# Report of UCLG-MEWA Smart Cities Committee Meeting

# Konya, TURKEY

# 8 September 2015



**UCLG-MEWA Committee Department**
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## Background

UCLG-MEWA Committee on Smart Cities was established during UCLG-MEWA Executive Bureau and Council Joint Meeting in Adana, Turkey, on 19 of December 2014.

The Presidency of the Committee on Smart Cities is conducted by the Mayor of Konya (Turkey), Mr. Tahir AKYUREK.

The Committee has 3 Co-Presidents, which are members of UCLG-MEWA:
- Co-President: Arab Urban Development Institute (AUDI – Saudi Arabia)
- Co-President: Adana Metropolitan Municipality (Turkey)
- Co-President: Ramallah Municipality (Palestine)

The Committee on Smart Cities is a platform for local authorities to give them the opportunity to share and exchange their experiences.

The aim of the Committee is to improve the knowledge of local authorities and citizens in the field of new technologies and to strengthen the network between local authorities of the Middle East and West Asia Region with the final goal to provide to citizens better and high quality services.

## Speeches

On 8 September 2015 in Konya, Turkey, the UCLG-MEWA Committee on Smart Cities, chaired by Konya Metropolitan Municipality, gathered many municipalities from the MEWA Region on the occasion of the 1st meeting of the committee.

Mr. Yaşar İNCİKLİ, Head of Data Processing Department in Konya Metropolitan Municipality, representing the Presidency of the Committee on Smart Cities, started by an introduction on Smart Cities.

Mr. Mehmet DUMAN, Secretary General of UCLG-MEWA, made a speech about the concept of Smart Cities and the goal of the Committee on Smart Cities. He strengthened on the role of municipalities in the Committee such as "I am expecting from you, as the members of the Committee on Smart Cities from the MEWA region, to think about innovative ways to improve the provision of public services, focusing at the same time on the education of citizens to allow them to learn how to use the new technologies. This Committee is also an opportunity for all of you to strengthen your network with one another and other municipalities as well as private sector and other international organizations, and work together to foster the activities of the Committee and represent it at the international level."

## UCLG Committee of Digital and Knowledge-based Cities

The UCLG Committee of Digital and Knowledge-based Cities, chaired by the city of Bilbao, in Spain, prepared a video message and shared it with UCLG-MEWA to introduce the work of the World Organization Committee to the participants. On behalf of Bilbao, Mr. Xabier Ochandiano, City Councilor for Economic Development, Commerce and Employment of the City of Bilbao presented the latest projects of the committee including seminars on smart governance and smart economy, the Uraia Platform (in partnership with UN-Habitat), and a National Seminar in Brazil on the modernization of administration.

Mr. Xabier Ochandiano also invited to strengthen the cooperation between UCLG and UCLG-MEWA. He thanked Konya Metropolitan Municipality for its involvement in the committee and invited UCLG-MEWA members to build bridges and find synergies among our activities.

## Program of Activities

Members of the Committee and other interested municipalities made valuable contributions toward our program of activities.
- Mr. Yasar INCIKLI, Head of Data Processing Department in Konya Metropolitan Municipality, proposed to create a page for the Committee on Smart Cities in the website of the Municipality to allow the follow-up of the Committee activities; this platform would also be a place where members could propose new projects and exchange knowledge on smart cities.
- Mr. Omer Faruk CELEBI, Advisor of the Mayor of Hatay Metropolitan Municipality, made proposals such as:
  - Realization of a benchmarking survey to be submitted to UCLG-MEWA Members of the Committee on Smart Cities with the goal to output the current status of each city. This process will be a way to identify the best cities in the MEWA region as smart cities. This survey will cover the six main E.U. Smart City topics, the Smart Economy, the Smart Mobility, the Smart Environment, the Smart People, the Smart Living and the Smart Governance;
  - UCLG-MEWA could develop a "Smart City Academy", aiming to give one week trainings to the members of the Committee, to reach levels of expertise in many topics such as the characteristics of the Smart City mentioned above. At the end of the trainings, members will receive Certificates of Attendance;
  - Organizing a one week workshop in active smart cities such as Rotterdam, Bilbao or Bordeaux;
  - Grouping the cities according to their Smart City priorities. Making clusters by topic/sector (Smart Health, Smart Energy, Smart Health etc.) which will group a certain number of cities, developing joint Smart City projects and joint trade-marks, making joint buys;

