourhoods and housing delivery
3. to encourage participatory and inclusive urban planning that prioritises the needs of the poorest residents in development.

### **The National Governments of Africa**

1. to identify and enact appropriate legislation to empower associations of inhabitants
2. to devise and implement housing and urban planning policies that recognize and prioritise the interests of the poor.

### **The International Development Partners**

1. to promote and assist the establishment, well-being, funding and development of associations of inhabitants and networks in urban areas and at regional levels across Africa
2. to promote the full participation of associations of inhabitants in planning, decision making
3. to promote associations of inhabitants as empowered monitors of local and central authorities

We further urge the **UCLGA** to

1. to identify and promote the adoption of policies by national and local authorities that support the establishment and development of associations of inhabitants,
2. to promote the adoption of legislation to establish and support associations of inhabitants, particularly in the in the planning and implementation of development projects that affect them
3. to defend the rights of all inhabitants to security of tenure and to dignity,
4. to promote the security of land tenure for housing and for work in the cities

by specifically

1. establishing a working group and a dedicated liaison service to promote dialogue between local/national authorities and associations of inhabitants
2. establishing a multi-actor Advisory Group to monitor and assess local authorities, inhabitants organisations and other stakeholders in order to prevent forced evictions
3. hosting regional meetings to provide for interaction between elected officials and associations of inhabitants
4. preparing model legislation for the formal recognition of associations of inhabitants in collaboration with associations of inhabitants and elected officials.

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Full Name</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>E-Mail</b>