



ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY  
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE PARITAIRE ACP-UE

*Committee on Political Affairs*

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19.3.2016

## **DRAFT REPORT**

on improving participatory governance through decentralisation and strengthening local governance

Committee on Political Affairs

Co-rapporteurs: James Kembi-Gitura (Kenya)  
Aymeric Chauprade (European Parliament)

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## PROCEDURAL PAGE

At its meeting of 14 June 2015, the Bureau of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly authorised its Committee on Political Affairs to draw up a report, pursuant to Article 2(8) of its Rules of Procedure, on improving participatory governance through decentralisation and strengthening local governance.

At its meeting of 24 September 2015 the Committee on Political Affairs appointed James Kembi-Gitura (Kenya) and Aymeric Chauprade as co-rapporteurs.

The Committee on Political Affairs considered the draft report at its meetings of ...

At the latter meeting, it adopted the accompanying draft motion for a resolution.

The following were present for the vote:

The resolution was tabled for adoption on

## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

### **on improving participatory governance through decentralisation and strengthening local governance**

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

- meeting in ... from ... to ...,
- having regard to Article 18(1) of its Rules of Procedure,
- having regard to the Treaty on European Union, as revised by the Treaty of Lisbon, adopted on 13 December 2007, and in particular Article 3(b) thereof,
- having regard to the Protocol to the Treaty on European Union on the application of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality, and in particular Articles 2 and 5 thereof,
- having regard to the Protocol to the Treaty on European Union on services of general interest, and in particular Article 1 thereof,
- having regard to the Cotonou Partnership Agreement between the EU and ACP countries signed on 23 June 2000 in Cotonou and revised in Luxembourg on 25 June 2005 and in Ouagadougou on 22 June 2010, and in particular Article 1, Article 2, Article 5, Article 8, Article 9, Article 20, Article 33 (3. f.) and (4.d.) , and Article 5 (4) of Annexe IV thereto,
- having regard to the European Parliament resolution of 6 October 2015<sup>1</sup> on the role of local authorities in developing countries in development cooperation,
- having regard to the European Charter on development cooperation in support of local governance, approved by the EU Council of Ministers on 10 November 2008,
- having regard to the EU Council conclusions of 22 July 2013 on local authorities in development,
- having regard to the Commission communication of 15 May 2013 entitled ‘Empowering local authorities in partner countries for enhanced governance and more effective development outcomes’,
- having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions of 22 April 2009 entitled ‘Local authorities: actors for development’,

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<sup>1</sup> Texts adopted, P8\_TA(2015)0336.

- having regard to the 2014 Port Moresby Declaration on Pacific Futures: Building our Local Communities,
- having regard to the Port of Spain Declaration of the Caribbean Forum of Local Government Authorities,
- having regard to the United Nations General Assembly resolution<sup>1</sup> of 25 September 2015 entitled ‘Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development’, and in particular Sustainable Development Goal N° 16.7 ‘Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels’,
- having regard to decision No 25 of the African Union Assembly<sup>2</sup> of 30 January 2007 to transform the All-Africa Ministerial Conference on Decentralisation and Local Development (AMCOD) into an organ of the African Union,
- having regard to the resolution adopted by African Ministers in charge of Decentralisation and local Development during the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Africities Summit in Windhoek,
- having regard to the declaration of Ministers in charge of Decentralisation and Local Development during the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of Africities in Yaoundé,
- having regard to the Yaoundé Declaration of 29 October 2005, urging African Governments ‘to undertake concerted and coordinated action to place decentralisation and local development at the centre of governance and development policies of their countries’,
- having regard to the Joint Africa-Europe Strategy (JAES) adopted by Heads of State and Government at the second EU-Africa Summit in 2007,
- having regard to the resolution of the United Nations Economic and Social Council<sup>3</sup> of 29 January 2007 entitled ‘Participatory governance and citizens’ engagement in policy development, service delivery and budgeting’,
- having regard to the International Guidelines on Decentralisation and Strengthening of Local Authorities, approved by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) on 20 April 2007,
- having regard to the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, adopted by the African Union in January 2007, in particular the Preamble, Article 3 and Article 34 thereof,

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<sup>1</sup> (A/RES/70/1)

<sup>2</sup> Assembly/AU/Dec.158 (VIII) Decision on the Transformation of the All-Africa Ministerial Conference on Decentralisation and Local Development into a Structure of the African Union – Doc. Assembly/AU/9 (VIII) Add.5 1 - See more at: <http://www.au.int/en/decisions/assembly-african-union-eighth-ordinary-session>

