

# THE CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES

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## Recommendation 181 (2005)<sup>1</sup> on the European Urban Charter

The Congress, bearing in mind the proposal of the Chamber of Local Authorities,

### 1. Recalling that:

*a.* the European Urban Charter is a reference tool setting out a series of principles that provide local authorities with valuable assistance in meeting the challenges thrown up by urban society;

*b.* the European Urban Charter, adopted in 1992, was revised to take account of the rapid pace of political, social and economic change in Europe over the past decade and its implications for the management of cities: the Congress' Standing Committee adopted the revised version on 27 May 2004;

*c.* the revised version provides a telling picture of present-day urban society, and the principles it sets out constitute a series of realistic, applicable and balanced guidelines for the future development of cities in Europe, for use by both local authorities and the public;

### 2. Endorses:

*a.* the proposal submitted by the Committee on Sustainable Development in its capacity as a watchdog responsible for ensuring that the revised European Urban Charter is relevant, to the effect that improvements be introduced to take account, *inter alia*, of the issue of renewable energy, as suggested by the committee at its meeting on 20 March 2005, and that the references to mobility be updated. The new version will also be brought into line with all the Council of Europe legal instruments and will take account of the Action Plan of the 3rd Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe;

*b.* the decision of the Committee on Sustainable Development to hold a further meeting of the group of consultants in autumn 2005 to prepare for more wide-ranging consultation of European and national associations of local authorities;

3. Accordingly, recommends that the Committee of Ministers await the outcome of this work before expressing an opinion on Recommendation 155 (2004).

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1. Debated and approved by the Chamber of Local Authorities on 9 November 2005 and adopted by the Standing Committee of the Congress on 9 November 2005. (see Document CPL (12) 7, draft recommendation presented by A. Knape, (Sweden, L, EPP/CD), on behalf of C. Pinto (Portugal, L, EPP/CD) rapporteur).