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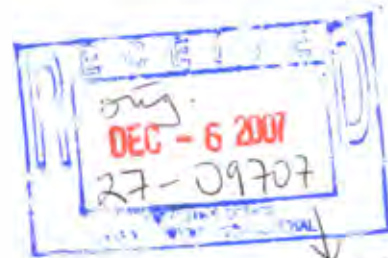
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Comune di Roma



Dal Campidoglio, 02/08/2007

Signor Segretario Generale,

ho ancora vivido il ricordo dello stimolante scambio di idee che abbiamo avuto nel corso della sua non lontana visita a Roma e mi auguro che avremo in futuro occasione di sviluppare insieme alcune delle ipotesi di lavoro che emersero in quella circostanza.

Tengo ora ad informarla dei risultati della conferenza "Running Out of Time", che il 22 e 23 giugno ha riunito a Roma rappresentanti dei Governi Locali di tutto il mondo per la valutazione di medio termine sull'attuazione degli Obiettivi di Sviluppo del Millennio, organizzata dal Comune di Roma e dall'Organizzazione Mondiale Città e Governi Locali Uniti (UCLG), in collaborazione con la UN Millennium Campaign e la Commissione Europea.

La Conferenza ha purtroppo confermato che lo stato di raggiungimento degli obiettivi è ampiamente al di sotto delle aspettative e per questo i Governi Locali considerano necessario un nuovo slancio da parte di tutti per recuperare il tempo perduto. Essi hanno pertanto ritenuto, per quanto li riguarda, di rinnovare, attraverso la Dichiarazione che ho il piacere di trasmetterle, il loro impegno a tutti i livelli ed in tutti i continenti.

Questi in sintesi i contenuti della Dichiarazione:

- i firmatari sosterranno il conseguimento degli Obiettivi del Millennio agendo innanzitutto presso i rispettivi Governi Nazionali perché incrementino la loro azione per migliorare l'assistenza allo sviluppo e promuovere le opportunità economiche per le nazioni più povere.
- le città ed i governi locali per parte loro si impegnano ad accompagnare lo sforzo dei Governi e delle Istituzioni Internazionali, attraverso una strategia di azioni politiche e di interventi concreti.
- essi rivolgono un appello all'ONU affinché riconosca il loro ruolo nello sviluppo ed in particolare la loro organizzazione mondiale, UCLG, quale partner diretto sulle questioni di governance.
- viene infine deciso di portare i risultati della Conferenza all'attenzione dell'Assemblea Generale delle Nazioni Unite, affinché solleciti la comunità internazionale a prendere atto dei mancati risultati degli anni trascorsi e ad impegnarsi in rinnovati sforzi per il conseguimento degli Obiettivi di Sviluppo del Millennio entro la data fissata del 2015. Provvedo al proposito ad inviare separatamente copia della Dichiarazione alla Signora Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa, Presidente dell'Assemblea Generale.

Mr Ban Ki-moon
Segretario Generale
ONU



Ringraziandola per l'attenzione che vorrà dedicare a questa iniziativa, che testimonia della sensibilità e dell'impegno delle Autorità a livello locale del mondo intero per quello che sono convinto essere uno dei compiti più importanti e nobili delle Nazioni Unite, mi è grata l'occasione per rinnovarle, Signor Segretario Generale, i sensi della mia più alta stima

con 57158



Walter Veltroni

RUNNING OUT OF TIME

Declaration of the World's Mayors and Local Governments' representatives convened in Rome on June 22, 2007

on the occasion of the
*"Local Governments' International mid-Term Evaluation Conference
on the Millennium Development Goals"*

Whereas, we represent cities and local governments sharing a firm commitment to use their knowledge and power towards the aim of affirming justice, ending extreme poverty, reversing environmental degradation and pursuing equality around the world;

Whereas, at the 2000 United Nations Millennium Summit, 189 countries signed onto the "Millennium Declaration" to "free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty, to which more than a billion of them are currently subjected" by the year 2015;

Whereas, we are now at the halfway point between the signing of the Millennium Declaration and the 2015 deadline for achievement of the MDGs;

Whereas, at the Rome "Local Governments' International Mid Term Evaluation Conference on the MDGs", jointly organized by the City of Rome and the UCLG it has become clear for all that, although the world has made progress towards achieving the MDGs, this progress has been uneven and slow;

Whereas, a large majority of nations stand a chance of achieving the MDGs by 2015 only if they receive increased support, including resources and economic opportunities, from rich nations, on the one hand and engage more resolutely in the commitments undertaken in the "Millennium Declaration", on the other;

Whereas, it has been reconfirmed in Rome that the MDGs cannot be achieved without the active participation of local governments, which are the institutions closest to the citizen and those called to meet their needs;

Whereas, a key role of Local Authorities is to keep their national Governments accountable for the promises made in the Millennium Declaration, with particular regard, in the South, to strengthening good governance practices and, in the North, to providing support – including financial – to the affirmation of a real global partnership for development;

Recalling the UCLG Millennium Towns and Cities Campaign in 2005 – conducted in cooperation with the UN MDGs Campaign – endorsed by the signatures of some 1,000 cities, local governments and national local government associations, and presented to the General Secretary of the UN, where we committed to the accomplishment of the MDGs and requested acknowledgment of the role local governments need to play in the achievement of the global development agenda.