<sup>3</sup> (E/C.16/2007/2)

- having regard to the African Charter on the Values and Principles of Decentralisation, Local Governance and Local Development, adopted on 27 June 2014,
  - having regard to the establishment of the ACP Local Government Platform in May 2001 during the 35<sup>th</sup> World Conference of the International Union of Local Authorities [IULA] held in Rio de Janeiro,
  - having regard to the Joint ACP-EU Declaration on the Post-2015 Development Agenda of 20 June 2014,
  - having regard to the report of the Committee on Political Affairs (ACP-EU/ XXXXXX ),
- A. whereas local governance is a set of institutions, mechanisms and processes, through which citizens can express their interests and needs, mediate differences and exercise their rights and obligations at local level;
  - B. whereas decentralisation may take various forms, such as: deconcentration, where administrative power is transferred from a central authority to local authorities; delegation, where responsibility for specific defined functions is assigned to a delegated authority; and devolution, where two or more levels of government with constitutionally or legally assigned powers, functions and finances are created;
  - C. whereas public-sector reforms involving both vertical and horizontal decentralisation are premised on having people-centred development that focuses on empowering people to participate in governance and improving the quality of their lives;
  - D. whereas public participation in decision-making processes promotes the protection of interests of minorities and marginalised groups, and ensures correct, transparent and accountable governance and sustainable development;
  - E. whereas decentralisation should allow a renewal of the political class by promoting the exercise of participatory governance by the younger generations;
  - F. whereas decentralisation contributes significantly to bringing equity through equitable distribution of resources to underdeveloped and marginalised areas and to affording people the opportunity to take decisions on matters affecting them;
  - G. whereas decentralisation reform and power transfer should be based on the principle of subsidiarity in order to ensure better governance, where decisions are made at the lowest possible level, and whereas under subsidiarity central units should intervene at local level where it proves to be necessary and when they are able to act more effectively than decentralised units;

- H. whereas democratic governance includes not only national governments but also decentralised units and non-state actors, who play crucial roles in linking citizens with government and in ensuring broad-based and democratic ownership of countries' public policies; decentralised units are a strong interface between communities and national authorities which enables grassroots democracy on the basis of local-community involvement and its democratic expression;
- I. whereas good governance at local level is characterised by: the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of local administration and public service delivery; the quality of local public policy and decision-making procedures, their inclusiveness, their transparency, and their accountability; and the manner in which power and authority are exercised at local level;
- J. whereas a real transfer of political power from central government and fiscal decentralisation benefiting decentralised units contribute to the financial autonomy of the latter;
- K. whereas decentralisation may not succeed in situations where public institutions are weak and lacking in capacity, which may lead to the transfer of these inefficiencies to the local level;
- L. whereas in the absence of effective monitoring and oversight mechanisms at the local and national level, decentralisation could result in corruption, wastage of public funds and uncontrolled borrowing, which in turn negatively affect national budgets and governance;
- M. whereas there is a need for continuous engagement and consultation between the central government and decentralised units, particularly in the conception, design and implementation of projects and programmes by one level of government which may directly or indirectly affect the functions of the other level of government;
1. Urges the ACP and EU states to promote decentralisation as a way of improving development, creating new wealth at local level, promoting democratic and accountable exercise of power, fostering national unity by recognising diversity, giving powers of self-governance to the people so as to enhance their participation in the exercise of the powers of the State and in making decisions affecting them, recognising the right of communities to manage their own affairs and to further their development, protecting and promoting the interests and rights of minorities and marginalised communities, and ensuring equitable sharing of national and local resources;
  2. Recalls that the decentralisation process contributes to the improvement of participatory governance by programmes and policy coordination at sub-national level;
  3. Calls on the ACP and EU states, in cooperation with ACP regional integration bodies, to promote a comprehensive approach to decentralisation, and to strengthen the role of the non-state actors to influence and monitor decentralisation reform processes;

