

# European Sustainable Cities and Towns Campaign

## Taking the Campaign Forward – the Next Steps 2007-2010

### 1. Memorandum of Cooperation

#### Article 1:

This Memorandum of Cooperation concerns the “European Sustainable Cities and Towns Campaign”, henceforth referred to as “the Campaign”.

The Campaign reserves the right to use the abbreviated name “ESCTC” in all advertisements, publications and other documents issued by the Campaign.

#### Article 2:

The Campaign’s object is to:

- promote and follow up the Aalborg Commitments,
- serve as a contact, documentation and information point for the signatories of the Aalborg Commitments,
- organise a monitoring and review process on the Aalborg Commitments,
- co-ordinate and/or contribute to organising conferences and exchange to the signatories of the Aalborg Commitments and to other European cities and towns on sustainable urban development, and
- assist and support municipalities to meet their commitments to the Aalborg process by providing activities, support, and expertise that will extend the knowledge base at the local level
- promote awareness of, recognition for and work on the principles of sustainable local and urban development using such tools as the European Sustainable City Award
- promote international co-operation and networking for the above purposes.

Through this Campaign, working as individual organisations and also collectively, the partners and participants will advance the themes and principles outlined in the Aalborg Charter and the Aalborg Commitments. In particular, they will contribute to a common vision of a sustainable future in which all citizens enjoy a good quality of life. This will be achieved by facilitating a European context where cities are inclusive, prosperous, creative, and sustainable, with democratic and effective governance, and where all citizens have the opportunity to participate in all aspects of urban life – including political, cultural, social, and economic aspects.

Generally speaking, the Campaign may use all means that contribute, directly or indirectly, to the accomplishment of its object.

**Article 3:**

The Campaign is created for an unlimited duration.

**Article 4:**

The Campaign is composed of Partners and Participants. Partners are collectively members of the Campaign Steering Committee that has responsibility for the overall policy and direction of the Campaign and for all its activities. Participants are those local governments and associated bodies that have signed the Aalborg Charter or the Aalborg Commitments.

**Article 5:**

Local government networks and associations, local governments and related organisations who subscribe to the Aims of the Campaign and who are committed to make a tangible contribution to achieving its Aims are eligible to become Campaign Partners.

**Article 6:**

Partners of the Campaign must:

- a. comply with the Memorandum of Cooperation as well as the decisions of the Campaign Steering Committee (CSC)
- b. not act in any way that might be detrimental to the interests of the Campaign
- c. Not use the logo nor the name of the Campaign for any purpose without the express consent of a majority of Campaign Partners

**Article 7:**

A Campaign Steering Committee (CSC) composed of the signatories to this Memorandum of Cooperation manages the Campaign. The CSC is responsible for the overall policy and direction of the Campaign and for all its activities. The CSC meets on a minimum of two occasions per annum. The CSC will actively seek to increase the number cities acting as Campaign Partners.

**Article 8:**

Partners are invited for a term of office of three years, which may be renewed by agreement of a majority of CSC members. The CSC may from time to time invite new organisations to become Partners and thus members of the CSC. Such invitations must be approved by a majority of CSC members.

**Article 9:**

The CSC will appoint one of its members to act as Campaign Co-ordinator to be responsible for the day-to-day organisation and management of the Campaign. The post will circulate between Partners who will take on this role for a period of one year. The Co-ordinator will be responsible for arranging CSC meetings, circulating minutes and for undertaking such administrative and co-ordinating functions that are necessary to conduct the business of the Campaign.

**Article 10:**

The CSC shall have the opportunity to appoint a Campaign Chair who will represent to Campaign and its mission at the highest levels. This appointment will be by majority decision of the CSC, and is likely to be a person with a clear European profile and political stature and experience.

**Article 11:**

This Memorandum of Cooperation shall come into force on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2007 or at some subsequent time to be agreed by the Campaign Partners. The Campaign Partners comprising the Campaign Steering Committee at the commencement of this MoC are:

- Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)
- Italian Association for Local Agenda 21
- ICLEI -Local Governments for Sustainability
- Energie-Cities
- Climate Alliance
- Medcities
- Union of Baltic Cities
- Association of Cities and Regions for Recycling and Sustainable Resource Management (ACR+)
- World Health Organisation (WHO)– Healthy Cities
- City of Aalborg
- City of Hannover
- Province of Barcelona
- City of Malmo

Date: 23 March 2007

## **2. The Vision and Aims of the Campaign**

### ***A Vision for the Campaign:***

*The vision for the Campaign is to be the focal point for European urban sustainable development, to support all local governments in their adoption of the Aalborg Charter and the implementation of the Aalborg Commitments. The Campaign is committed to securing an improved quality of life for all Europe's citizens within the framework of sustainable urban development.*