- Mr. Abdulhamit PEHLIVAN, the Director of International Relations in Buyukcekmece Municipality in Istanbul, made also some proposals:
  - Organize small meetings every two months for the Municipalities located in Istanbul Metropolitan area to discuss about the agenda of the meeting;
  - Make interactive meetings through Skype;

- Mr. Kemal AYDIN, from Kastamonu and President of World Council on Aging, proposed to establish a sub-committee on "Smart Healthy Cities". He reported that KUZKA (North Anatolian Development Agency) had already started to work on that subject and he proposed to organize a meeting in Ilgaz, in Kastamonu, Turkey on this topic.

## Membership

Several requests of membership have been submitted in the meeting such as:
- Amman Greater Municipality, Jordan, as the Co-President of the Committee on Smart Cities;
- Rize Municipality, Turkey;
- Hatay Metropolitan Municipality, Turkey;
- Gaziosmanpasa Municipality, Turkey;
- Nablus Municipality, Palestine;
- Beit-Jala Municipality, Palestine;
- Malatya Metropolitan Municipality, Turkey;
- Kastamonu Municipality, Turkey;
- Libyan Local Government Ministry;

Below you can find the new list of members of the Committee on Smart Cities such as Cities and Local Authorities, Individual members and Local or International Organizations or Institutions.

In total, the Committee is constituted of:
- 16 Turkish members;
- 5 Palestinian members;
- 1 Saudian member;
- 1 Jordanian member;
- 1 Libyan member;
- 1 Iranian member.

| Members of the Committee on Smart Cities | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | **Konya** | **PRESIDENT** | **Turkey** |
| 2 | **Ramallah** | **Co-President** | **Palestine** |
| 3 | **Adana** | **Co-President** | **Turkey** |
| 4 | **AUDI** | **Co-President** | **Saudi Arabia** |
| 5 | **Amman** | **Co-President** | **Jordan** |
| 6 | Abassan Al Kabira | | Palestine |
| 7 | **Beit-Jala** | | **Palestine** |
| 8 | Büyükçekmece | | Turkey |
| 9 | Fatih | | Turkey |
| 10 | Gaziantep | | Turkey |
| 11 | **Gaziosmanpasa** | | **Turkey** |
| 12 | **Hatay** | | **Turkey** |
| 13 | Izmir | | Turkey |
| 14 | **Kastamonu** | | **Turkey** |
| 15 | **Libyan Local Government Ministry** | | **Libya** |
| 16 | **Malatya** | | **Turkey** |
| 17 | Mashhad | | Iran |
| 18 | **Nablus** | | **Palestine** |
| 19 | Rafah | | Palestine |
| 20 | **Rize** | | **Turkey** |
| 21 | Selçuklu | | Turkey |
| 22 | Silivri | | Turkey |
| 23 | Sultanbeyli | | Turkey |
| 24 | Umraniye | | Turkey |
| 25 | **World Academy for Local Government and Democracy (WALD)** | | **Turkey** |

## Closing remarks & Outputs

During the closing of the meeting, Mr. Mehmet DUMAN, Secretary General of UCLG-MEWA, reminded the audience about the history of UCLG-MEWA and the establishment of its 7 committees adding that each committee should be run by its President.

Mr. Yaşar İNCİKLİ, Head of Data Processing Department in Konya Metropolitan Municipality, stressed on the importance of this meeting as it allows the participants to meet with each other and exchange ideas, with the final goal to improve the quality of life of citizens.

UCLG-MEWA Committee on Smart Cities staff and Konya Metropolitan Municipality, as the President of the Committee, will have further discussions on the next step to take for the activities of the Committee taking into account the proposals of the participant members, mentioned above.

In cooperation with members, the Secretariat of UCLG-MEWA Committee on Smart Cities will prepare an action plan to implement activities adopted during the meeting. This action plan will be submitted by November.