4. Stresses the important role of the African Union, in particular AMCOD, in the development of decentralisation policies;
5. Underlines the importance of the promotion of multi-stakeholder dialogue in strengthening the participation of local cultures, indigenous peoples and minorities;
6. Stresses that an effective decentralisation process requires public-sector reforms, such as the transfer of power, functions, and resources, as well as the pluralism of political actors, and the active participation of citizens directly and through their representatives in participatory planning and budgeting;
7. Recognises the need to create modalities for enhancing public participation through civic education to build the capacity of all citizens on their rights and obligations in good governance;
8. Urges national authorities to ensure an equitable transfer of their national budget resources to decentralised units, sub-regions, towns and municipalities; stresses, to this end, that greater support should be given to strengthening the financial and budgetary capacities of decentralised units so that they can provide high-quality public services, guarantee equality of opportunity and build social cohesion;
9. Stresses that decentralisation should be an effective means of fighting corruption at all levels, but that in the absence of good governance it may result in corruption, including tax evasion and illicit financial flows;
10. Underlines the importance of promoting decentralisation in order to address issues such as waste management and urban poverty, reducing inequalities, empowering citizens, innovative infrastructure design, service provision, land management, reducing risks of natural disasters and energy use, etc.;
11. Calls on the ACP and EU states to promote the application of the principle of subsidiarity between national and decentralised units, and of equitability as a more effective way to act at local level;
12. Recognises the irrelevance of a uniform model of decentralisation for all countries, and calls for respect for cultures and traditions and the inherent inventiveness of people;
13. Stresses the importance of promoting good governance at local level by promoting the principles of accountability and the rule of law;
14. Underlines the crucial role of local governance in the context of post-conflict reconciliation;
15. Stresses the importance of including women, young people and people with disabilities in the political and administrative decision-making process at all levels of governance, especially at the local level; calls for the implementation of policies of parity in favour of



women;

16. Calls for enhanced cooperation between ACP and EU states and ACP regional organisations such as the AU, CARICOM and the PIF in establishing and strengthening the capacity of oversight mechanisms over resources devolved to decentralised units to combat corruption and stem wastage;
17. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council of Ministers, the European Parliament, the European Commission, the African Union, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the regional organisations of the ACP states and the Secretary-General of the United Nations.



ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY  
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE PARITAIRE ACP-UE

*Commission des affaires politiques*

ACP-UE/101.981/B

16.11.2015

## **DRAFT REPORT**

on improving participatory governance through decentralisation and strengthening democracy and local governance

Co-rapporteurs: James Kembi-Gitura (Kenya) and Aymeric Chauprade

### **PART B: EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

## **1. Introduction**

ACP-EU cooperation through participatory local governance has been recognised in the framework of the Cotonou Agreement, signed in June 2000.

Article 2 of the Cotonou Agreement provides that ‘apart from central government as the main partner, the partnership shall be open to ACP parliaments, and local authorities in ACP States and different kinds of other actors in order to encourage the integration of all sections of society, including the private sector and civil society organisations, into the mainstream of political, economic and social life’.

Moreover, decentralisation is mentioned in Article 33 of the agreement (Article 33(3)(f): ‘political, administrative, economic and financial decentralisation’ and (4)(d): ‘building the capacity at the local and municipal levels which is required to implement decentralisation policy and to increase the participation of the population in the development process’). The European Union must therefore be able to help the ACP countries while taking into account their local cultural specificities. It is essential to break with the old colonial methods, which sometimes seriously destabilised some countries in Africa. It is therefore essential to learn from the mistakes of the past.

It is thus important to avoid the single model trap for ACP countries, which should be given space to determine what models suit them best.

In most European countries, local governance in its broadest form predates the modern nation state, as it derived from the customs of local clans and tribes long before the emergence of the centralised state. In most advanced countries, contemporary local governance thus arose from historical accident rather than by deliberate design, and its subsequent evolution represents the outcome of constitutional reform, legislative change, political opportunism, popular agitation, technological progress, urbanisation and a host of other incidental processes. Most ACP countries inherited highly centralised systems from colonial authorities, a legacy that most of them are still contending with and some are in the process of reforming to disperse political, administrative and financial authority to regional and local entities.

Participatory governance through decentralisation and strengthening of local governance is a very important topic. We should recall here the importance of the subsidiarity principle. There are very different political traditions in Europe, with examples of successful implementation of this principle, such as Switzerland and Germany. But in the case of France, for example, the implementation of decentralisation has resulted in duplication of skills, followed by an explosion of costs.

