



FORUM OF GLOBAL ASSOCIATIONS OF REGIONS
FORUM GLOBAL D'ASSOCIATIONS DE REGIONS
FORO GLOBAL DE ASOCIACIONES DE REGIONES

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JANUARY 2010

MINUTES OF THE FOGAR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DAKAR (SENEGAL) 17 JANUARY 2010

Participants

See list in Appendix 1.

After welcoming the participants, Mr Xavier Gizard, FOGAR Secretary General, offered apologies for the absence of CPMR and FOGAR Chairman, Claudio Martini, who was unable to attend the meeting. Mr Thierry Cornillet, President of the International Association of Francophone Regions (AIRF), replaced Mr Martini in the chair for this session.

1. 2009 budget statement – Proposals for 2010

By the end of 2009, total receipts were about €182,000 and a sum would be brought over to 2010. As far as the 2010 budget was concerned, total dues would be €178,500, compared with €97,587 in 2009, on account of the dues from the networks of regions and the twofold increase in dues from several individual regions. Mr Gizard said that the objective set in Yukon of a twofold increase in dues had nearly been achieved. The accounts would be certified before the FOGAR General Assembly in Ecuador in July 2010. In the meantime, the accounts for 2009 were approved, as was the proposal for 2010 (see Appendix 2).

Mr Thierry Cornillet said that the AIRF would pay dues of €5,000 for 2010. Mr Fernando Rei added that nrg4SD would announce the dues it will pay for 2010 at its General Assembly in Montevideo. Mr Gizard said that FOGAR was waiting to know how much the Association of Regions of Burkina Faso, ZICOSUR, the Association of Regions of Morocco, the Association of European Border Regions and the Association of Regions of Senegal would pay in dues for 2010.

2. Progress report on the location of FOGAR's head office in Geneva

To qualify for advantageous conditions such as free premises for two years, FOGAR must have a Swiss legal status. Mr Gizard said it would be necessary to hold a General Assembly meeting in Switzerland with at least three people in order to adopt the new statute.

M. Cortadelles, Director of International Relations of Catalonia Region, said that FOGAR needed extra information in order to determine whether this legal personality would be advantageous, for example in terms of European funding. Mr Cornillet highlighted one major disadvantage in this change of status, namely the loss of eligibility for European financing and ECOSOC accreditation. He therefore proposed a "Friends of FOGAR Association" should be created, based on an agreement between this association and FOGAR. Mr Nikiéma, President of the Association of Regions of Burkina Faso, agreed with this proposal because it would make it possible to retain advantages related to FOGAR's eligibility and permit new advantages related to the Swiss legal status. Mr Gizard said he would ascertain whether this could be done.

3. Appointment of a Treasurer

Mr Alain Yvergniaux, Councillor from Brittany Region, was appointed FOGAR Treasurer until the next General Assembly when a new Committee would be established.

4. Progress report on the organisation of the General Assembly in Manabi, Ecuador, by Mr Paúl Carrasco, President of OLAGI

Mr Carrasco confirmed that FOGAR's third General Assembly would take place from 19 to 21 July in Manabi, with the support of Ecuador's President, Rafael Correa.

OLAGI needed FOGAR in order to forge good contacts with the European Commission and to develop cooperation with the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), in order to organise this event and top up the budget. Mr Carrasco estimated a shortfall of about \$150,000. Mr Nutall said OLAGI should send a written request to the UNDP in Geneva.

He said the event could be organised in two parts:

- the General Assembly proper, to discuss FOGAR's internal affairs,
- a two-day seminar on general and specific topics to be debated with experts, central governments and international organisations. One day could be devoted to specific workshops and feedback on FOGAR's experience, and the other could focus on more general topics such as the importance of decentralisation and the regions' relations with central governments and international organisations.

Mr Carrasco also proposed that the final part of each day (outside the General Assembly proper) should be fully given over to the participants so that everybody has an opportunity to speak (about five minutes per person).

It was proposed that invitations should be targeted, and the number of participants reduced to about 300 people. A committee could be established to draw up the list of 300 people and FOGAR would be responsible for sending the invitations. Mr Cornillet raised the issue of invitations not being accepted, because the AIRF has 137 members and no prior selection would be possible. Mr Cortadelles suggested targeting a list of people to be invited, to ensure that they really participate in the General Assembly, and then to open up the invitations to all until the required number is reached. Mr Hueso agreed with the proposal for a restricted list in order to help FOGAR communicate by drawing on the support of major political personalities in order to assert its role as a discussion partner at regional level vis-à-vis central governments and international organisations. Mr Sène would have preferred to retain the format used at the St Malo and Dakar summits, but this would require too much time and energy and a debate in a smaller group on the results of these experiences is necessary.

