

One month of CEMR activities

07/04 (Brussels): CEMR reacted to the European **Commission's new 2010 work programme** and feels that it does not truly reflect the political changes that have come to be with the ratification of the Lisbon Treaty.  Contact: angelika.poth-moegele@ccre-cemr.org

08/04 (Vienna): CEMR President, Michael Häupl, was keynote speaker at a conference on **Testing the Lisbon Treaty** organised by the Austrian Association of Cities. CEMR's Policy Director, Angelika Poth-Moegele, was invited to participate and reflect on the treaty's **public services provisions**. Contact: angelika.poth-moegele@ccre-cemr.org

08/04 (Brussels): CEMR's Secretary General, Frédéric Vallier, participated in a thematic meeting hosted by the Committee of the Regions and attended by the secretaries general of European associations of local and regional authorities. The main subject discussed was the **Europe 2020 Strategy**, as it is to be discussed at the June 2010 European Council. Contact: boris.tonhauser@ccre-cemr.org

12/04 (Brussels): A debate was organised on the issue of **local and regional climate change policy funding** at the occasion of a CEMR environment working group meeting. Contact: marie.bullet@ccre-cemr.org

13/04 (Brussels): CEMR, in cooperation with the European Environmental Bureau and representatives of the industry, organised a meeting with European Parliament and member state representatives. Those present debated on the **principle of producer liability** in the context of the **electrical and electronic waste directive** review vote. Contact: marie.bullet@ccre-cemr.org

14/04 (Brussels): CEMR President, Michael Häupl, met with European Regional Policy Commissioner, Johannes Hahn, so as to discuss the **Cohesion Policy**, the **Europe 2020 strategy**, the **Lisbon Treaty** and the **principle of subsidiarity**. Contact: emilie.melvin@ccre-cemr.org

15/04 (Brussels): CEMR participated in an exchange on the **new Lisbon Treaty provisions** with Francoise Castex, MEP and President of the European Parliament Public Services Intergroup. The exchange was organised by the AFCCRE Committee on Public Services.  Contact: angelika.poth-moegele@ccre-cemr.org

16/04 (Brussels): CEMR established a new **Steering Group**, consisting of 12 member association representatives and a CEMR Secretariat representative, which will accompany and guide the **CEMR reflection process** over the course of 2010. The first task of the members will be to provide feedback on a draft stakeholder questionnaire, which should gather the views and suggestions on the future role and functioning of CEMR. Contact: nina.holbrook@ccre.org

19/04 (Paris): **Manuella Portier** has joined the CEMR team in Paris as Project officer for citizenship. She will work closely with CEMR Director of citizenship and international cooperation, Sandra Ceciari, on issues relating to **twinning, gender equality and diversity**. Contact: manuella.portier@ccre.org

21/04 (Brussels): A general meeting assembling secretaries general of European associations of local and regional authorities mainly focused on the **2010 Commission work programme** and the **future of structured dialogue** with the Commission. Those present included CEMR Secretary General, Frédéric Vallier, as well as representatives from the Committee of the Regions and the Congress. Contact: boris.tonhauser@ccre-cemr.org

22/04 (Brussels): CEMR, in cooperation with the Council of Europe (CoE) and the Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative (LGI) invited its network of financial and economic experts to become national observers in the Europe-wide monitoring and follow-up of research done on the **impact of the economic downturn on local governments**. The experts were invited to gather important fiscal data and information on the policy response to the crisis, which will be presented in autumn 2010. Contact: boris.tonhauser@ccre-cemr.org

25-27/04 (Chicago): CEMR organised a European coordination meeting at the occasion of UCLG's Executive Bureau and General Assembly. The upcoming review of the **Millennium Development Goals**, and more particularly the local and regional input **PLATFORMA** is actively working on, were discussed at the meeting. The issue of political representation in UCLG was also addressed, such as the importance of gender balance and an appropriate place for regions. Contact: nina.holbrook@ccre.org / sandra.ceciarini@ccre.org

26/04 (Brussels): CEMR political rapporteur on cohesion, territorial policy and economic development, Carola Gunnarsson, was invited to address the European Parliament REGI Committee concerning the **future of the European Cohesion Policy**. She stressed that Cohesion Policy must be decentralised and the partnership principle respected.  Contact: marit.schweiker@ccre-cemr.org

26/04 (Brussels): CEMR's **Employers' Platform** discussed the current state of play of the **working time directive** and submitted a response to the European Commission's consultation on the review of the directive. Contact: angelika.poth-moegele@ccre-cemr.org

26-27/04 (Madrid): The EU Spanish Presidency organised a conference on **urban sustainability and integrated urban regeneration** in Europe. CEMR's Director of Policy, Angelika Poth-Moegele, was invited to address the issue of **sustainability and governance**. Contact: angelika.poth-moegele@ccre-cemr.org

