

V Annual Conference of the Observatory of Decentralised  
Cooperation European Union – Latin America

***“Decentralised Cooperation in Crisis Times”***

Brussels, Committee of Regions, 28-29 October 2010

**PRELIMINARY VERSION**

The European Union – Latin America Observatory on Decentralised Cooperation was born in March 2005 in response to the need to compile, analyse, research, formulate proposals and disseminate information on the theory and practice of public Decentralised Cooperation between the European Union and Latin America. Such a need – identified at the Conference on European Union - Latin American Local Partnerships (Valparaiso, March 2004) – led the European Commission to conceive within the framework of the URB-AL programme, the creation of an Observatory on public Decentralised Cooperation between these two regions.

Now, after five years up and running, the Decentralised Cooperation Observatory EU-LA has become a centre of reference in analysing local public Decentralised Cooperation between those two regions, making a contribution towards strengthening cooperation through the systematisation and dissemination of its practices, multiplying its results and impacts and taking them further, and engendering capacities and knowledge regarding this phenomenon. Now that this European project has come to an end, Barcelona Provincial Council is standing by its commitment to maintain and boost the EU-LA OCD, guaranteeing that its most significant activities will be sustained over the next few years.

Among its activities of the Observatory, there in the organisation of a cycle of annual conferences this aims to debate and generate orientations to promote decentralised cooperation at key events of the international local and regional agenda. Local, regional and National Governments, multilateral organisations, as well as experts on Decentralised Cooperation will take part at this event.

In 2010, the V Annual Conference of the Observatory, entitled ***“Decentralised Cooperation in crisis times”*** will seek to analyse the foundations of Decentralised Cooperation in situations of crisis and in the framework of the Paris Agenda-

*With the collaboration of:*



*Municipalities*



*(Flemish Cities and*

*Association of Belgium)*

This Conference fits into a cycle begun in Mexico in 2009 with a first approach to the Paris Agenda from a local governments vision. These works are published in Spanish and English in the Study 7 of the Observatory "*From Valparaiso to Mexico: the Paris Agenda from the Local*".

Among the conclusions of the Conference, the Observatory committed himself to promote the Paris criteria among local governments and above all, to prepare for the forthcoming High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness to be held in Seoul in November 2011.



In this sense, the Brussels conference aims to deepen the reflections on the challenges of local and regional governments in their actions and policies of cooperation upon the application of the criteria of the Paris Agenda, as well as the consequences of the crisis in general and in particular on their budgets. In this context, it becomes even more imperative to reconcile the ideal of solidarity indispensable - even less so in a context of crisis that affects the most vulnerable and poor, with the effective use and management of public funds from European taxpayers who are facing also the crisis.

In 2011, the VI Conference, which would be probably held in Latin America, would aim to promote some recommendations addressed to local and regional governments from both regions, so that they can present constructive and technically feasible proposals in the Seoul Forum.

The Conference will aim to analyse the foundations of Decentralised Cooperation in this dual context, the one of crisis situation, and the other on Aid effectiveness.

The workshops will try to answer four basic questions: Why, what, where and how to do of public decentralised cooperation:

1. The foundations of the Public Decentralised Cooperation
2. The Decentralised Cooperation and the Millennium Development Goals
3. The Decentralised Cooperation and Climate Change
4. New strategies and tools: Local Associations for Development, decentralised cooperation public policies and local budgetary support.

Organised this year with the support of the Committee of Regions, the United Nations Programme for Development (UNDP) and the Flemish Association of Municipalities of Belgium (VVSG), the conference aims to bring together some 120 participants selected, among local and regional representatives (both elected and technical staff), international relations and international cooperation directors, experts and academics. This time, because the conference is held in Brussels, it will also be open to a less specialized public as technical experts from regional representations, co-operation staff in embassies and Latin America missions or trainees from the European institutions.