Mr Carrasco also wanted to discuss the major issue to be addressed, the topics and choice of speakers. Mr Gizard said the general theme could be "strengthening decentralisation processes: a response to globalisation". He said he would work with the Spanish authorities to identify the right European officials concerning this matter. FOGAR would draft a basic paper by the end of February on the content of the seminar. A small group of regions could come together to work on the agenda of the seminar. Mr Nutall stressed the need to report on the progress FOGAR has made in two years and to draw up a schedule for the future, for example concerning COP 16. Mr Cornillet summed up the importance of this event in three points:

- to reassure members that we are pursuing common objectives,
- to check that FOGAR's action is effective on a number of specific subjects,
- the recognition of the regional level by central government and international organisations.

Mr Carrasco agreed with these proposals and stressed the need to strengthen regional authorities, which must have sufficient human and financial resources, especially bearing in mind the centralising trend currently affecting certain Latin American countries.

A steering group would work via e-mail in order to make a concrete proposal by the end of March.

5. Timetable of activities for 2010

The provisional timetable of FOGAR activities from 2010/2011 was presented.

Mr Nutall informed the participants that Mr Schwarzenegger had announced the organisation of a specific event for the regions in Los Angeles next September to prepare for COP 16. The AIRF asked for interpretation into French to be provided at this meeting, because the regions of the Sahel are being increasingly affected by the effects of climate change and must be given an opportunity to speak.

The General Assembly of the European border regions will take place in Ireland on 21 and 22 October.

The General Assembly of the AIRF will take place in Lyon in France from 26 to 28 October.

6. Statutes, membership and representation of FOGAR, changes to be made in 2010

Regarding the important matters that must be settled at the next General Assembly, such as the move to individual membership for regions, Mr Gizard said that anybody who wanted to make a proposal should do so by e-mail within a month. These suggestions would be discussed and a committee could be established to draft a proposal for the new statute of the association.

Mr Ménard said that Quebec was continuing to examine the issue of FOGAR membership and wanted more time to draw up some proposals.

Concerning the individual membership of regions, the financial argument is insufficient. It will be necessary to emphasise the contribution of knowledge, the individual experiences of the regions and their leverage effect on policies that have an international dimension.

7. FOGAR-CPMR Agreement

Ms Marianou, CPMR Secretary General, said that, if its Political Bureau agrees, CPMR would collaborate with FOGAR on the issues of climate change, development aid and governance. This is why CPMR is proposing the signature of an agreement with FOGAR, to make its staff available for part of their time. The FOGAR Executive Committee approved this agreement, which would be submitted to the CPMR Political Bureau on 15 February 2010 in Asturias (see the draft agreement in Appendix 3).

8. Information on the call for proposals for non-state actors and local authorities in development launched by the European Commission in November 2009

DG Development has launched a call for proposals for local authorities on various topics, which are outlined in a PowerPoint presentation (see Appendix 4). The topic of cooperation in the field of development could be of particular interest to FOGAR. Co-financing from the European Commission is available up to a maximum of 75% if the applicant is a local or regional authority from the "North", and up to 90% if the application is from a local or regional authority in the "South".

Mr Gizard suggested making a proposal on cooperation between regions on food security further to the Dakar Summit. Another proposal might focus on strengthening regional authorities with the project on the development of a platform of West African regions or strengthening regions in South America. However, the associations from these continents must act themselves, as FOGAR is not yet able to take on the task of preparing such applications.

9. Climate change: Report on the Copenhagen Summit, organisation of the nrg4SD General Assembly in Montevideo in April 2010

Mr Fernando Rei, co-chair of nrg4SD (São Paulo State, Brazil), said that the regions had been very active at the Copenhagen Summit and had an important role to play as far as the issue of climate change is concerned. He pointed out that Quebec was not yet a member of this network. He also announced that the next nrg4SD General Assembly would be held from 20 to 22 April 2010 in Montevideo, Uruguay. It would provide an opportunity to analyse the reasons for the failure of Copenhagen and to prepare for the next COP 16 Summit in Mexico.

