

# THE CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES

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## Resolution 184 (2004)<sup>1</sup> on the Revised European Urban Charter

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

1. Recalling the adoption of the European Urban Charter in 1992 by its predecessor, the Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe;
2. Considers that the Charter constitutes a valuable reference and series of principles for the guidance of local authorities in responding to the challenges of urban society;
3. Recognises however, that the rapid rate of political, social and economic change in Europe over the last decade has implications for the management of towns;
4. Welcomes the decision, therefore, of the Bureau of the Chamber of Local Authorities to update the Charter in the light of such changes;
5. Recalls the Conference organised by the Congress in Sofia 2002, aimed at identifying new developments in Europe, which a revised charter should take into account; and thanks the authorities of the City of Sofia for having jointly organised the Conference;
6. Welcomes the new Revised European Urban Charter (see explanatory memorandum) as a valid and significant reflection of current urban society, and its proposed principles, which constitute a realistic, achievable and balanced set of guidelines for local authorities and citizens alike, for the future development of towns in Europe;

7. Wishes to thank its committee on sustainable development, particularly its rapporteur Carlos Pinto, and the group of professional consultants who have given guidance and support;

8. Asks the Congress, particularly its Chamber of Local Authorities to:

- a.* ensure that the Revised European Urban Charter remains relevant, and to ask its rapporteur in particular to inform the Chamber of Local Authorities of any future suggested changes, in order to ensure that the Charter remains valid, precise and up-to-date;
- b.* publish the Charter in an attractive format, with illustrations; and have it translated into as many European languages as possible;
- c.* consider events and programmes such as award schemes, pilot projects and hearings on specific aspects of the Charter, with a view to increasing its visibility and application;
- d.* forward the Charter to local authorities in Europe with a view to securing their adhesion to its principles; and to relevant agencies and bodies;
- e.* convene the group of consultants for a future meeting in 2004, to advise on ways and means of giving the charter maximum impact;

9. Asks national associations of local authorities to:

- a.* organise events in respective countries to convey information about the Revised European Urban Charter;
- b.* seek to encourage the application of its principles by local authorities in respective countries.

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1. Debated and approved by the Chamber of Local Authorities on 26 May 2004 and adopted by the Standing Committee of the Congress on 27 May 2004, (see Document CPL (11) 7, draft resolution presented by C. A. Pinto (Portugal, L, EPP/CD), rapporteur).