



commonwealth  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT FORUM

# Bulletin



Promoting democratic local government

Sharing good practice

Strengthening capacity

## Pacific spotlight



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CLGF patrons: Rt Hon Helen Clark, New Zealand; HE President Yoweri Museveni, President of Uganda; Hon Bruce Golding, Prime Minister of Jamaica.

**Commonwealth eminent persons group meets**

A review of the Commonwealth is being carried out by an Eminent Persons Group set up earlier this year and which met for the first time in July. The ten-member group, established at the request of Commonwealth Heads of Government in Trinidad and Tobago in November 2009, is examining ways to ensure that the 60-year-old association remains relevant. Members include: Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi (Malaysia, Chairperson); Ms Patricia Francis (Jamaica); Dr Asma Jahangir (Pakistan); Mr Samuel Kavuma (Uganda – Commonwealth Youth Caucus); Hon Michael Kirby (Australia); Dr Graca Machel (Mozambique); Rt Hon Sir Malcolm Rifkind (UK); Sir Ronald Sanders (Guyana); Senator Hugh Segal (Canada); and Sir Jeremia Tabai (Kiribati)

In its input into the review of the Commonwealth, CLGF has said it would like to see more strategic partnerships with the Commonwealth Secretariat and supports the strengthening of the Commonwealth Ministers Action Group (CMAG) which deals with serious or persistent contraventions of Commonwealth's fundamental political values. CLGF suggests that the CLGF Aberdeen principles on good practice for local democracy should be referred to.

**Economic crisis affects small states more**

CLGF took part in the first ever biennial Commonwealth Small States Conference on 28-29 July, hosted by the Commonwealth Secretariat at its headquarters in the UK. The purpose of the meeting was to assist the association's 32 small states to work together in tackling common challenges.

Small states have special development challenges – limited diversification, limited capacity, poverty, susceptibility to natural disasters and environmental change, remoteness and isolation, openness, and income volatility. The conference agreed that small states have been disproportionately affected by the global economic crisis: many gains in terms of achieving the MDGs have been substantially reduced by the negative impact on investment, trade, tourism and remittance flows.

The full statement from the meeting can be found at [http://www.thecommonwealth.org/document/181889/34293/35144/227650/marlborough\\_house\\_small\\_states\\_consensus.htm](http://www.thecommonwealth.org/document/181889/34293/35144/227650/marlborough_house_small_states_consensus.htm)

C O M M E N T



by **Carl Wright**, Secretary General



Welcome to our new-look CLGF Bulletin. Now that we are sending out our CLGF e-news regularly, the *Bulletin* has been redesigned into a magazine format and will be published twice a year and increased to eight pages each edition.

In 2009 CLGF carried out a strategic review of its function and operations. This was undertaken by Professor Michael Clarke (UK) and Professor Dinesh Mehta (India) who made recommendations around CLGF's mission and objectives, governance, organisation and management, business and financial planning, and communications with members and member services. The recommendations were agreed by the CLGF Board at their meeting in February along with an action plan for improvement in response to the recommendations. The implementation of this action plan is now well under way, overseen by a group of CLGF Board members. The changes we are making demonstrate CLGF's commitment to modernisation and I hope that members will notice these changes and it will help them to understand our processes and get more involved in our work

As part of our consultations with members on our business plan following the strategic review, one area of our work which all members found valuable was the sharing of knowledge and good practice on local government policies and practice. In response to this we are looking at different ways of making information more available and accessible, including by covering issues and case studies in more depth in the *Bulletin*.

This issue shows the breadth of our work across the Commonwealth: our advocacy work to promote good local governance as key in tackling poverty, delivering development and achieving the MDGs and to include local government in appropriate development and other funding mechanisms; our programme and project work in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and the Pacific - such as the Commonwealth Local Government Good Practice Scheme and our Pacific Regional Project; and our valuable member networks such as the CLGF Inclusive Cities Network which had its inaugural meeting in India in June. I hope that you find this issue interesting and useful and look forward to receiving your feedback.

European members  
meet in **Malta**

Dr Chris Said, Parliamentary Secretary for Consumers, Fair Competition and Public Dialogue, Office of the PM, Malta welcomed CLGF ministry and association members from Europe to a roundtable in Valletta, Malta on 24-25 May. Participants from Cyprus, Malta and the UK met to discuss current local government reforms and developments in the three countries, including challenges for local government in the current

economic climate.

Participants also went on site visits to see some EU-funded projects in Birgu and Mellieha.