The General Assembly agenda had not yet been set, but one day would be devoted to nrg4SD's internal affairs (the election of the 2 co-chairs and the vice-chairs, official introduction of new Secretary General, etc.)

and there would be two days of debates to forge a joint proposal from the regions on the issue of climate change in the run-up to the Los Angeles and Mexico events. The meeting would be for 300 to 400 people.

10. FOGAR technical papers: a) Development of the role of regional authorities in globalisation: the Palermo Process, relations with UN Agencies, b) reaction to the Committee of the Regions' White Paper on Multi-level Governance

Two technical papers by FOGAR were distributed to participants.

Mr Cortadelles wanted the last paragraph of the reaction to the Committee of the Region's White Paper on Multi-level Governance to be deleted. The Committee approved.

11. Prospects for follow-up to the Dakar Summit, link with the FAO

The Dakar Summit steering group had held discussions on the preparation of an action plan on the increased responsibilities of the regions in the field of food security and cooperation between regions in this area. The idea is to work with interested regions to draw up, by the end of June, a programme of coordinated action in concert with the UNDP, the FAO, the European Commission and national development agencies.

ANNEX 1

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FOGAR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, DAKAR (SENEGAL) 17 JANUARY 2010

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Secretary General: Mr Xavier GIZARD

Treasurer: Mr Alain YVERGNIAUX, Conseiller Régional, Conseil Régional de Bretagne

AIRF: Association Internationale des Régions Francophones

MR Thierry CORNILLET, President

Mr Bruno CHIAVERINI, General Delegate

Mrs Christine TAVANO, Director

CRPM: Conférence des Régions Périphériques Maritimes / CPMR: Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions

Mrs Eleni MARIANOU, Secretary General

Ms Marie IMBS, Policy Officer, Food Security

Mr Enrico MAYRHOFER, Director of Communications

Mr Àngel CORTADELLES, Director General International Relations, Generalitat de Catalunya (Chair of the CPMR External Cooperation Group)

Ms Laura ALCOVERRO I VIA, Policy Officer, International Relations, Generalitat de Catalunya

Nrg4SD: Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development

Mr Fernando REI, President of CETESB Sao Paulo (Brazil), Co-Chair South of nrg4SD

OLAGI: Organización Latinoamericana de Gobiernos Intermedios

Mr Paúl CARRASCO CARPIO, Presidente de la OLAGI, Prefecto del Gobierno Provincial del Azuay (Ecuador)

Mrs Sofia LASO, Coordinator, International Cooperation

Association of Regions of Burkina Faso (ARBF)

Mr Patrice NIKIEMA, Président de l'ARBF, Président, Région Centre

Mr Aboubacar Reliwendé SAVADOGO, Secrétaire Général de l'ARBF, Président, Région du Nord

Mr Nanti Mathias HIEN, Président, Région Sud-Ouest

Association of Provinces of Gabon

Mr Barnabé MBANGALIVOVA, Secrétaire General de la Province du Haut- Ogooué, Président du GTP Art Gold Gabon du Haut- Ogooué

Mr Laurent MEZUI ASSOUMOU, Président de L'Association des Provinces du Gabon

Association of Regions of Senegal

Mr Aliou NIANG, Président de l'ARS, Président du Conseil Région de Saint-Louis

Mr El Hadji Malick GAKOU, Président, Conseil Régional de Dakar

Mr Abdoulaye SENE, Député à l'Assemblée Nationale, Conseil Régional de Fatick

GUESTS

FAO

Mr Alexis de BERTOULT, Conseiller pour la coopération décentralisée

PNUD

Mr Christophe NUTTALL, Director, Hub for Innovative Partnerships

French Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs

Mrs Andrée PASTERNAK, Chargée de mission auprès du Délégué pour l'action extérieure des collectivités territoriales

OBSERVERS

Mr Roger MÉNARD, Directeur des analyses économiques et politiques, Ministère des Relations internationales du Québec

CPMR Regions

Mrs Nadège LECLUSE, chargée de mission, Région Basse-Normandie

Mrs Nadine TOURNAILLE, Chargée de mission "Education au développement durable et vie associative", Région Basse-Normandie

Mr Rafael HUESO, Cooperación transfronteriza e interregional, Gobierno Vasco

APOLOGIES

Mr Claudio MARTINI, President of FOGAR - President of Tuscany

Mr Priscilla WOHL, Executive Director, Northern Forum

Mr François MAITIA, Vice-President of AEBR, Vice-Président du Conseil Régional d'Aquitaine

