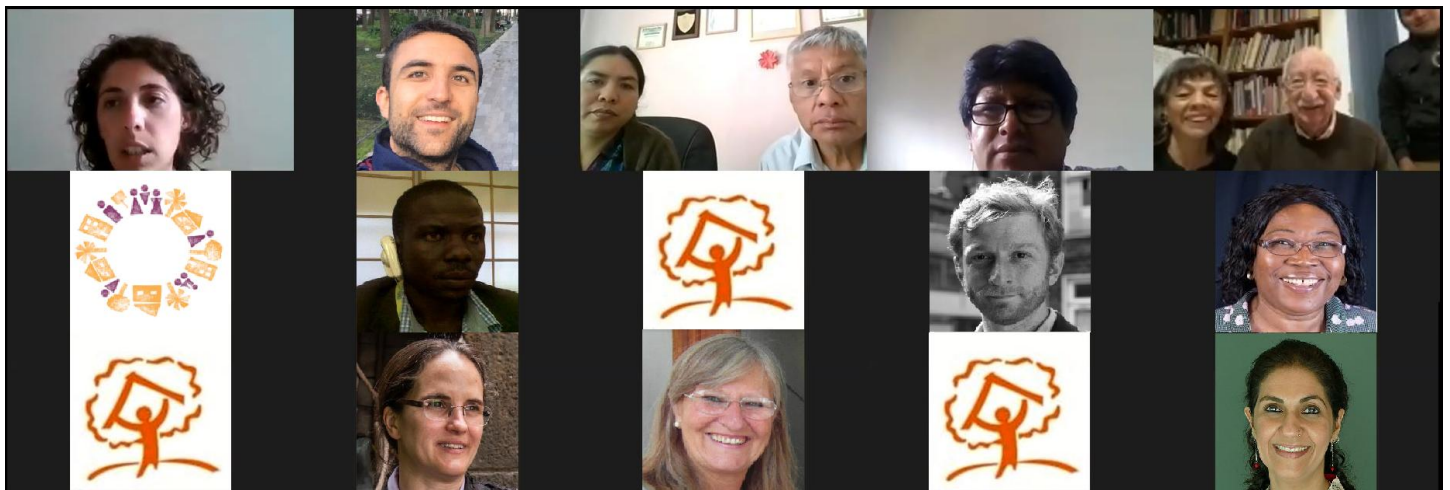




HIC General Assembly 2018

12 December 2018

Minutes in English



48 participants (24 women and 24 men) from 26 organizations from 22 countries, from which 7 Board Members, and the team of 5 HIC structures

1. Welcome by HIC President. (5')
2. Approval of this agenda and of the meeting minutes of the last General Assembly meeting in Nairobi 2017. (5')
3. Presentation and approval of the HIC Financial Statements corresponding to 2014, 2015 and 2016 (available in the HIC Annual Reports 2014, 2015 and 2016). (10')
4. Human Rights Day Declaration and Global Campaign against Violations of Human Rights Related to Habitat. (15')
5. Reports of Coordination Offices (HIC President, HIC AL, HIC MENA, HIC SSA, HIC SA, HIC HLRN and HIC GS). (25')
6. HIC Members' and HIC Board Members' contributions and open debate on HIC achievements and challenges. (50')
7. Other. (5')
8. Closure and next General Assembly (2019). (5')

Motions received (to be discussed under point 6 of this agenda)

Motion 1

Submitted by Ana Sugranyes on behalf of SUR Corporación de Estudios Sociales y Educación CHIMO003

"Considering the challenges between 2019 and 2020 of new HIC faces in the Presidency and in the HIC GS;

And, therefore, the great need to consolidate the Board's capacity;

Considering also the attributions given by the HIC Constitution (2013) and later by the HIC By-Law (attributions, by now, not yet used);

The motion proposes to appoint immediately an additional Board Member in representation of the feminist movements; an internal decision by the Board Members; but with the request for support from this General Assembly 2018;

Appointing Ana Falú for this other Board Member; Ana Falú from Argentina was founder and still is an active partner of the Women and Habitat Network LA; she knows the Coalition for many years – not to say decades –; she already was HIC Board Member during the late 90s and in the beginning of the 2000s; she also has been an important HIC Vice President who contributed to build alternatives during the institutional crisis of 2001-2003."

Question received (to be discussed under item 6 of the agenda)

Question submitted by Moussa Ka on behalf of Habitants et Travailleurs Baraka (SENMO012)

"What is the place and role of African Members and Representatives (Focal Points, HIC Board Representatives, etc.) in the organization?"

1. Welcome by HIC President (Lorena Zárate). (5')

Dear HIC Members, Allies and Staff,

Welcome to the 2018 HIC General Assembly. Thank you for accepting the invitation to participate today and many thanks to Alvaro Puertas, HIC General Secretary and the GS Team, for their great effort -during the past several weeks!- to make it possible.

As you probably know, according to our Constitution, the General Assembly is made out of all HIC Member organizations and gathers at least once a year to deal with the most relevant institutional issues. Given some financial constraints, during 2018, we did not have the opportunity to meet in person, so we decided to convene an online General Assembly.

Alvaro has already shared the technical information and the practical details on how this GA is going to work. It is important to highlight that there are few issues that will be presented today that will require the approval of the HIC General Assembly. The voting process is going to start today but remains open for the upcoming 4 weeks, until Jan 9th, 2019¹, so all Members in good standing will have the possibility to be part of it. This is a procedure that we have used in the recent past to allow remote and wider participation of HIC Members at relevant occasions, such as the Constitutional amendments in 2013.