Dr Said noted that the meeting presented a good opportunity to discuss ways to strengthen local government in the Commonwealth and facilitate dialogue and exchange of good practice. He said that CLGF's strength is its membership who can



CLr Richard Kemp, Deputy Chair, Local Govt Association of England and Wales; Dr Chris Said, Parliamentary Secretary for Consumers, Fair Competition and Public Dialogue, Malta; Dr Lazaros Savvides, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of the Interior, Cyprus; and Carl Wright at the meeting

be drawn in as experts and influencers, and facilitating exchanges between members.



# Improving local governance in Africa

*With one third of CLGF's members coming from Africa, CLGF is stepping up its programme of activities to support decentralisation and to improve local governance in the region in line with the CLGF Board's support for development of programmes in all the regions of the Commonwealth. CLGF will also be taking an active part in the UN Global Forum on Local Development which is being held in Kampala in October, hosted by the Government of Uganda including CLGF board member Hon Adolf Mwesige.*

CLGF's new partnership with the UNDP and other partners is helping to boost its presence in Eastern and Southern Africa. Starting with a study of decentralisation and local government in the region, it is hoped that the results of this study will lead to funding for specific projects around decentralisation and improving local governance. Two sub-regional workshops are already planned to be held in Windhoek, Namibia and Kigali, Rwanda later this year; the latter will be the first CLGF meeting in Rwanda since it became a member of the Commonwealth and since Clgf gained its first member there.

Meanwhile, new technical partnerships are being set up as part of the UK DFID-supported CLGF Good Practice Scheme. Some 14 projects are now under way between local government associations and individual councils in Ghana, Sierra Leone and South Africa working with partners in the UK and India to help them improve local governance, and meet the millennium development goals (MDGs), especially in reducing poverty.

A study of local democracy in Tanzania is also under way. Using the 12 principles outlined in the Aberdeen Agenda the project will analyse the current state of local democracy in Tanzania, capture examples of good practice that can inform policy and practice, identify areas in need of improvement, and make recommendations on potential areas for reform and development. This follows a similar exercise that was carried out in Uganda to help develop a methodology for this. In close cooperation with Commonwealth and European partners, CLGF is also continuing to support capacity building for local government in Zimbabwe and is committed to supporting local democracy in Malawi, Nigeria and other countries in the region.

**Two sub-regional workshops are already planned to be held in Windhoek, Namibia and Kigali, Rwanda later this year; the latter will be the first CLGF meeting in Rwanda since it became a member of the Commonwealth.**

The annual meeting of the CLGF Board was held in Gaborone, Botswana on 25-26 February, hosted by the government of Botswana. The Board meeting is the main decision-making forum to agree CLGF's policies, priorities and future work. The Board also received updates on recent political developments in local government from around the Commonwealth, and was addressed by Commonwealth Secretariat Deputy Secretary General Mrs Masire-Mwamba.

The week of events also included; a CLGF meeting with ministers of local government from southern Africa; a consultation meeting with CLGF's African members; and meetings of CLGF representatives with Botswana's Hon Vice President Lieutenant General M S Merafhe in Gaborone. The Board and other meetings followed the first ever Botswana local government conference where members of the CLGF joined Botswana local government colleagues to discuss strengthening local government.



*At a time of worldwide economic constraint and a desire for improved public services vast numbers of citizens are excluded from civic engagement. They lack basic shelter, sanitation and access to many of the basic humanitarian objectives identified in the UN Millennium Development Goals. As cities become bigger and urbanisation extends more rapidly, city governments are required to be more effective and efficient in the services they deliver. And not only are these services needed in greater quantity they are also required to meet the increasing demands of a more ethnically and racially diverse population as societies become more mobile. These and other influences make it essential that Commonwealth cities learn from each other on how best to maximise good practice and good governance.*

# Making cities inclusive

**A**lready half the world's population is living in an urban environment. Each day the Commonwealth's urban population increases by 65,000.

Commonwealth cities face major challenges as a result of this massive urbanisation, increasing populations, mass migration and the economic downturn, as well as greater expectations for improved public services. In 2007 in the majority of Commonwealth countries most people still lived in rural areas. By 2050, according to the UN, there will be only eight Commonwealth countries which still have predominantly rural populations. As cities expand, there are an increasing number of mega cities such as Mumbai with more than ten million people.