Welcoming the host city's initiative to institute a "Rome Millennium City Prize" to recognize and support local governments' medium-term strategies and plans based on the pursuit of MDGs and on

broad and effective citizen participation, with particular reference to Target 11 of the Millennium Development Goals".

**We, the World's Mayors and Local Government representatives convened in Rome,
hereby pledge**

1. To support the achievement of the MDGs by calling on our national governments for increased action to improve development assistance and promote economic opportunities for the poorest nations as part of a global fight to end poverty and hunger, improve health and education, promote environmental sustainability, and improve the status of women;
2. To bring all the UCLG membership (North and South) to become involved for the achievement of the MDGs particularly by:
 - Actively lobbying national governments to respect the commitments made in 2000
 - Urging governments of industrialized countries to increase their Official Development Assistance to 0.7% of their GNI and to improve the quality of their aid delivery mechanisms
 - Urging governments of developing countries to promote and strengthen good governance practices
 - Partnering with the UN development system through specific programmes such as UN Habitat, UNCDF and UNDP's WACAP, ART/GOLD, Localizing the MDGs and the Millennium Villages
 - Taking concrete actions, making an effective use of media and communications tools, designed to raise public awareness of the importance of the MDGs
 - Providing explicit support to local civil societies' MDGs initiatives
 - Creating MDGs-related processes of public accountability
 - Devoting a percentage of local budgets to fund city to city cooperation for development and promote the establishment of more effective twinning mechanisms taking into account the Paris Agenda for Aid Effectiveness
 - Implementing the MDGs at local level in their own medium and long term local plans, involving the poor as well as the civil society organisations
 - Supporting the mobilization action called "STAND UP against poverty STAND UP for the MDGs" that will take place in October 17, 2007
3. To call the United Nations and its Agencies to further recognize the role of local governments in development, particularly by acknowledging the World Organization of United Cities and Local Governments as a direct partner in governance issues.
4. To bring the results of the Conference to the attention of UNGA and to call upon the Assembly to urge the international community to look upon the shortcomings of the years elapsed since the Millennium Declaration and engage in renewed efforts so that the MDGs do not fail to be achieved within the set deadline of 2015.



Courtesy translation

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

I still have a vivid memory of the stimulating exchange of ideas we enjoyed during your recent visit to Rome, and I hope we will have the opportunity in the future to work together on developing the work hypotheses that emerged on that occasion.

I am writing to inform you of the results of the “Running Out of Time” Conference, which brought together in Rome on June 22nd and 23rd the representatives of Local Governments from all over the world for a medium-term evaluation of the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, organized by the City of Rome and the World Organization of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), in collaboration with the UN Millennium Campaign and the European Commission.

The Conference unfortunately confirmed that the level of progress in achieving the goals is well below expectations, and for this reason the Local Governments consider it necessary for everyone to work to give it a boost in order to make up for lost time. They have thus decided, for their part, to renew, through the Declaration I am pleased to send you, their commitment at all levels and on all continents.

This is a summary of the contents of the Declaration:

- The signatories will support the achievement of the Millennium Goals, first of all by urging their respective national governments to increase their action in increasing development aid and promoting economic opportunities for the poorest countries.
- For their part, the cities and local governments agree to sustain the effort of the governments and international institutions with a strategy of policy actions and concrete measures.
- They ask the UN to recognize their role in development and in particular their world organization, the UCLG, as a direct partner in matters concerning governance.
- Lastly, it is decided to bring the Conference results to the attention of the United Nations General Assembly, so that it may urge the international community to acknowledge the lack of results of past years and to commit to renewed efforts for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by the end of 2015. With regard to this, I am sending a separate copy of the Declaration to Ms. Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa, President of the General Assembly.

Mr Ban Ki-moon
Segretario Generale
ONU

I would like to thank you for your attention to this initiative, which bears witness to the sensitivity and commitment of local level authorities throughout the world for what I firmly believe to be one of the most important and noble tasks of the United Nations.

Please accept, Mr. Secretary General, the assurances of my highest esteem.

Very faithfully yours,

Walter Veltroni