Before we move into the agenda, I would like to take a couple of minutes to share very brief introductory remarks regarding some of the key challenges and opportunities for our struggles and our work, from the local to the international level, under three main points:

- a) First of all, and as we all know, the global political context is changing very quickly with very concerning trends of an alarming increase of explicit misogyny, racism, discrimination, xenophobia and authoritarian discourses and practices in many parts of the world. At the same time, the growing socio-economic inequality faced by our societies continues to be clearly visible while the spatial segregation is playing a key role in deepening the vicious circle of impoverishment and exclusion that is affecting at least a third of the world's population. Violations to land and housing rights and the right to the city as well as the criminalization of activists and human rights defenders are daily challenges for HIC Members and Allies both in rural and urban areas, in the South and in the North. How to better connect our struggles with wider movements for social justice and democracy?
- b) Secondly, the global agendas and commitments made by national governments and international institutions in recent years are not strong enough or suffer from lack of coherence and/or substantial omissions, such as a consistent human rights framework. The fundamental role of civil society organizations and local governments and their right to participate at the decision making as well as the implementation and follow-up processes is not only not fully recognized but usually made very difficult if not impossible, while favouring a protagonistic role of the private sector and the corporate actors. How to strategically engage on these scenarios and with -or in front of- those different actors?
- c) Last but not least, local initiatives in defense of human dignity, social justice, equity, diversity, solidarity and peace are blooming everywhere and HIC Members and Allies are actively involved in all continents. Particularly relevant are our efforts to advance in social mobilization and public policies to promote the security of tenure and a wide range of alternatives to guarantee the right to housing, including public provision,

¹ This process was later extended till 23 January 2019

social renting, cooperatives, community land trusts and other collective forms; the recognition and support of processes of social production, re-construction and collective management of habitat; and the social function of property, the right to the city and the creation of adequate and violence-free housing and public spaces for women, girls and other groups groups requiring priority attention. There are some good examples and success stories to share, but also concerning setbacks that we need to confront.

The HIC 2017 annual report and this General Assembly would certainly provide more inputs about our current efforts and the strategic steps to move forward. So let's go there!

2. Approval of this agenda and of the meeting minutes of the last General Assembly meeting 2017 in Nairobi. (5')

<http://www.hic-gs.org/document.php?pid=7267>

LZ-HIC PR: Highlights point 6 in the agenda - Open debate on challenges and initiatives.

AP-HIC GS: Quick vote on the agenda NOW. Q&A is now open. I will give the floor to the people raising their hands in the chat.

AS-SUR: Procedural question: How are we going to vote? And, do we have a quorum? = how many people do we have with a right to vote today?

AP-HIC GS: Problems with the bank to verify payment of membership fee. Since we are opening the voting period, we can come back to this question later.

MB-HIC GS: Approximately 55 people with voting rights (10 are supposed to have transferred the fees, but we cannot verify it right now)

IS-TWC: I agree to the agenda, thank you Lorena and the Staff. I hope we can discuss the important issues in the agenda.

Several HIC Members approving the agenda in the chat.

MB-HIC GS: We have some difficulties identifying everyone in the list of participants. Please make your name and organization clear in the chat.

LZ-HIC PR: We need to approve the minutes from the previous GA in Nairobi last year. Some of the people in the call were there last year. Can we have a motion from the people attending that assembly to approve them?

AF-DPU introduces the motion.

LZ-HIC PR: We need someone to support the motion.

AP-HIC GS: Remember that the voting process will remain open.

3. Presentation and approval of the HIC Financial Statements corresponding to 2014, 2015 and 2016 (available in the HIC Annual Reports 2014, 2015 and 2016). (10')

AP-HIC GS: The next point is about the HIC financial statements. All amounts are calculated in US Dollars, and only the amounts audited by independent auditors are shown. We would like to answer any questions you may have about these financial reports. This will be voted on further, and must be approved by the GA.

AS-SUR: Endorses the approval of the financial report.

IS-TWC: The income of the report has been roughly the same for the past four years.

AP-HIC GS: This has been a success given the challenge of finding funds for the HIC projects. Any doubts about the financial reports, please submit them by email.

AP-HIC GS: We will briefly review the following tables. The GS collects all the financial reports from the different offices. Info is compiled and homogenized, and shared with the treasurer. This information is shared with the GA. We are sharing today the 2014, 2015 and 2016 Financial Reports because we did not have the data reviewed before. We are not approving this now, since we still have time to vote. But we can answer questions and discuss this now.

AF-DPU: Endorses Ana Sugranyes approval of the report (in the chat).

IS-TWC: I thank Lorena for the work done in maintaining a stable income stream.

AP-HIC GS: Please send questions if you have any. There is a question about Members' fees (AP-MADRE TIERRA). All fees are collected by the General Secretariat office, and changes from year to year, mainly based on the amount of Members attending the General Assembly (Quito was a very successful year). We hope that the fees collection will go back to the 2017 amounts.