This urban transformation has profound implications, not least because of the importance it gives to actions through city and city-region level governments. Good urban governance and management is essential. As big cities constitute an ever increasing share of a national economy, so the role and performance of their local governments becomes more critical. >





*“There are some excellent examples of inclusivity across the network cities. We hope that the network will become a resource for local government good practice around issues of inclusivity.”*

CLGF's members have highlighted greater inclusion of marginalised and disadvantaged groups in cities and towns as one of the key challenges for local government. At the Aberdeen conference in 2005 recognition was given to the need for participation by all citizens in local public and civil society, and inclusiveness was identified as an essential element of local decision making. This was reiterated at subsequent CLGF meetings. A pilot network of 12 Commonwealth cities committed to inclusive and pro-poor city development strategies was set up in 2009 and formally launched at the 2009 Commonwealth Local Government Conference in Freeport.

The CLGF Inclusive Cities Network is a means of sharing good practice on inclusive issues including housing, waste management, education, youth, care of the elderly, gender and social cohesion. CLGF is working with its partners in the ComHabitat network - including the Commonwealth Association of Planners, the Commonwealth Foundation and Commonwealth Secretariat - to take forward the initiative. The inaugural meeting of the Network was held in Ahmedabad in June, hosted by the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation.

“Meeting the rapidly increasing demand for essential services is difficult,” said Dr Will French, presenting the Commonwealth State of Cities Report as an introduction to the meeting. “There are also major problems related to transport, infrastructure and waste management.

Captain Dilpkumar Mahajan from Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation described the city's approach to using local economic development to raise the city's

game by attracting fast-growing industries such as pharmaceutical, textile and manufacturing. This has resulted in considerable investment and brought a growing income to the Municipal Corporation which has allowed it to develop public sector projects such as the riverfront commercial development, and the rapid bus system. These initiatives have helped to boost local, national and international perceptions of the city.

Surrey in British Columbia, Canada, where 38 per cent of citizens are foreign born, has a high demand for services from refugees and migrants. The council is under pressure to provide social housing, language support and infrastructure. In response it has developed a social plan focusing on youth, community development, housing and crime and public safety. Alongside this, local initiatives are helping to celebrate diversity, and provide training and life skills.

After the meeting CLGF Secretary-General Carl Wright said:

*“There are some excellent examples of inclusivity across the network cities. We hope that the network will become a resource for local government good practice around issues of inclusivity.”*

*“The network is working as a pilot over the next 12 months but we hope that we will be able to expand this into a wider and more permanent network that other cities can join.”*

For further information or a copy of the report and presentations from the inaugural meeting contact **Mike Murray**: or visit the CLGF website <http://www.clgf.org.uk/inclusive-cities-network/>

## CLGF in brief

### Three-year ACP project gets go ahead

CLGF, in partnership with the Netherlands local government association VNG and partners in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific, has won the contract to manage a three-year EU-funded ARIAL project. The project will provide capacity-building and knowledge sharing in the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries and in particular their local government associations.

### FCM builds on partnerships

CLGF Chairperson Mayor Zenaida Moya-Flowers and Deputy Secretary General Lucy Slack attended the Federation of Municipalities' (FCM) annual conference in Toronto 28-30 May 2010. The conference focused around strategies for local government to “take its place at the table” and build on some of the success stories which FCM and its members have achieved through developing a stronger partnership with the federal government.

### WHO focus on urban health

CLGF and other local government partners were sponsored to contribute to a special meeting on urban health organised by the World Health Organisation in Washington in April. The outcomes of the meeting will inform a larger WHO event in Japan later this year.

### Support for Seychelles

Following a visit by CLGF to the Seychelles, CLGF has enabled local government staff from the Seychelles, to visit Mauritius; to advise them on establishing a system of elected local government. CLGF arranged the technical visit as Mauritius provides a good model of local democracy in a small state.

### Maldives plans local elections

CLGF Secretary General Carl Wright met with Maldives President Mohamed Nasheed recently to discuss local council elections soon to be held in the Maldives and decentralisation of administration. The President noted the importance the government attached to decentralisation and local governance and said the government hoped the upcoming local elections would be very free and fair. The President requested the Commonwealth's observation of local elections.



# Spotlight on the Pacific

*As the CLGF Pacific Regional Project reaches the end of its first phase, Port Vila in Vanuatu is hosting the second CLGF Pacific Local Government Symposium to highlight the achievements of local government and lessons learnt over the past five years and to look forward to some of the emerging issues and opportunities for local government. The theme of the Symposium is Building Local Government Alliances: for vibrant and resilient local economies and communities in the Pacific. It will provide a valuable opportunity to take stock of CLGF's work in the Pacific region, seek guidance on its future direction and ensure local ownership of the next phase of work.*

CLGF, working with development partners has a lead role in the Pacific for strengthening local governance and delivery of essential local services. The CLGF Pacific Regional Capacity Building Project has been running for five years with funding assistance from NZAID and AusAID.