## **2. What is decentralisation?**

Three main types of decentralisation are commonly identified:

- i. Administrative decentralisation or deconcentration, i.e. the relocation of branches of the central state to local areas, entailing a transfer of powers to locally-based officials who remain part of, and upwardly accountable to, central or state government ministries and agencies;

- ii. Fiscal decentralisation, i.e. the transfer of fiscal resources and revenue-generating powers, including authority over budgets and financial decisions, to either deconcentrated officials and/or central government appointees or to elected politicians;
- iii. Political decentralisation or democratic decentralisation or devolution of power, i.e. the transfer of powers and resources to sub-national authorities which are (a) largely or wholly independent of the central or state government and (b) democratically elected.

### **3. The role of local government in widening civic space, strengthening democracy and supporting sustainable development**

The aim of participatory government is to increase the scope and opportunities for ordinary citizens in the management of governmental affairs. This is not only about effective representation, but rather about how open the political system is to input from citizens on issues that affect their lives and livelihoods. It is about citizen engagement and promoting ownership of democratic outcomes, whether it be elections or any decisions taken by elected representatives. Given the complexity of modern democratic undertakings and government structures, decentralisation offers the best opportunity for participatory government. It brings government closer to the people, and ensures that those most affected by certain decisions have an opportunity to air their views and provide critical input into the decision-making process. Decentralisation can therefore be seen as a tool for the democratisation of the state. It therefore goes without saying that participatory governance and decentralisation are incompatible with autocratic forms of government, which rely on highly centralised state structures for forceful control of the masses.

Decentralisation could also promote better accountability and transparency. It offers citizens better information about the state of implementation of decisions in their own locality. Transparency is a necessary precondition for the exercise of accountability, since it presupposes the provision of information on the exercise of authority by elected officials and public servants, which enables them to be held accountable for their actions. Decentralisation provides avenues for developing clearer accountability and transparency frameworks by bringing decision-making processes and information about those processes closer to the people they affect.

Effective local government can also be the basis of civic education, providing the foundation and nurturing of, and exchange of ideas about, the values and ideals of democratic government. It is the civic space from which future leaders could emerge. The role of local governments has also been recognised in the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, according to the findings of a consultative process co-led by the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN Habitat) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which states, among other issues, that local and regional governments are essential for promoting inclusive sustainable development within their territories. By creating broad-based ownership, commitment and accountability, they are vital partners in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. It is clear that decentralisation must be a tool for generating wealth and local development through the empowerment of local authorities. However, we should think about the following question: what if, through the support to local authorities, the EU were to put in place a system in which local authorities would be subservient to outside

interests (e.g. those of multinational enterprises) instead of the central interest represented by the central government?

#### **4. Challenges and opportunities**

One of the biggest challenges affecting the effectiveness of decentralisation is the weak or lacking administrative capacity of public institutions. If, as a general rule, public institutions are blighted by inefficiency, decentralisation may not improve the situation unless the causes of such inefficiency are also addressed. Another challenge is ensuring that local or regional authorities are invested with adequate resources to carry out their services, far and beyond mere administrative functions. On the other hand, if local entities depend to a very large extent on funding from the central government, there must be effective means of monitoring and control to avoid local budget overruns and deficits which would negatively affect national budgets. Overdependence on the central government for revenue could also diminish the effectiveness of local authorities as a counterweight to the influence of national authorities, with the result that local political elites become susceptible to the patronage of the central government for political survival. There is also the danger that local processes may be captured by local or regional elites, leading to decentralised corruption, and restrictions or curtailing of inclusive governance.

In multi-ethnic societies the concern of national leaders has been to maintain national unity and cohesion. Some of the most fractious and tragic civil conflicts, in particular in Africa, have been over questions of regional, ethnic or tribal identity and affiliations. If not carefully designed, decentralisation processes can accentuate national divisions and weaken national unity. On the other hand, limited autonomy or devolution, if properly conceived and structured, could provide peaceful avenues for local expressions of political and development ambition, as well as the preservation of cultural and/or linguistic values dear to any particular group or people, without standing in the way of national unity.

The development of local governance must not affect the national unity of the ACP countries. It is important to find a good balance to achieve local governance that does not undermine the country's unity and its central government. Decentralisation should not be pursued at the expense of the unity of nations, as the national unity of the ACP countries is first and foremost a guarantee of peace, which is essential to any development. Can we be sure that the introduction of decentralisation in areas where peace is still fragile (or even does not exist yet) will not destabilise nations still threatened by separatism?



ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY  
ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE PARITAIRE ACP-UE

*Committee on Political Affairs*

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**AP101.981/AA1-79**

25.4.2016

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 79**

**Draft report**

**James Kembi-Gitura (Kenya), Aymeric Chauprade (European Parliament)**

(AP101.981v01-00)

on improving participatory governance through decentralisation and strengthening local governance



**Amendment 1**  
**Julie Ward**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 13 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***– having regard to the UN Convention on  
the Rights of the Child,***

Or. en

**Amendment 2**  
**Julie Ward**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 13 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***– having regard to the UN Convention on  
the Elimination of all Forms of  
Discrimination Against Women,***

Or. en

**Amendment 3**  
**Julie Ward**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 13 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***– having regard to the UN Convention on  
the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,***

Or. en



**Amendment 4**  
**Julie Ward**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 14 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*– having regard to the outcomes of the 21st Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21),*

Or. en

**Amendment 5**  
**Cécile Kashetu Kyenge**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 14 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*– having regard to the resolution adopted on 26 September 2013 by the United Nations General Assembly Human Rights Council on local government and human rights (A/HRC/RES/24/2),*

Or. en

**Amendment 6**  
**Julie Ward**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 14 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*– having regard to the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR),*

Or. en

**Amendment 7**  
**Julie Ward**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 20 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*– having regard to the conclusions of the Internet Governance Forum 2015, and the World Information Summit 2015,*

Or. en

**Amendment 8**  
**Cécile Kashetu Kyenge**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 23 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*– having regard to the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, adopted on 11 July 2003, in particular Article 9 thereof,*

Or. en

**Amendment 9**  
**Isabella Adinolfi, Ignazio Corrao**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital C a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Ca. whereas participatory governance at local level must be ensured and structured to improve the organisation of a state in order to strengthen the quality of*

*democracy, social justice, economic, social and civic development and the protection of fundamental freedoms and human rights;*

Or. en

**Amendment 10**  
**Cécile Kashetu Kyenge**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital C a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Ca. whereas citizens as beneficiaries of public policies should be able to participate in decision-making processes;*

Or. en

**Amendment 11**  
**Neena Gill**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital D a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Da. whereas the MDGs revealed the crucial role of LAs in the fight against poverty and in the delivery of community services, such as water and sanitation, primary healthcare and education;*

Or. en

**Amendment 12**  
**Isabella Adinolfi, Ignazio Corrao**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital E**

*Motion for a resolution*

E. whereas decentralisation should allow *a* renewal of the political class by promoting the exercise of participatory governance by the younger generations;

*Amendment*

E. whereas decentralisation should allow *equal access to public roles and the* renewal of the political class by promoting the exercise of participatory governance by the younger generations;

Or. en

**Amendment 13**  
**Sabine Lösing**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital E**

*Motion for a resolution*

E. whereas decentralisation should allow a renewal of the political class by promoting the exercise of participatory governance by the younger generations;

*Amendment*

E. whereas decentralisation should allow a renewal of the political class by promoting the exercise of participatory governance by the younger generations, *women, minorities and marginalised groups*;

Or. en

**Amendment 14**  
**Carlos Zorrinho**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital E**

*Motion for a resolution*

E. whereas decentralisation should allow a renewal of the political class by promoting the exercise of participatory governance by the younger generations;

*Amendment*

E. whereas decentralisation should allow a renewal of the political class by promoting the exercise of participatory governance by *women and* the younger generations;

Or. fr

**Amendment 15**  
**Julie Ward**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital G**

*Motion for a resolution*

G. whereas decentralisation reform and power transfer should be based on the principle of subsidiarity in order to ensure better governance, where decisions are made, at the lowest possible level, and whereas under subsidiarity central units should intervene at local level where it proves to be necessary and when they are able to act more effectively than decentralised units;

*Amendment*

G. whereas decentralisation reform and power transfer should be based on the principle of subsidiarity in order to ensure better governance, where decisions are made ***as close as possible to the citizens***, at the lowest possible level, and whereas under subsidiarity central units should intervene at local level where it proves to be necessary and when they are able to act more effectively than decentralised units;

Or. en

**Amendment 16**  
**Isabella Adinolfi, Ignazio Corrao**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital H**

*Motion for a resolution*

H. whereas democratic governance includes not only national governments but also decentralised units ***and non-state actors***, who play crucial roles in linking citizens with government and in ensuring broad-based and democratic ownership of countries' public policies; decentralised units are a strong interface between ***communities*** and national authorities which enables grassroots democracy on the basis of local-community involvement and its democratic expression;

