



United Cities and Local Governments - Middle East and West Asia Section
منظمة المدن المتحدة و الحكومات المحلية - فرع الشرق الأوسط و غرب آسيا
Birleşmiş Kentler ve Yerel Yönetimler - Orta Doğu ve Batı Asya Bölge Teşkilatı

Date: 20 February 2013

Ref.: UCLG-MEWA/2013-157

Subject: 7th Edition of the IOPD Distinction for "Best Practice in Citizens' Participation"

Dear UCLG-MEWA Member,

The International Observatory of Participatory Democracy (IOPD) is a network open to cities, entities, associations to exchange their experience on participatory democracy at local level.

The network was created in 2001 within the framework of the European Commission's URB-AL programme for decentralized cooperation, and then it was officially constituted in November 2001 during the 1st Annual Conference of the IOPD in Barcelona.

Since 2006 the IOPD has coordinated activities with United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG). Besides, the IOPD is contributing to provide local government's innovative knowledge in the specific area of citizens' participation.


Moreover, IOPD aims to diversify the composition of the network's members to reach as much as possible to all the cities and regions in the world and decentralising the network structure. Also, every year since its foundation a different local government has been hosting the Presidency of the network for a period of 12 months. Every one of these local governments assumes the responsibility to move forward on participatory democracy discussion or share expertise in this field.

In this context, the International Observatory of Participatory Democracy (IOPD) calls local governments, municipal entities and extra-municipal entities to submit their candidacies to the IOPD Distinction for "Best Practices in Citizens' Participation" to recognize innovative experiences and ideas in the area of participative democracy.

As UCLG-MEWA Secretary General, I am pleased to invite all UCLG-MEWA members to submit their candidacy for the award that will be delivered during the 13th International Observatory Conference on Participatory Democracy in the Portuguese city of Cascais on 4th, 5th and 6th of July 2013.

Please find attached the Award Convocation Criteria and the Award Application Form.

Sincerely yours,


Mehmet DUMAN
UCLG-MEWA Secretary General

Encl.:

- Award Convocation Criteria
- Award Application Form