Much of the work has focused on training and capacity-building in leadership, financial management, community engagement and strategic planning. Wider regional collaboration has led to initiatives to promote women in decision-making and tackle wider issues such as urbanisation and climate change.

## Urbanisation

Urbanisation is having a huge impact in many small island states such as Tuvalu and Vanuatu where the project has carried out scoping work and analysis to plan further work to support local governments in managing urbanisation.

Climate change is a growing concern for local government in the region: working with the UN-Habitat Pacific office, the project has been working on a Pacific Urban Sector



Climate Adaptation Initiative to help local governments and their stakeholders to respond to the impacts of climate change and invest in mitigation and adaptation projects. Following a scoping study, four pilots have been set up, with CLGF providing support to pilots in Greater Apia (Samoa) and Port Vila (Vanuatu).

Other successful initiatives have included:

- the development of strategic and corporate plans for Honiara City Council and Port Vila Municipal Council to guide the development of the city's services and facilities over the next four years, ensuring consultation with the community and other stakeholders;
- developing a five-year action plan to advance women's representation in the outer islands of the Cook islands, to encourage more women's participation in the lead up to forthcoming local elections;
- improved relations between traditional leaders and local government in Kiribati; amendments are being proposed to the constitution to recognise both roles.
- leadership and financial management training, including practical ways to engage with the community, has helped change the community's perception and understanding of the local councils;
- support for the Papua New Guinea Urban Local Level Government Association in

developing a strategic plan and expanding membership of rural local governments;

- voter awareness in Solomon Islands and Tonga to increase voter turnout for local elections; in Tonga this resulted in 10 per cent increase in turnout in the April 2010 elections.

## Consultation

The consultation process the CLGF Pacific Regional Project has adopted culminating in the symposium has been an important part of ensuring the continuing relevance of the project through constant adaptation to changing needs and has helped to strengthen regional cooperation at the local level

CLGF Secretary-General Carl Wright said: "CLGF is proud of its lead role in the Pacific in marshalling support for strengthening local governance and delivery of essential services. CLGF programmes in the Pacific seek to assist our members to respond to new challenges and to encourage the adoption of good practice in local democracy and good governance."

Alongside the symposium there will be a meeting of the Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) on 11-12 October 2010 to review the proposed CLGF Pacific Strategic Plan for 2011-2015 and member countries' three year strategies, and a dissemination workshop for the CLGF Papua New Guinea Good Practice Scheme to bring together existing PNG and Australian partner councils.

# clgf Board



CLGF Chairperson Mayor  
Zenaida Moya-Flowers

## Members

### Africa

**Mayor Amos Masondo**, Chairperson, South African Local Government Association, (Vice-chairperson)+

**CLlr Rosina Hoabes**, President, Association of Local Authorities in Namibia, Namibia (alternate)

**CLlr Leonard B Bihondo**, Chairman, Association of Local Authorities of Tanzania

**CLlr John Karazaarwe**, President, Uganda Local Government Association, Uganda (alternate)

**His Worship Cllr Herbert A George Williams**, Mayor, Freetown City Council, Sierra Leone (alternate)

**Hon Senator Lindiwe Dlamini**, Minister of Housing and Urban Development, Swaziland

**Hon L T Mokalake**, Minister of Local Government, Botswana (alternate)

**Hon Adolf Mwesige**, Minister of Local Government, Uganda+

**Hon Celina Ompeshi Kombani**, Minister of State for Regional Administration and Local Government, Tanzania (alternate)

**Hon Dauda S Kamara**, Minister of Internal Affairs, Local Government and Rural Development, Sierra Leone (alternate)

**Hon Marafa Hamida Yaya**, Minister of Territorial Administration and Decentralisation, Cameroon

### Americas

**Mayor Zenaida Moya-Flowers**, Mayor, Belize City Council, Belize (Chairperson)+

**Mayor Murchison Brown**, Chairman, Trinidad and Tobago Association of Local Government Authorities (alternate)

**CLlr Marvin Hunt**, Director, National Board of Directors Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Canada

**Mayor Milton Brown**, Association of Local Government Authorities, Jamaica (alternate)

**Hon Robert Montague**, Minister of State for Local Government, Office of the Prime Minister, Jamaica+

**Hon Byran Woodside**, Minister of State for Lands and Local Government, The Bahamas (alternate)

**Hon Chandresh Sharma**, Minister of Local Government, Trinidad and Tobago+

**Hon Saboto Caesar**, Minister of Housing, Informal Human Settlements, Lands and Surveys, Physical Planning and Local Government, St Vincent and the Grenadines (alternate)