HIC Financial Statements 2014: AL, MENA, SA, HLRN and GS ⁽¹⁾

Year 2014	Expressed in US Dollars						Income expressed in percentage
	HIC-AL ⁽²⁾	HIC-MENA	HIC-SA	HIC-HLRN	HIC-GS	Total	
Income	226,736	116,453	304,213	66,305	354,057	1,067,764	
Beginning Balance 2014	34,879	15,820	160,591	9,198	12,536	233,024	21.8%
Donor Agencies ^(3 a, b, c, d, e)	191,857	100,633	143,622	57,107	338,350	831,569	77.9%
HIC Membership fees	--	--	--	--	3,171	3,171	0.3%
Solidarity, special contributions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
							100.0%
Expenditure	170,878	79,071	155,452	65,126	258,735	729,262	Expenditure expressed in percentage
Staff Costs ⁽⁴⁾	106,040	44,382	15,942	47,046	166,624	380,034	52.1%
Projects, activities ⁽⁵⁾	44,146	26,113	119,148	5,645	37,710	232,762	31.9%
Administration Costs ⁽⁶⁾	17,927	2,798	18,958	8,982	54,401	103,066	14.1%
Audit ⁽⁷⁾	2,765	5,778	1,404	3,453	0	13,400	1.8%
							100.0%
Restricted cash on hand ⁽⁸⁾	55,858	37,382	148,761	1,179	95,322	338,502	

Notes:

- (1) Financial Statements are reported from five structures that have infrastructure dedicated to the Coalition purpose: Latin America (HIC-AL), Middle East (HIC-MENA); South-Asian (HIC-SA); Housing and Land Rights Network (HIC-HLRN) and the General Secretariat (HIC-GS).

HIC-AL office in Mexico works in three dimensions: (i) HIC networking and advocacy in Latin American, (ii) Support to HIC Presidency, and (2) (iii) Mexican advocacy and networking. The HIC-AL accounting includes the three dimensions. 30% of the reported amounts corresponds to the national Mexican activities.

Main contributions to HIC-AL: Misereor USD 106,250*; Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung USD 37,000; UUSC USD 8,000; HIC-Ford Foundation-Polis 3a) USD 24,000* (received from the GS as part of the joint project "R2C for all"); WeEffect USD10,000. (*) includes funds received in advance to be spent in 2015.

3b) Main contribution to HIC-MENA: ICCO USD 54,633; USIP USD 46,000

3c) Main contributions to HIC-SA: Ford Foundation USD 70,736; Misereor USD 67,151

3d) Main contribution to HIC-HLRN: ILO USD 31,819; other contributions USD 25,288

Main contributions to HIC-GS: Misereor USD 244,100 for the joint operation of the Secretariat and HIC-HLRN; Ford Foundation USD 3e) 118,250* for the joint project "R2C for all" with HIC-AL** (*)GS' share is 40,96%, HIC-AL's share is 59,04% (**)USD 24,000 has been transferred to HIC-AL, please see note 3a.

(4) The staff costs cover administrative and professional staff, whose duties are not related to a specific project but to the operation and administration throughout the HIC structure.

(5) The costs of projects and activities include fees, travels, associated events, per diem, publication and promotion (web sites).

(6) Administrative costs related to rent and office supplies (including telephone, ASDL and security), bank charges and fixed assets for the office (e.g. computer hardware and software).

Audit: (i) HIC-AL, the auditor is SPC, Contadores y Abogados, S.C., Mexico DF, Mexico; (ii) HIC-MENA, HIC-HLRN and HIC-GS, the auditor is (7) Waleed al-Batawy & Assoc., Cairo, Egypt; (iii) HIC-SA, the auditor is Malhotra&Associates New Dehli, India.

(8) In the five cases, the restricted cash on hand represents funds committed to ongoing operations, projects and contracts.

HIC Financial Statements 2015: AL, MENA, SA, HLRN and GS ⁽¹⁾

Year 2015	Expressed in US Dollars						Income expressed in percentage
	HIC-AL ⁽²⁾	HIC-MENA	HIC-SA	HIC-HLRN	HIC-GS	Total	
Income	239.017	93.047	238.117	14.713	463.675	1.048.569	
Beginning Balance 2015	55.858	37.382	148.761	1.179	129.404	372.584	35,5%
Donor Agencies ^(3 a, b, c, d, e)	183.159	28.100	89.356	0	329.690	630.305	60,1%
HIC Membership fees ⁽⁴⁾	--	--	--	--	2.406	2.406	0,2%
Solidarity, special contributions	0	27.565	0	13.534	2.175	43.274	4,1%
							100,0%
Expenditure	218.655	115.444	141.908	12.739	275.225	763.971	Expenditure expressed in percentage
Staff Costs ⁽⁵⁾	109.535	78.967	85.002	1.364	153.279	428.147	56,0%
Projects, activities ⁽⁶⁾	56.403	18.163	31.702	11.375	89.487	207.130	27,1%
Administration Costs ⁽⁷⁾	48.115	15.098	23.688	0	28.434	115.335	15,1%
Audit ⁽⁸⁾	4.602	3.216	1.516	0	4.024	13.358	1,7%
							100,0%
Restricted cash on hand ⁽⁹⁾	20.362	-22.397	96.209	1.974	188.450	284.598	

Notes:

(1) Financial Statements are reported from five structures that have infrastructure dedicated to the Coalition purpose: Latin America (HIC-AL), Middle East (HIC-MENA); South-Asian (HIC-SA); Housing and Land Rights Network (HIC-HLRN) and the General Secretariat (HIC-GS).

HIC-AL office in Mexico works in three dimensions: (i) HIC networking and advocacy in Latin American, (ii) Support to HIC Presidency, and (iii) Mexican advocacy and networking. The HIC-AL accounting includes the three dimensions. 35% of the reported amounts corresponds to the national Mexican activities.

Main contributions to HIC-AL: Misereor USD 60.612*; Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung USD 58.500; UUSC USD 8.000; HIC-Ford Foundation-Polis USD 32.006* (3a) (received from the GS as part of the joint project "R2C for all"); WeEffect USD 10.000; MZF USD 10.800; FPH USD 3.240

(*) includes funds received in advance to be spent in 2016.