27/04 (Brussels): The social dialogue committee meeting between CEMR and EPSU (European Federation of Public Service Unions) members discussed how to simultaneously promote **well-being at work** and the **efficiency of services**. Contact: angelika.poth-moegele@ccre-cemr.org

27/04 (Brussels): **PLATFORMA** contributed to the working groups organised by the European Commission in the framework of a structured dialogue on the **future of the European Development Policy** (Quadriologue). The role and added value of local authorities and civil society in European programmes for external cooperation and their involvement in the new aid modalities were discussed and followed by a PLATFORMA position paper. Contact: lucie.guillet@ccre.org

28/04 (*Madrid*): At the invitation of the EU Spanish Presidency, the Urban Development Group met to prepare an informal meeting of ministers responsible for urban matters, to be held on 22 June in Toledo. The **future of the European Reference Framework for Sustainable Urban Development** was also discussed, with CEMR and EUROCITIES participating as main stakeholder organisations. Contact: angelika.poth-moegele@ccre-cemr.org

28/04 (*Brussels*): CEMR and member associations successfully lobbied members of the European Parliament Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee (IMCO) prior to the vote on the **revision of the late payments directive**. The Commission's proposal for a 5% penalty was notably rejected.  Contact: angelika.poth-moegele@ccre-cemr.org

28/04 (*Brussels*): CEMR welcomed the report on **new developments in public procurement** adopted within the IMCO Committee. The rapporteur included relevant elements of CEMR's policy paper, which expressed concerns regarding public procurement's complexity and lack of legal certainty as well as the need to improve the coordination of initiatives.  Contact: angelika.poth-moegele@ccre-cemr.org

29/04 (*Barcelona*): CEMR's Policy Director, Angelika Poth-Moegele presented CEMR's Charter on local and regional services of general interest at a seminar on **public services** organised by the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC). Contact: angelika.poth-moegele@ccre-cemr.org

30/04 (*Dusseldorf*): Launch of the First European Local Authorities Competition on Good Practices on the **Support for Migrant Elders' Initiatives**. Contact: angelika.poth-moegele@ccre-cemr.org

30/04 (*Brussels*): **Cornelia Schröder**, former CEMR Policy officer for employment and social policies, has moved on to work as a Project officer for the association AktionCourage on the project "European Local Authorities Competition on Good Practices on the Support for Migrant Elders' Initiatives". Contact: myriam.lambert@ccre-cemr.org

Ongoing activities

Preparation of the **Policy Committee meeting**, to take place on 4 and 5 June in Oslo. Contact: nina.holbrook@ccre.org

Lobbying the European Parliament Transport Committee in the area of a **sustainable future for transport**. Contact: marie.bullet@ccre-cemr.org

Preparation of **Local Governments' Day**, to be held at the occasion of the IFAT ENTSORGA 2010 from 13 to 17 September in Munich. Contact: marie.bullet@ccre-cemr.org

Preparation of a policy position on the **future of rural development** in the context of the future of the European Common Agricultural Policy. Contact: marit.schweiker@ccre-cemr.org

CEMR's calendar¹

04/05 (Brussels): 2nd **Covenant of Mayors** Ceremony. ⓘ Contact: marie.bullet@ccre-cemr.org

06-07/05 (Stockholm): Seminar on the **future of gender equality** in Europe. The seminar will allow for the exchange of best practices and will notably discuss the implementation of the Charter for Equality of Women and Men in Local Life. Contact: sandra.ceciarini@ccre.org

19-21/05 (Dunkirk): 6th European Conference on **Sustainable Cities and Towns**. ⓘ Contact: marie.bullet@ccre-cemr.org

20-22/05 (Bilbao): EISCO **European Information Society** Conference. ⓘ Contact: marit.schweiker@ccre-cemr.org

25/05 (Brussels): **Sectoral social dialogue** committee plenary with CEMR and the European Federation of Public Services Union (EPSU). Contact: angelika.poth-moegele@ccre-cemr.org

25/05 (Brussels): CEMR **Democracy and Governance** Commission. Contact: boris.tonhauser@ccre-cemr.org

26/05 (Andalusia): **PLATFORMA** seminar on **climate change and development cooperation** at the local and regional level. Contact: lucie.guillet@ccre.org

Other events

02-03/05 (Barcelona): 2nd Forum of **Local and Regional Authorities of the Mediterranean** organised by the Mediterranean Commission of UCLG with the help of CEMR. ⓘ Contact: sandra.ceciarini@ccre.org

05-07/05 (Vitória-Gasteiz): 2nd Forum of **European Union, Latin American and the Caribbean local governments**. Contact: laurent.chaboy@ccre.org

10/05 (Seville): Meeting on the implementation of the **EU Territorial Agenda**, at the invitation of the Spanish Presidency. Contact: marit.schweiker@ccre-cemr.org

¹ CEMR's calendar of events is available on our website: www.ccre.org