### Asia-Pacific

**Mayor Upul Nishantha**, President, Federation of

Sri Lankan Local Government Authorities, Sri Lanka (alternate)

**CLlr Lawrence Yule**, President, Local Government New Zealand+

**CLlr Geoff Lake**, President, Australian Local Government Association (alternate)

**Hon Kouraiti Beniato**, Minister of Internal Affairs and Social Development, Kiribati

**Hon Anthony Albanese MP**, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, Australia (alternate)

**Dato' Wira Chor Chee Heung**, Minister of Housing and Local Government, Malaysia

**Hon Ahmed Mujthaba**, Minister of State, Ministry of Home Affairs, Maldives (alternate)

### Europe

Local Government Association of England and Wales, UK

**CLlr Pat Watters**, President, Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA), UK (alternate)

**Dr Lazaros Savvides**, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of the Interior, Cyprus (alternate)

### Members at large

**Father Smangalis Mkhathswa**, President, United Cities and Local Government of Africa

**Ratu Peni Volavolva**, former Lord Mayor of City of Suva, Fiji (alternate)

**CLlr April Crowther-Gow**, President, Caribbean Association of Local Government Authorities

**Mayor Irving John**, Castries City Council, St Lucia (alternate)

**CLlr Rodney Berman**, Leader, Cardiff Council, UK

### Associates

**Prof Graham Sansom**, UTS Centre for Local Government, Australia+

**Dr Philip Amis**, International Development Dept, University of Birmingham, UK (alternate)

**Dr Bishnu Ragoonath**, University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago

**Prof P S Reddy**, University of Kwazulu Natal, South Africa (alternate)

### Co-opted

**Hon Joseph Yieleh Chireh**, Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, Ghana

**Hon Kumari Selja**, Minister for Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation and for Tourism, India

**Hon Dr Eustarckio Kazonga MP**, Minister of Local Government and Housing, Zambia

**Hon Herve Aime**, Minister of Local Government, Rodrigues and Outer Islands, Mauritius

**Hon Rodney Hide**, Minister of Local Government, New Zealand

### Ex officio

**Basil Morrison**, New Zealand (Immediate Past Chairperson) +

**Carl Wright**, Secretary General+

**Simon Baker**, Society of Local Authority Chief Executives, UK (Hon Treasurer) +

+ Member of Policy and Resources Committee

## Publications

### Commonwealth e-Journal of Local Governance



From intergovernmental relations in Ghana, local decision-making in Papua New Guinea, to the

nature of local government in federal systems, this latest issue covers many aspects of local government in the Commonwealth today. The journal is produced by CLGF in cooperation with the University of Technology, Sydney and is available on-line only at:

<http://epress.lib.uts.edu.au/ojs/index.php/cljg/index>

### Municipal Infrastructure Financing: Innovative practices from developing countries

*Municipal Infrastructure Financing* provides an overview of the municipal finances and the extent of private sector involvement in the delivery of municipal services in selected Commonwealth developing countries. Four cities are examined in detail: Dar es Salaam in Tanzania, Kampala in Uganda, Dhaka in Bangladesh, and Karachi in Pakistan.

The publication can be purchased or downloaded. Further information at <http://publications.thecommonwealth.org/municipal-infrastructure-financing-686-p.aspx>

### CommonGround: A practical guide to the Commonwealth

How much do you know about the Commonwealth? *CommonGround* A practical guide to the Commonwealth is written for anyone who wants to know more about the history and work of the Commonwealth today. Written in simple and accessible style, with illustrated case studies and information panels, *CommonGround* outlines changes from the former British Empire to the Modern Commonwealth of today.



For further information contact: [geninfo@commonwealth.int](mailto:geninfo@commonwealth.int) or download this publication at: [http://www.commonwealthfriends.org/attachments/065\\_CommonGround\\_lo\\_Page.pdf](http://www.commonwealthfriends.org/attachments/065_CommonGround_lo_Page.pdf)

**Have you visited the CLGF website lately?** Earlier this year the website was given a new look, with more focus on news and information and to make it more user friendly. Check it out: [www.clgf.org.uk](http://www.clgf.org.uk).