(3b) Main contributions to HIC-MENA: FGHR USD 15.500; ILO USD 12.600; UN Grant USD 4.600; and General Fund USD 22.965 & HIC-HLRN General Fund USD 13.534

(3c) Main contributions to HIC-SA: Misereor USD 85.047

(3d) HIC-HLRN contribution USD 13.534

Main contributions to HIC-GS: Misereor USD 211.437 for the joint operation of the Secretariat and HIC-HLRN; Ford Foundation USD 118.253* for the joint project "R2C for all" with HIC-AL**

(*) GS' share is 54,24%; HIC-AL's share is 46,76% (**) USD 32.006 has been transferred to HIC-AL, please see note 3a.

(4) Additional revenues not included in the accounting and audit 2015. These revenues will be included in the accounting and audit 2016.

(5) The staff costs cover administrative and professional staff, whose duties are not related to a specific project but to the operation and administration throughout the HIC structure.

(6) The costs of projects and activities include fees, travels, associated events, per diem, publication and promotion (web sites).

(7) Administrative costs related to rent and office supplies (including telephone, ASDL and security), bank charges and fixed assets for the office (e.g. computer hardware and software).

(8) Audit: (i) HIC-AL, the auditor is SPC, Contadores y Abogados, S.C., Mexico DF, Mexico; (ii) HIC-MENA, HIC-HLRN and HIC-GS, the auditor is Waleed al-Batawy & Assoc., Cairo, Egypt; (iii) HIC-SA, the auditor is Malhotra&Associates New Dehli, India.

(9) In the five cases, the restricted cash on hand represents funds committed to ongoing operations, projects and contracts.

HIC Financial Statements 2016: AL, MENA, SA, HLRN and GS ⁽¹⁾

Expressed in US Dollars

Year 2016	HIC-AL ⁽²⁾	HIC-MENA	HIC-SA	HIC-HLRN	HIC-GS	Total	%
Income	192.501	110.593	167.477	100.611	309.425	880.607	100%
Beginning Balance 2016	20.362	-22.397	96.209	1.974	175.901	272.049	30,9%
Donor Agencies ^(3 a, b, c, d, e)	172.139	119.087	71.268	84.733	128.368	575.595	65,4%
HIC Membership fees	-	-	-	-	5.156	5.156	0,6%
Solidarity, special contributions	0	13.903	0	13.904	0	27.807	3,2%
Expenditure	161.323	159.011	118.664	110.521	205.216	754.736	100%
Staff Costs ⁽⁴⁾	95.665	94.449	62.434	77.695	77.796	408.039	54,1%
Projects, activities ⁽⁵⁾	52.993	51.207	39.795	14.711	116.534	275.241	36,5%
Administration Costs ⁽⁶⁾	10.892	11.333	14.744	14.387	9.038	60.394	8,0%
Audit ⁽⁷⁾	1.773	2.023	1.691	3.728	1.848	11.063	1,5%
Restricted cash on hand ⁽⁸⁾	31.178	-48.418	48.813	-9.910	104.209	125.871	

Notes:

- (1) Financial Statements are reported from five structures that have infrastructure dedicated to the Coalition purpose: Latin America (HIC-AL), Middle east/North Africa (HIC-MENA); South-Asian (HIC-SA); Housing and Land Rights Network (HIC-HLRN) and the General Secretariat (HIC-GS).
- (2) XHIC-AL office in Mexico works in three dimensions: (i) HIC networking and advocacy in Latin American, (ii) Support to HIC Presidency, and (iii) Mexican advocacy and networking. The HIC-AL accounting includes the three dimensions. 37% of the reported amounts corresponds to the national Mexican activities.
- (3a) Main contributions to HIC-AL: Misereor (2016-2018) USD 93.125; Misereor (settlement of period 2013-2015) USD 9.187; Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung USD 50.000; UUSC USD 20.000; Ford Foundation (HIC-Polis) USD 28.000 (received from the GS as part of the joint project "R2C for all"); WeEffect USD 10.000; MZF USD 10.000; and FPH USD 1.875
- (3b) Main contributions to HIC-MENA: FGHR USD 15.500; ILO USD 17.587; Cities Alliance USD 40.000 ; USIP USD 46.000; and General Fund USD 13.903
- (3c) Main contributions to HIC-SA: Misereor USD 64.781
- (3d) Main contributions to HIC-HLRN: Misereor USD 89.287 (see point 3e); and HIC-HLRN General Fund USD 13.904
- (3e) Main contributions to HIC-GS: Misereor USD 167.486 for the joint operation of the Secretariat and HIC-HLRN*; Fondation Charles Léopold Mayer pour le Progrès de l'Homme USD 45.805; and Ritimo USD 4.362 (*) GS' share is 46,69% (USD 78.199); HIC-HLRN's share is 53,31% (USD 89.287)
- (4) The staff costs cover administrative and professional staff, whose duties are not related to a specific project but to the operation and administration throughout the HIC structure.
- (5) The costs of projects and activities include fees, travels, associated events, per diem, publication and promotion (websites)
- (6) Administrative costs related to rent and office supplies (including telephone, ASDL and security), bank charges and fixed assets for the office (e.g. computer hardware and software)
- (7) Audit: (i) HIC-AL, the auditor is Díaz y Velasco, Consultores en negocios , SC, Mexico DF, Mexico; (ii) HIC-MENA, HIC-HLRN and HIC-GS, the auditor is Waleed al-Batawy & Assoc., Cairo, Egypt; (iii) HIC-SA, the auditor is Malhotra&Associates New Dehli, India.
- (8) In the five cases, the restricted cash on hand represents funds committed to ongoing operations, projects and contracts.