ANNEX 2

07/01/2010

Fogar - Comparison of accounts 2009/2010
Draft budget 2010

	Draft budget 2009	Forecast 2009 presented at Göteb	Forecast 2009 at 07/01/10	AFD 2009	DG Dev 2010	MAE 2010	Total 2009	Draft budget 2010	DG dev 2010	MAE 2010	Total 2010
Contributions from Regions	100 000	98 000	98 000				98 000	155 000			155 000
Contributions from Networks	9 587	9 587	9 587				9 587	23 500			23 500
Miscellaneous subsidies		15 000		20 000	40 000	15 000	75 000				-
Total income	109 587	122 587	107 587	20 000	40 000	15 000	182 587	178 500	-	-	178 500
Payroll expenses	67 027	83 923	98 072	2 666			100 738	119 524	5 976	6 250	131 750
Travel expenses	25 000	25 000	25 742	5 401			31 143	25 000	8 000		33 000
Rent and rental charges	4 240	4 240	4 240				4 240	2 145			2 145
Office supplies	780	698	698				698	353			353
Postage	1 560	1 651	782	910			1 692	835			835
Telephone-fax-internet	2 600	2 326	2 326				2 326	8 000			8 000
Photocopies	1 200	1 116	815	834			1 649	565			565
Miscellaneous overheads	1 560	1 488	1 488				1 488	780			780
Documentation	420	372	372				372	180			180
Publications	200	200		1 076			1 076			2 500	2 500
Translation	3 000	3 000	2 532	1 965			4 497	6 000			6 000
Entertainment expenses							-				-
Meeting expenses				4 482			4 482				-
Study expenses							-		20 047		20 047
Equipment	2 000	2 000	2 000				2 000	1 000			1 000
Miscellaneous and unforeseen expenditure							-				-
Subsidies paid on		7 500		2 666			2 666		5 977	6 250	12 227
Total expenses	109 587	133 514	139 067	20 000		-	159 068	164 382	40 000	15 000	219 382
Balance of income and expenditure	0	- 10 927	- 31 480		40 000	15 000	23 520	14 118	-40 000	-15 000	-40 882
Recovery of dedicated funds		10 927	21 897				21 897				55 000
Dedicated funds					-40 000	-15 000	-55 000				14 118
Balance		-	- 9 583				-9 583				-9 583
Balance of dedicated funds at 31/12/2008											4 535
Balance of dedicated funds at 31/12/2009							21 897				

ANNEX 3



Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions



Forum of Global Associations of Regions

FEBRUARY 2010

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CPMR AND FOGAR FOR 2010

1. The purpose of the present agreement is to lay down the conditions for supplying in 2010 human and technical resources of the CPMR general secretariat to the FOGAR network. 2010 is the last year of the transitional period during which CPMR has supplied assistance to FOGAR to establish its own working structures. This agreement does not take into account the contribution paid to FOGAR by the CPMR as an active member, or the costs related to CPMR staff attending FOGAR's Executive Committee and General Assembly meetings.
2. The CPMR shall provide FOGAR with access to part of its contact files and document base. The CPMR contact files gives access to phone and address of members of European and International Institutions (external partners) alongside CPMR members. The access for FOGAR will be limited to the external partners. The access to CPMR members will only be done through the General Secretariat. The CPMR document base will have a specific part where FOGAR can store its documents, only this part will be available. In any case, the use of information included in these two bases will be monitored by the CPMR's Secretary General
3. The CPMR shall supply staff working time to FOGAR up to a total amount not exceeding 50.000€. Working time shall be supplied under the **authority and control** of the CPMR's Secretary General who shall agree, in advance, on the relevance and coherence with the workload of each member of staff. Work time supplied to FOGAR shall be recorded in a detailed time sheet for the General Secretariat staff.

No member of staff may provide services for FOGAR over a **maximum** of 30% of his or her workload, for directors, policy officers and assistants, or 5% for the accounting and IT staff. The working time of the secretarial team may not include logistical support for the organisation of FOGAR's operational meetings, such as Annual general Meetings and Political Bureau meetings.