## October 2010

### **Pacific Local Government Symposium Building local government alliances for vibrant and resilient communities in the Pacific**

**11-15 October, Port Vila, Vanuatu**

The second Pacific Local Government Symposium, convened by CLGF, will exchange effective practice, experiences, research and thinking in local government in the region. The theme of the symposium is *Building Local Government Alliances: for vibrant and resilient local economies and communities in the Pacific*. It will highlight the achievements of local government and lessons learnt over the past five years as well as look forward to some of the emerging issues and opportunities for local government in the future. The symposium is open to both members and non-members from around the region and internationally.

For further information and registration form please contact: [letila@clgfpacific.org.fj](mailto:letila@clgfpacific.org.fj)

### **Sixth Pan-Commonwealth Executive Programme on Finance for Sub-national and Local Governments**

**18-20 October, Birmingham, UK**

This programme is intended for senior officials who are involved in the finances of sub-national and local levels of government, whether with policy, at the national level or with financial management and implementation at the regional and local level. It is organised jointly by the Governance and Institutional Development Division (GIDD) of the Commonwealth Secretariat, and the International Development Department of the School of Government and Society at the University of Birmingham.

For further info contact [m.alam@commonwealth.int](mailto:m.alam@commonwealth.int)

### **CAPAM 2010 Biennial Conference Building a common future: global challenges, local responses**

**18-20 October, Malta**

This conference will examine various aspects of the global interconnectedness and the

management, leadership and reforms necessary to navigate continuous change.

For further information download the conference brochure at [http://www.capam.org/\\_documents/2010biennialconferencebrochure.printable.final.pdf](http://www.capam.org/_documents/2010biennialconferencebrochure.printable.final.pdf)

## November 2010

### **CLGF Regional Workshop on Decentralisation**

**1-2 November, Windhoek**

By invitation. For further details contact CLGF Project Officer Nyasha Simbanegavi [nyasha.simbanegavi@clgf.org.uk](mailto:nyasha.simbanegavi@clgf.org.uk)

### **Inclusive Cities Network**

**4-6 November, Johannesburg, South Africa**

Second meeting of the CLGF Inclusive Cities Network. For further information contact: [mike.murray@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:mike.murray@birmingham.gov.uk)

### **UCLG Congress: World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders**

**17-20 November, Mexico City**

Mayors and Presidents of regions, representatives of the most important international institutions, international partners of UCLG and other major stakeholders have been invited to the World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders - 3rd Congress of United Cities and Local Governments.

For further information: [www.uclgcongress.com](http://www.uclgcongress.com)

## December 2010

### **CLGF Regional Workshop on Decentralisation**

**9-10 December, Kigali, Rwanda (tbc)**

By invitation. For further details contact CLGF Project Officer Nyasha Simbanegavi, [nyasha.simbanegavi@clgf.org.uk](mailto:nyasha.simbanegavi@clgf.org.uk)

### **Commonwealth Local Government South Asia Conference: Municipal finance for pro-poor and inclusive development**

**12-14 December, Mumbai, India**

All local self-governments and sub-national governments are under pressure to find new ways of raising finance for vital infrastructure projects and services that meet the needs of their citizens and stakeholders. This two-day conference will showcase innovative revenue-raising mechanisms featuring international examples of financing mechanisms including from Australia, Canada and South Africa, and from India and South Asia, to look at how to access funding for infrastructure and services.

Booking forms can be downloaded at <http://www.clgf.org.uk/commonwealth-south-asia-conference>. For further information please contact: Dr Sneha Palnitkar, Director, RCUES-Mumbai at [snehapalnitkar@gmail.com](mailto:snehapalnitkar@gmail.com) or Anuya Kuwar, CLGF Project Officer, India [anuya.kuwar@gmail.com](mailto:anuya.kuwar@gmail.com). Please register before 30 October 2010 to guarantee your place.

## March 2011

### **Commonwealth Local Government Conference 2011: Energising local economies, partnerships for prosperous communities**

**15-18 March, Cardiff UK**

Local government increasingly plays an important role as one of the main promoters and facilitators of economic development in their areas. This three-day international event that will look at local government's role in economic development, particularly in the current global financial climate, and successful strategies for driving and delivering prosperous communities.

For further information contact: [clgc2011@clgf.org.uk](mailto:clgc2011@clgf.org.uk) or check out the conference website at [www.clgc2011.org](http://www.clgc2011.org).