4. Human Rights Day Declaration and Global Campaign against Violations of Human Rights Related to Habitat. (15')

IF-HIC GS: Declaration of Human Rights Day and the Right to the City

The drafting of the declaration was a collective work between Members of the Global Platform for the Right to the City and HIC.

This is the third campaign since October, habitat month, in response to UN World Days:

1. On 1 October, [World Habitat Day](#), we reflected on the state of our human settlements and on human rights relating to habitat. We also took this opportunity to launch the publication "HIC and the Habitat Conferences 1976-2016".

2. On 31 October, we celebrated [World Day for the Right to the City](#), reinterpreting the United Nations designation as World Cities Day.

3. On 10 December, World Human Rights Day and the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, we launched the declaration and campaign for Human Rights Day and the Right to the City.

The aim of the campaign was:

- to promote and defend Human Rights related to Habitat,
- to show violations of the right to housing, land and the city such as: gentrification, forced evictions, displacement, land grabbing, destruction and privatization of common goods and the persecution of human rights defenders, among others.
- to demand that the UN and governments implement the preventive and corrective approach to human rights and adopt the Right to the City in a Human Rights Habitat.

IMPACTS

The impact of the campaign on Social Media (especially Twitter) has been positive. Thanks to your support:

1. Many users who follow the #HumanRightsDay (the official hashtag of Human Rights Day and the most popular of December 10) have seen our messages!

Many users have supported our messages with RTs:

Example 1: the message of the violation of the right to housing in Chile has reached 96 RTs (ReTweets) in the GPR2C account so far.

Example 2, the message of the launch of the Spanish campaign of the HIC account has reached 30 RTs so far.

Many of the Members, Friends and Allies of HIC and the Global Platform for the Right to the City have joined the campaign and are aware of it, demonstrating our ability to coordinate and amplify our voices and denounce human rights violations worldwide.

4. The HIC and GPR2C TW accounts have gained followers thanks to these campaigns (both accounts have reached almost 3,000 followers so far).

Weaknesses of the campaign:

1. The most active users continue to be the Global Platform and HIC, other users are unfortunately less active. If other voices and accounts had joined these initiatives more actively, our voices would have had more impacts.

2. The campaign has obtained many more RTs for messages launched by HIC and GPR2C (supporting the campaign) than own messages launched by other accounts. This enriches our accounts, but also causes the campaign to lose impact, as the main message gets more visibility if repeated by different users.

3. Human Rights Day is a very special and key date for campaigns in general and this can detract from the impact of many initiatives and events that are taking place, as in the case of our campaign, so we encourage you to continue sending and sharing messages this week and next week.

Why are digital campaigns important?

1. Long-term strategy (and perseverance): When it comes to advocating for habitat rights, mobilisation campaigns cannot be a one-day action, but must be part of a long-term strategy that brings together many actions and many other campaigns, which is why we continue to launch different campaigns related to the right to housing, the right to land and the right to the city.

2. Global - local

Connect the global with the national and the local. We must help connect among HIC Members and this exchange can inspire us all. For this, digital communication is a great ally, allowing us to see what is happening in all parts of the planet and making it visible, thus supporting the HIC overall objectives.

3. Participatory Structure

It is important to involve as many actors as possible, that is why HIC GS and GPR2C called for real cases of habitat rights violations in order to expand the messages and build the campaign together, the more we are, the farther we will go, spreading messages through multiple channels, from the nearest to the farthest.

Social networks in general are the means, not the end, so they are important to accompany our overall strategy and publicize the work.

EC-HIC GS: We should train our Members in using social media.

5. Reports of Coordination Offices (HIC President, HIC AL, HIC MENA, HIC SA, HIC HLRN and HIC GS). (25')

LZ-HIC PR: We have several Board Members from the different continents. Thank you for being here.

SC-RQOH: Law to recognise housing as a right. Not in the Constitution, but it will be a big step forward. Coordination with the UN Rapporteur, Leilani Farha. New commitment to support building new houses to reshape and renovate the existing stock, community owned.

Energy in the civil society to densify urban areas, in the face of a housing crisis that is unbearable. The same situation is happening in the US, with Mr. Trump not committing more resources, actually reducing them. Some states doing well, with strong organizing. But overall the situation is bad. Collaboration between Canadian and US organizations to strategize.

Indigenous people in Canada have been fighting for a while to see their housing improved - one of the worst in the continent. Many court and street actions. Focus seems to be shifting - more resources put into it, but still not enough. We see some light at the end of the tunnel in Canada, but this has been going on since colonization and we need to turn it all upside down. The current reorientation makes us hopeful.

SE-HIC AL: I will deliver the presentation in Spanish. All the activities of the year: presentation divided into the strategic objectives of HIC.

1. HIC strategic objective: To accompany and support community processes to build alternatives for the good living and dignity of peoples through the promotion of gender equality and equity, the safeguarding of the right to a healthy environment, the promotion of social production of habitat and the fight against violations of the rights to housing, land and the city.

The most important activity was: Support to social reconstruction processes of the habitat after 2017 earthquakes in Mexico, 1. Members and Allies were dedicating to the reconstruction in different Mexican states and incidence in public policies in the

matter; 2. the office promotes coordination meetings between Members and Allies that were working on reconstruction and on the elaboration of a video to visibilize their work and that of the communities, the exchange of experiences with experts in public policies and construction with local materials; regional recognition with the faculty of architecture of the UNAM for the most significant cases and investigations. Photos describing the reconstruction:



2. HIC's strategic objective: To influence public housing and habitat policies at the global, national and local levels from a rights, gender equity and sustainable environment perspective.