## **THURSDAY 28**

8h30-9h30	Registration
9H00-10H30	Opening Session Moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Ms. <b>Mercedes Bresso</b>, President of the Committee of Regions</li><li>➤ Mr. <b>Antoni Fogué</b>, President of the Diputació de Barcelona</li><li>➤ Mr. <b>Charles Picqué</b>, Minister-President of the Region Brussels-Capitale</li></ul>
	Presentation of the reflection document <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Mr. <b>Agustí Fernández de Losada</b>, Coordinator General of the Observatory for Decentralised Cooperation EU-LA and Director of International Relations of the Diputació de Barcelona</li></ul>
10h30–11h00	Coffee break
11h00-13h00	Round Table on " <i>Foundations of Public Decentralised Cooperation</i> " Moderator: Mr. <b>Enrique Barón Crespo</b> , President of the Fundación Juan de la Cosa and former President of the European Parliament. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Mr. <b>Michel Azcueta</b>, Former Mayor of Villa Salvador, Perú</li><li>➤ Mr. <b>Hubert Julien-Lafferrière</b>, Vice-President of Grand Lyon</li><li>➤ Ms. <b>Monica Perez Ayala</b>, Director of the International Cooperation Agency (ACI) in Medellín</li><li>➤ Mr. <b>Charles Picqué</b>, Minister-President of the Region Bruxelles-Capitale</li><li>➤ Mr. <b>Raul Saldivar Auge</b>, Mayor of La Serena, Chile</li><li>➤ PNUD Representative</li></ul>
	Debate
13h00-14h30	Lunch - Buffet
14h30-16h00	Workshop 1. Foundations of Public Decentralised Cooperation
16h30-17h15	Coffee break
17h30-18h00	Workshop 2. Decentralised Cooperation and MDG
21h00	Free Dinner

## **FRIDAY 29**

- 9H00-10H30      Workshop 3. *Decentralised Cooperation and Climate Change*
- 10h30–11h00      Coffee break
- 11h00-13h00      Workshop 4. *New strategies and tools; Local Associations for Development and local budgetary support*
- 13h00–14h00      Lunch
- 14h00 -15h30      Plenary Session "*Cooperation for Development European Policies and local governments*" (pending confirmation of participants)  
Moderator **Marc Rimez**, Executive Director of the Observatory of Decentralised Cooperation EU-LA
- Mr. **Angelo Baglio**, Head of Unit, European Commission, EuropeAid
  - Mr. **Jean Bossuyt**, Jefe de Estrategias, Centro Europeo de Gestión de Políticas de Desarrollo
  - Ms. **Neus Gomez**, Head of the Cooperation for Development Office, Diputació de Barcelona
  - Mr. **Lucio Gussetti**, Director of consultative works. Committee of Regions.
  - Mr. **Olivier Luyckx**, Head of Unit. European Comisión. General Direction for Development
  - Ms. **Bea Sanz**, expert in cooperation for development
- 15h30-16h00      Coffee
- 16h30-17h00      Presentation of conclusions
- "Rapporteurs"
  - External Rapporteurs
- 17h00–17h30      Closing Session
- Mr. **Agustí Fernández de Losada**, Coordinator General of the Observatory of Decentralised Cooperation EU-LA
  - Mr. **Rubén García**, Director of International Relations of the Intendencia Municipal de Montevideo
  - Mr. **Gerard Stahl**, Secretary General of the Committee of Regions



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## **REGISTRATION FORM**

### **DATA OF THE PARTICIPANT**

Name:  
Family Name:  
Institution:  
Position:  
Phone:  
Fax:  
E-Mail:  
City:  
Province / State:  
Country:

### **ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF THE PARTICIPANT**

Date of arrival in Brussels:  
Company:  
Flight Number:  
Coming from:  
Time of arrival:  
Departure date from Brussels:  
Company:  
Flight Number:  
Destination:  
Time of Departure:

Please, send this registration form duly fulfilled before 1 October at the following address: [plandiurara@diba.cat](mailto:plandiurara@diba.cat)