### ***The Aims of the Campaign:***

*The Campaign aims to:*

- *Promote and follow up the Aalborg Commitments*
- *Serve as a contact, documentation and information point for the signatories of the Aalborg Commitments*
- *Organise a monitoring and review process for the Aalborg Commitments*
- *Co-ordinate and/or contribute to organising conferences and exchange with the signatories of the Aalborg Commitments and with other European cities and towns on the issue of sustainable development*
- *Assist and support municipalities to meet their commitments to the Aalborg process by providing activities, support and expertise that will extend the knowledge base at the local level*
- *Promote awareness of, recognition for and work on the principles of sustainable local and urban development using such tools as the European Sustainable Cities and Towns Award*
- *Promote international cooperation and networking for the above purposes*

## **3. Work Programme and Tasks 2007-2010**

There are five main areas of work to be undertaken during this period:

### ***1. Promotion of the Aalborg Commitments***

- **Task 1.1:** Maintain and update the Campaign website. (Malmo; Italian LA21Coordination Committee; Barcelona Province).

- Task 1.2: Provide news/updates to website and provide links from their own websites to the Campaign website (All Partners)
- Task 1.3: Utilise the Campaign website and other resources to disseminate the results and outcomes of projects undertaken by Partners (All Partners)
- Task 1.4: Maintain and update Aalborg +10 website (Aalborg)
- Task 1.5: Investigate project funding to support promotion of the AC (ICLEI)
- Task 1.6: Search for a host city for the 6<sup>th</sup> ESCTC Conference (ICLEI; Climate Alliance; CEMR; UBC; Med Cities; Energie Cites)
- Task 1.7: Promote the Aalborg Commitments through Partners own websites and membership (All Partners)
- Task 1.8: Search for a host city and funding to organise a Follow Up Conference to Sevilla 2007 for Central and Eastern European and Balkan countries (ICLEI)
- Task 1.9: Develop a project for dissemination of the Campaign Aims and results in cities of neighbour countries (MedCities; CEMR; Barcelona Province)
- Task 1.10: Promotion of the AC and the Campaign in the Baltic region by co-ordinating the Nordic-Baltic AC Network activities together with the Finnish Association of Local Authorities (UBC)

## ***2. Monitoring progress of the Aalborg Commitments***

- Task 2.1: Maintain database/register of signatories, issue certificates and report of progress for Campaign (Aalborg)
- Task 2.2: Explore funding for and organisation of a European Sustainable Cities and Towns Award (ICLEI; Climate Alliance; CEMR; UBC; Italian LA21 Coordination Committee; Malmo)
- Task 2.3: Seek project funding for monitoring progress with the AC/UTS/EU SDS (ICLEI)
- Task 2.4: Develop common reporting and follow-up mechanisms with the Nordic/Baltic Network and other partners (Malmo)

## ***3. Providing guidance and support to Aalborg Commitments signatories and other local governments***

- Task 3.1: Launch and maintain the web based portal for local governments – [www.localsustainability.eu](http://www.localsustainability.eu) (ICLEI)

- Task 3.2: Develop and promote the AC Implementation Guide for Local Governments. (ICLEI)
- Task 3.3: Seek project funding to provide support to local governments in their AC and UTS strategies (ICLEI; Climate Alliance; UBC; Med Cities)
- Task 3.4: Provide specific support for Thematic fields of activity (ACR+; Climate Alliance; Med Cities; Energies Cites)
- Task 3.5: Provide guidance documents and support derived from Partners projects to the Campaign via links on the Campaign website (All Partners)
- Task 3.6: Develop training modules for AC signatories on baseline review, target setting, political approval, implementation and evaluation of the AC (ICLEI; UBC)
- Task 3.7: Offer tailor-made support on implementing the AC to National Ministries and AC signatories (ICLEI)
- Task 3.8: Offer tailor-made support and on site consultancy on implementing the AC to signatories in the Baltic Sea region (UBC) and in the Mediterranean and Adriatic region (Italian LA21 Coordination Committee)

#### ***4. Lobbying on behalf of the Aalborg Process***

- Task 4.1: Lobby the European Commission (DG Env/Tren/Regio/Res) to support the Aalborg Process (CEMR; ICLEI; UBC; Energy Cites)
- Task 4.2: Lobby the European Parliament, Committee of the Regions, Council of Europe to support the Aalborg Process (CEMR; ICLEI; UBC; Energies Cites)
- Task 4.3: Lobby Member State Governments to support the Aalborg Process (All Partners)

#### ***5. Management and promotion of the Campaign***

- Task 5.1: Agree the revised Memorandum of Association (All Partners)
- Task 5.2: Campaign Co-ordinator for the year 2007 (ICLEI); Campaign Co-ordinator for 2008 (Climate Alliance); 2009 (Italian LA21 Coordination Committee)
- Task 5.3: Agree names of any new Partners to be invited to join the Campaign Partnership (All Partners)

- Task 5.5: Agree and sign a formal statement of support for the Campaign to be part of the Campaign re-launch in Seville (All Partners)