Members and the HIC-AL Office worked on legislative and policy proposals in several countries. Some recent examples: 1. Argentina: Proposal for a national law on self-managed production of habitat; struggle against the new urban development and building code of Buenos Aires; Costa Rica: General land titling law; Mexico: influence on the constitution of CDMX for the recognition of the right to the city and on the constitutional human rights law of CDMX for the landing of this right, the right to housing and the prohibition of forced evictions; Peru: Draft Framework Law on Social Interest Housing, laws and programmes for the conservation of residentiality in the historic centre of Lima; etc.; etc.

3 HIC's strategic objective: To strengthen articulation among members, and between members and other networks and organizations to promote HIC's mission through transparent management and democratic practices, in a dynamic of gender equity and generational renewal.

HIC-AL and local Members organized the 3rd strategic planning workshop in Peru (April 2018) for the entire Andean region including Colombia and Venezuela, agreements were taken into account to direct and prioritize the work of the office; a meeting on social production of habitat (SPH) has been organized in El Salvador on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of FUNDASAL (September 2018) and another in Buenos Aires (November 2018); the elections of the regional Board representative (December 2018) have been organized together with the SG; the coordination of the regional working group on SPH and of capacity building group has been supported; progress is being made little by little in improving internal communication.

AF-CISCSA: would like to add that the gender group has been consolidated in Habitat Argentina by articulating different Members of the country. The Women and Habitat Network is actively participating in HIC, and adding other organizations.

IS-TWC: On the subject of disasters, we had an experience in 2014 when Israel bombed Palestine. The UN's special agreement to repair homes and infrastructure was so bureaucratic that they did nothing: how do you manage with this bureaucracy?

SE-HIC AL: Social Production of Housing production is included in Mexico's Constitution, but it was not easy. Enrique is writing an article about this experience, we will share it soon.

JS-HIC HLRN: HLRN added new Members of its Board this year and made a change of address in Geneva. In Geneva, we share an office with another organization. There are three new Members at the HLRN Board: Ana Sugranyes from SUR, Diana Lee Smith of Mazingira Institute, and Ranya from Palestine.

In 2018, we launched the "Women's Land and House" project, focusing on the application of tools to assess the impact of violations in three countries.

After establishing a typology of those affecting women in Kenya, it seems that women will focus on inheritance cases, particularly widows and girls and the rights issues they face.

We plan to shift geographical attention to four African states. At the United Nations level, they hoped that land would be recognized as a human right, just like water. A key representative of the FAO Planning Committee was elected last year, so the HLRN team Members took over. We must identify HIC Members willing and able to hold this position in Rome-based agencies, this will require some collaboration with the HIC membership system.

Work in the last two years on food security frameworks. Starting in 2018, we will work with Partners to focus on the implementation of this food security framework. Important for Yemen, Palestine, where food has been used as a weapon.

Our work with SDG groups, particularly women and youth, has been essential. Attempt to involve groups from the North African region; No HIC Members have responded to the call to participate in the HLPF. Country reports from various European and African countries. We hope that more countries will participate in the creation of these country reports; Seven HLPF countries will be at the centre of HLRN concerns this year. Yemen will be reviewed in January. We have also worked with Ahmed and Marie to regularize the issue of Members in the Middle East and North Africa region.

HLRN's Land Forum works closely with FAO and creates a database for Members in the region. We are also working with a new Partner in Iraq to analyze land and resource governance in that country.

SC-HIC SA: We have started the National Observatory on Expulsions and Displacements. We are the only organization in the country that tracks these data. Documentation of more than 45,000 homes demolished in 2017; more than 260,000 people evicted, meaning 30 persons per hour. We continued this work in 2018 and the report is expected to be published in February next year. A scholarship programme for people living in informal settlements to promote those who defend their rights. Many people now use the Human Rights framework for land and housing in these cities, with several forced evictions and improved living conditions. We also helped communities to access justice. In India, where evictions are carried out, the house and families' property are lost due to the lack of due process.

We are working with volunteer lawyers in major cities across the country, producing court orders and at least one positive settlement.

The eviction impact assessment tool is used in two cities, and calculates the material losses of communities. These materials are used in court cases to seek rehabilitation, compensation.

We work on land rights focused on agricultural widows in the Indian state of western Maharaja. Widows suffer discrimination, strive to raise public awareness and have led to positive projects by the state government.

At the international level - we contributed to the UN peasants' declaration.

For the UPR of India, May 2017, we have been very active. For the first time, we submitted 3 recommendations and we are publishing them. Three specific recommendations, seven recommendations related to sustainability, water and food, have been accepted by the government.

The publications, listed in the HIC annual report, highlight those of Smart Cities.

We provided assistance to local groups to access UN mechanisms, supporting the submission of complaints and applications.

AP-HIC GS: We are missing several reports. I will now comment briefly on the work on HIC-GS, and invite several of the Members from Africa (Hilary, Moussa and others) to comment.

The HIC General Secretariat focused on the preparation of the 2017 global events held in Nairobi. This was a long-standing commitment with HIC Members in the African region. HIC made a great effort to fulfill its engagement with Members in Africa with three events: launch of the HIC Human Rights Habitat Observatory, HIC General Assembly, and meetings of the Global Platform for the Right to the City. African events were rewarded with strong participation and involvement of Members and Allies, which continued in 2018 with several initiatives. A similar strategy should be developed in Asia, during the new project 2018-2020.

Work with HIC Members and Allies in North America and Asia was organized around two major events: the High Level Political Forum (New York, July 2017) and the World Urban Forum 9 (Kuala Lumpur, February 2018).

