

## 37th SESSION

# Revised Code of Good Practice for Civil Participation in the Decision-making Process

Resolution 452 (2019)<sup>1</sup>

The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe (hereafter “the Congress”),

1. Referring to Recommendation (2007)14 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe which recognised “the essential contribution made by NGOs to the development and realisation of democracy and human rights, in particular through the promotion of public awareness, participation in public life and securing the transparency and accountability of public authorities”;

2. Noting the adoption in 2009 by the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe (hereafter “the Conference”) of a Code of Good Practice for Civil Participation in the Decision-making Process, a document which laid out the rationale, framework and the means for enhanced civil participation and which received support from both the Congress and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;

3. Recalling that the Congress was willing to promote the Code and use it in its own work and adopted in 2015 its Resolution 385 on “Fostering active citizenship by building partnerships with civil society” in which it asked the Conference of INGOs to revise the Code to keep the content up-to-date;

4. Convinced that the implementation of the Code will contribute to United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals No. 11, making cities and human settlements resilient and sustainable, No. 16, promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development and providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels and No.17, revitalising the global partnership for sustainable development;

5. Having held joint meetings with the Conference of INGOs in 2018 and 2019 to discuss revisions that needed to be implemented and which have subsequently led to the attached updated version of the Code;

*a.* welcomes the adoption of the revised Code by the Standing Committee of the Conference at its meeting of 24 June 2019 and takes note that the Conference will be asked to adopt it at its plenary session in October 2019;

*b.* calls upon its members to endorse the Code of Good Practice for Civil Participation in the decision-making process, as revised, and to promote its implementation by local and regional authorities in member States of the Council of Europe.

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<sup>1</sup> Debated and adopted by the Congress on 30 October 2019, 2nd sitting (see Document [CG37\(2019\)16](#)), appendix), rapporteur: Thomas ANDERSSON, Sweden (R, ILDG).