CPMR staff shall only be supplied to deal with the following issues:

- Territorial approach of environmental issues, including climate change, in support of nrg4SD which shall remain the network in charge of these issues of sustainable development within FOGAR;
 - Territorial approach to policies concerning development cooperation and cooperation between Regions;
 - Representation and acknowledgement of regional authorities at global level, especially by the United Nations agencies,
 - Multi-level governance.
4. **4% of the CPMR's overheads** shall be covered by FOGAR to take into account overheads of CPMR staff and office space to be made available to FOGAR's assistant as and if necessary.

5. When the presence of General Secretariat staff is required for a FOGAR meeting, in respect of the supply of human and technical resources as defined in point 3, the travel expenses shall be entirely covered by FOGAR. The CPMR's Secretary General must give prior agreement to each trip.
6. The CPMR shall present every two months charge note to FOGAR including all expenses related to points 3, 4 and 5 together with any other unforeseen costs not included in the present agreement. FOGAR shall make the transfer payment within 15 working days of receipt of the charge note. Delays in payments will render the agreement null and void with immediate effect.
7. The agreement shall undergo regular monitoring led by the Secretary General concerning the financial aspects and the activities carried out. The CPMR Political Bureau and General Assembly in 2010 will be kept informed and will receive activity reports and financial reports at their meetings.
8. A final financial and activity report shall be presented by the Secretary General at the first CPMR Political Bureau to be held in 2011.
9. This agreement shall take effect from the moment both parties have approved and signed the present document. It shall run until 31 December 2010.
10. Any changes to the present convention must be included in an amendment signed by the Secretaries General of both organisations. The CPMR Political Bureau must give its agreement to this amendment before it can come into effect.
11. Failure by either of the parties to comply with the terms of this agreement shall render the agreement null and void with immediate effect.

Rennes, 18/02/2010

Signed:

on behalf of the CPMR
Eleni MARIANO
Secretary General

on behalf FOGAR
Xavier GIZARD
Secretary General

ANNEX 4



European Commission Call for projects: “Non State Actors & Local Authorities in Development”

Xavier Gizard, Secretary General of FOGAR
FOGAR Executive Committee meeting, Dakar, 17 January 2010



European Commission Call for projects: “Non State Actors & Local Authorities in Development”

- Published on 1st December 2009
- Open until 25 February 2010
- Only a concept note must be sent as a first step



European Commission Call for projects: “Non State Actors & Local Authorities in Development”

- This restricted call for proposals concerns the three objectives of the programme :
 1. Actions in partner countries (multi-country): 11.391.000€
 2. Public awareness and education for development in the European Union: 4.984.000€
 3. Coordination, cooperation and networking activities between local authorities in the field of development: 712.000€
- The call for proposals concerns Local Authorities only (local meaning here regional and local authorities)

Objective 1 multi country (1) - Priorities

- Priority given to global, multi country actions with a multi-actor approach comprising :
 - Activities aiming at improving living conditions that traditionally fall within the remit, statutory responsibilities, competences and expertise of LA (such as land-use planning, management of metropolitan areas, water and sanitation, management of local finances, etc);
 - Actions aimed at strengthening citizens' participation through interaction between LA and the local population/grassroots organisations in the framing and implementation of participatory local development plans/participatory budgets;
 - Develop and build up LA/NSA networks (North-North, North-South and South-South)
- All activities must include an element of capacity building

Objective 1 multi country (2) - Results

- Expected results could consist in :
 - increased number of transnational exchanges, confidence building, networking and coordination activities between local authorities (North-South or South-South);
 - increase in local authorities' support for and involvement in global and regional development processes and dialogues and/or dissemination of best practices at global or regional level and replication at national or local level;
- Initiatives and projects with a supranational dimension may lead to an added value vis-à-vis the country programmes and to increased support of local populations and their involvement in regional integration processes.
- All actions should be based on an initiative of local partners and should ensure their involvement during all the stages of the action implementation.

Objective 1 multi country (3) – Conditions

- All type of local authorities or associations of local authorities from EU and partner countries where the action is taking place are **eligible** as partners. Associations must exist legally for more than three years.
- The actions proposed under the project must be undertaken in, at least, two partner countries eligible to the programme.
- In some restricted cases, national ministries from partner countries can be associated to the project.
- Grant must fall between **500.000€ and 1.500.000€**
- Maximum possible rate of European Commission co-financing: **75%** of the total eligible costs for European LA and **90%** for partner countries LA
- Duration from **24 months to 60 months**