2017 also saw organizational changes in the HIC GS work, that improved the implementation of current global projects and the overall achievement of the objectives. Two major projects were implemented during 2017: (i) "Integrating people's housing and land rights with sustainable development", implemented by HIC GS and HIC-HLRN and (ii) "Global Platform for the Right to the City: Action Plan 2017-2021", implemented by HIC GS and Instituto POLIS (Brazil), HIC Member.

During 2017 and 2018, Eduard Cabré, Irene Fuertes and Francis Clay joined the GS team formed by Marie Bailloux, Isabel Pascual and Álvaro Puertas.

During 2017, HIC GS also held regular meetings with donors to support the overall coordination in the coming years. Among them, MISEREOR, the Ford Foundation (FF) and the FOnation Charles Léopold Mayer pour le Progrès de l'Homme (FPH) pledged to support the work of the Secretariat during the period 2018-2020.

Finally and with regard to the Board, a new Representative in the North American region, Stephan Corriveau, was elected, while the elections in Africa, scheduled for October 2017, ended successfully in 2018 with a new Representative, Ify Ofong.

Any HIC Members in Africa that would like to discuss meetings held in Nairobi are invited to take the floor.

IO-WORLDWIDE: Comments Alvaro's summary of HIC's work in Africa last year. Explains that she wished to attend WUF9 in Malaysia but was unable.

Seeking any platform to discuss issues affecting HIC, especially in Africa. Invites anybody present that would like to participate, in particular a meeting being held in February in NY, to coordinate with her.

AP-HIC GS: Agrees that coordination for this meeting is required. Will try to do so via HIC and GPR2C.

LZ-HIC PR: In the report you can see more details of last year's Presidency activities. Internally after the intensity of the Habitat 3 process, it was a year of strategic planning within HIC and with other allied networks. As a result there have been new and renewed projects mentioned by Alvaro.

Meetings with HIC Members and Allies: Boston, Buenos Aires, Toronto, etc, in those places we have attended advocacy meetings for strategic strengthening, I would like to mention several initiatives.

- Along with housing Rapporteur Leilani Farha, The Shift campaign to unite stronger voices around understanding housing as a right and not a commodity.
- The Declaration promoted by some local governments, Cities for Housing, promoted mainly by Barcelona, which now has signatures from numerous cities. It seeks to regulate the real estate market and promote resources for public housing.
- Along with the Global Platform for the Right to the City, with which we have been working for a few years and with resources to work for three more years. Beyond the right to land and housing implies other issues such as solidarity economy.

6. HIC Member's and HIC Board Members contributions and open debate on HIC achievements and challenges. (50')

AS-SUR: "Considering the challenges between 2019 and 2020 of new HIC faces in the Presidency and in the HIC GS; And, therefore, the great need to consolidate the Board's capacity;

Considering also the attributions given by the HIC Constitution (2013) and later by the HIC By-Law (attributions, by now, not yet used);

The motion proposes to appoint immediately an additional Board Member in representation of the feminist movements; an internal decision by the Board Members; but with the request for support from this General Assembly 2018;

Appointing Ana Falú for this other Board Member; Ana Falú from Argentina was founder and still is an active partner of the Women and Habitat Network LA; she knows the Coalition for many years – not to say decades –; she already was HIC Board Member during the late 90s and in the beginning of the 2000s; she also has been an important HIC Vice President who contributed to build alternatives during the institutional crisis of 2001-2003."

MK-BARAKA: "What is the place and role of African Members and Representatives (Focal Points, HIC Board Representatives, etc.) in the organization?"

HIC Board Members Position Description <http://www.hic-gs.org/document.php?pid=3732>

HIC Focal Point / Regional Coordinator Position Description <http://www.hic-gs.org/document.php?pid=3734>

HIC Constitution <http://www.hic-gs.org/document.php?pid=4795>

HIC By Law: <http://www.hic-gs.org/document.php?pid=5725>

LZ-HIC PR: The nomination submitted by Ana Sugranyes recommending to consider Ana Falú as new Board Member as Representative of Women's and/or Feminist Movements: according to our Constitution (article 8 and 9) the Board consists of representatives from the Regions, but also 3 seats from other movements: social movements, feminist movements, and minorities and other discriminated groups. These 3 seats are not occupied now, and have to be filled based on proposals coming from Members and approved by the Board.

AS-SUR presents the motion - in writing above.

AF-CISCSA: Thank you AS for the motion. I feel proud and would be glad to contribute to HIC (once more). I can make a consultation to other HIC organizations to be able to count with their support. I think this is a good proposal to fill the 3 Board vacant seats. I have been working on gender issues for more than 3 decades, I have been one of the first people to be doing so. Also with the Huairou Commission, in the framework of the Right to the City. The Latin American Members sure know me, also others for all the work I have done with HIC. I think this is a very good opportunity for HIC. Want to multiply the channels and make the best linkages between HIC and the GPR2C. Open to questions.

AP-Madre Tierra: We want to confirm our support for Ana Falú representing all the feminist organizations with a habitat perspective, so needed in the present time. In Latin America we have had a long tradition, and Ana Falú will be the best Representative.

IS-TWC: I think it is a good opportunity that Ana Falú joins the HIC Board. I agree.

AM-Red Habitat: We believe it is important that Red Mujer y Hábitat has an important place in HIC's Board, so we support the motion.

TS-Proyecto Habitar: We support the proposal of Ana Sugranyes, it is clearly important to recognize the work of women and of all those who are invisible in the production of habitat. And Ana Falú and the people at CISCSA have been working on this for a long time, so it seems super important to us to continue working on these aspects with them!

