

## E-BULLETIN ISSUE 10

### UNITED CITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (UCLG) CONGRESS - Paris 2-5 May 2004

The theme of the 2004 UCLG Congress was "Cities, Local Governments: The Future of Development". The Congress consisted of three high-level plenary sessions and fifteen workshops on issues such as city diplomacy, the multicultural city, women in local government, financing local government and local strategies to tackle HIV/AIDS.. UCLG brings together the global networks of its three founding members – the International Union of Local Authorities, founded in 1913, the World Federation of United Cities, founded in 1957, and Metropolis, founded in 1984. Representing over half the world's population, the UCLG city and association members are present in over 120 countries. During the closing session, Elisabeth Gateau, Secretary General of UCLG, noted that this was the first time that HIV/AIDS was included on the agenda of this Congress. The UN AMICAALL Partnership Programme (UN APP) was invited by UCLG to organise a panel on HIV/AIDS and Local Government. Funding for the panel was generously provided by STOP AIDS NOW! and VNG International. Presentations were made by mayors and local government leaders from Africa, Latin America, Netherlands, France and the US. Recommendations from the panel called for greater support to local government to confront HIV/AIDS in cities, towns and villages, the expansion of city-to-city cooperation and strengthening decentralised responses to the epidemic. More information on the Congress can be found at: [www.cities-localgovernments.org](http://www.cities-localgovernments.org)

### OPEC DEVELOPMENT FUND PROVIDES CO-FINANCING TO SUPPORT ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE YOUTH IN NAMIBIA

The OPEC Development Fund, supporting the international campaign to confront HIV/AIDS is assisting a Skills, Opportunities, Self-reliance (SOS) initiative in Namibia that aims to reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS on young people. SOS is being implemented with support from AMICAALL Namibia Programme, UN AMICAALL Partnership Programme (UN APP) and the Organisation for Educational Resources and Technical Training cooperation (ORT IC). On 11<sup>th</sup> May 2004, the OPEC Fund signed an agreement with UN APP to co-fund SOS activities in three municipalities (Otjiwarongo, Rehoboth and Windhoek) which will assist orphans and vulnerable young people in attaining skills and experience to enable them to lead productive lives. The initiative includes vocational training, youth development programmes, upgrading facilities, documenting and sharing lessons.

### PARTNERSHIP WITH PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS (PwC)

The partnership between the Alliance and PwC continues to grow and expand. This year a team from PwC (Ireland, Australia and Sweden) will work with the AMICAALL Uganda Programme in selected municipalities to enhance information management and coordination of HIV/AIDS-related services at the local level, with a focus on vulnerable groups, such as orphaned children. In May 2004, PwC representatives undertook a preparatory visit to assess local needs and realities and initiate preparations for the PwC team's two-month assignment in Uganda during July and August.

### AMICAALL UKRAINE

The AMICAALL Ukraine Programme website has been launched, it can be accessed at: [www.amicaall.org.ua](http://www.amicaall.org.ua)

### ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER Volume 2, Issue 3

The latest issue of the Alliance Newsletter can be found online at: <http://www.amicaall.org/publications/Newslet/vol2iss3e.pdf>