RM-DESCO: Also support the proposal that Ana Falú becomes a HIC Board Member representing feminist organizations.

RF-Polis Institute: also support this motion and Ana Falu, who will be a great addition to the Board

AF-DPU: We also at the DPU support this motion, it will be great to have Ana Falu as HIC Board Member.

LZ-HIC PR: There is no need to hold a vote, but we appreciate the support.

CG-Fuprovi: also supports the proposal.

HZ-ZPLRM: ZPLRM supports the motion and sends all the best to Ana.

AF-CISCSA: Thanks for all your support, I feel very much supported.

LZ-HIC PR: Role of regional Representatives. The presence of Africa in our Board has not been as strong as we hope, but we now have several representatives from the region and we want to continue strengthening regional voices.

HZ-ZPLRM: I am from Zimbabwe. Regarding HIC activities, we appreciate the very fruitful event in Nairobi last year. We learned a lot. My major concern now is that the participation from organizations in sub saharan Africa is very low, and we need to make a change. The new Representative at the Board should help us build a network in sub saharan Africa and develop regional activities.

LZ-HIC PR: I propose to have a skype meeting to talk about an African strategy.

AP-HIC GS: I can comment on some initiatives we are working on in the African context, including a participatory action-research with HIC African Members. Also with the GPR2C, we supported several African Members to participate in UCLG's Africities event, to engage with local governments. Another initiative we are launching soon is a side event in NYC in February, plus the UCLG Global Meetings in Durban in November 2019. I would like to encourage other Members to connect and start initiatives. The HIC GS can support in creating these alliances at the regional level.

AF-DPU: I missed some of the concerns regarding the regional imbalance, but I wanted to share how important it is for us that Members in all regions are active and working together, despite the differences. In Latin America there is a long-term tradition that is very well developed. It is not the same in Europe, and the process to understand what all the Members are doing is quite complex. The HIC GS is helping on this. We are not working as a network in the European region. Each region has different ways of building relationships, and I think this is one of the richnesses of HIC.

LZ-HIC PR: Besides the HIC HLRN office in Cairo, we don't have other offices in Africa, and that is one of the reasons why our presence in Europe is not as strong as in other regions. We need to think about ways to consolidate a coalition in the region. Specially trying to engage social movements.

MA-SPIS: MENA region. 1) In line with that Alex raised, I also have a feeling that although we are HIC Members under the same umbrella, we are away from each other. I want to ask the HIC-GS to help us be closer to each other, be in contact with each other. 2) In the African context we are lacking communication infrastructure. We hope we could collaborate on a specific project to remain involved.

HZ-ZPLRM: We are lacking a solid network in the African region. Maybe a solution would be to appoint a spokesperson for the Sub Saharan region, to start decentralizing activities. Or having a permanent office like the one in Cairo.

LZ-HIC PR: We can create a working group at the African level, maybe start by setting up an online meeting to exchange info on current projects and events coming up. We would also need a concrete action plan.

JS-HIC HLRN: Another issue of institutional importance is how to relate to UN-Habitat and the corresponding stakeholder platforms. That requires debate and perhaps it is an issue to record in the minutes and discuss within the Board.

PK: answering JS, its ideal that as we don't want to antagonize but it's important that Members know the process and criteria of engaging with UN-HABITAT. Being represented in those process by the same faces for almost 10 years is wrong, how do new blood comes into the picture?. As we reflect let all of us be participants and be factual in all our dealings especially now, that the world is facing myriad problems. It's important for those who cannot attend the HLPF, to always get events' reports. Recently there was an event in Morocco; we hope to get reports soon.

LZ-HIC PR: We know the UN Governing Council will meet in Nairobi in May, we should start a collective process to collect responses to the Strategic Plan UN-Habitat is drafting.

AP-HIC-GS: Feel free to send questions on any agenda item through email.

AM-Red Habitat: According to UN Habitat, there are 40 countries in which they are promoting the development of Integrated Policy Cities, one of these countries is Bolivia, it would be good that the SG can make a consultation to know in which other countries where active HIC Members are successful are also promoting such actions in the perspective of implementation of the UN and ODS 11, to generate a group of exchange that collectively allow advocacy to ensure the perspective of gender and rights and specifically the right to the city.

7. Other. (5')

AP-HIC GS: Announcement: Election of the President for the term November 2019-November 2023. This election may start before May. This marks the end of Lorena's second term as HIC President, and we must start these preparations. This is important because of the role of the HIC PR and because of the specific requirements for the candidates, written below:

21. Eligible candidates to the HIC President position shall be representatives of a HIC organizational Members in good standing for at least three (3) years at the time of the nomination.

22. Eligible candidates to the HIC President position shall be nominated by a minimum of five (5) HIC Members in good standing for at least one (1) year at the time of the nomination, and based in any region.

37. The GS bears the responsibility for ensuring conduct of the process for the election of the HIC President by calling for volunteers Members among HIC Members to set up an Electoral Committee (EC), which will be made up of one representative from each of the regions

8. Closure and next General Assembly (2019). (5')

Wrapping up, it was written before the possibility of hosting the next GA in Asia next year. This requires a lot of preparation, but we will discuss this in the following weeks.

There is no guarantee of when the minutes will be revised and completed, but we ensure that the voting procedure is launched next week, as well as any items that must be approved by the GS.

I'd like to thank those translating the event (Irene, Marie, Isabel, Eduard and Francis), and to all those participating.

[Updated list of participants](#)

[Updated voting process](#)