*Amendment*

H. whereas democratic governance includes not only national governments but also decentralised units, ***local communities, community-based organisations (CBOs) and NGOs***, who play crucial roles in linking citizens with government and in ensuring broad-based and democratic ownership of countries' public policies; *whereas* decentralised units, ***local communities, CBOs and NGOs*** are a strong interface between ***citizens*** and national authorities which enables grassroots democracy on the basis of local-community involvement and its democratic expression;

Or. en

**Amendment 17**  
**Cécile Kashetu Kyenge**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital H a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Ha. whereas decentralised units enjoy a certain degree of autonomy from central governments within their territorial constituency depending on national legislation, in order to legislate in specific domains and to provide public services to citizens at local level;***

Or. en

**Amendment 18**  
**Isabella Adinolfi, Ignazio Corrao**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital I**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

I. whereas good governance at local level ***is characterised by:*** the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of local administration and public service delivery; the quality of local public policy and decision-making procedures, their inclusiveness, their transparency, and their accountability; and the manner in which power and authority are exercised at local level;

I. whereas good governance at local level ***should ensure:*** the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of local administration and public service delivery; the quality of local public policy and decision-making procedures, their inclusiveness, their transparency, and their accountability, ***guaranteeing that the voices of all minority, disadvantaged and vulnerable groups are heard;*** and the manner in which power and authority are exercised at local level;

Or. en

**Amendment 19**  
**Sabine Lösing**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital I**

*Motion for a resolution*

I. whereas good governance at local level is characterised by: the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of local administration and public service delivery; the quality of local public policy and decision-making procedures, their inclusiveness, their transparency, and their accountability; and the manner in which power and authority are exercised at local level;

*Amendment*

I. whereas good governance at local level is characterised by: the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of local administration and ***universal and free*** public service delivery; the quality of local public policy and decision-making procedures, their inclusiveness, their transparency, and their accountability; and the manner in which power and authority are exercised at local level;

Or. en

**Amendment 20**  
**Cécile Kashetu Kyenge**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital I a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

I. whereas

*Amendment*

***Ia. whereas local governance is better realised and sustainable when local authorities are autonomous from national authorities and are wholly accountable for their actions;***

Or. en

**Amendment 21**  
**Julie Ward**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital K a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Ka. whereas a vibrant and active civil society, with freedom of expression and association, is crucial for effective, transparent and accountable local government and good decentralised governance;***

Or. en

**Amendment 22**  
**Carlos Zorrinho**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital L**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

L. whereas in the absence of effective monitoring and oversight mechanisms at the local and national level, decentralisation could result in corruption, wastage of public funds and uncontrolled borrowing, which in turn negatively affect national budgets and governance;

L. whereas in the absence of effective monitoring and oversight mechanisms at the local, **regional** and national level, decentralisation could result in corruption, wastage of public funds and uncontrolled borrowing, which in turn negatively affect national budgets and governance;

Or. fr

**Amendment 23**  
**Isabella Adinolfi, Ignazio Corrao**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital M**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

M. whereas there is a need for continuous engagement and consultation between the central government **and** decentralised units, particularly in the conception, design and implementation of projects and programmes by one level of government

M. whereas there is a need for continuous engagement and consultation between the central government, decentralised units, **local communities, community-based organisations (CBOs) and NGOs**, particularly in the conception, design and



which may directly or indirectly affect the functions of the other level of government;

implementation of projects and programmes by one level of government which may directly or indirectly affect the functions *and the effectiveness* of the other level of government;

Or. en

**Amendment 24**  
**Julie Ward**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital M a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Ma. whereas women are overwhelmingly underrepresented in governance structures and the political sphere, and democracy and good governance can only be achieved through gender equality and more equal representation, which decentralisation must promote;*

Or. en

**Amendment 25**  
**Neena Gill**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital M a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Ma. whereas the Busan Partnership provides an expanding forum for new development actors such as local and regional actors;*

Or. en

**Amendment 26**  
**Julie Ward**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital M b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Mb. whereas ICT and communication technologies create many new avenues for political participation, e-inclusion, transparency and accountability in decentralised governance;***

Or. en

**Amendment 27**  
**Sabine Lösing**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

1. Urges the ACP and EU states to promote decentralisation as a way of improving development, creating new wealth ***at local level***, promoting democratic and accountable exercise of power, fostering national unity by recognising diversity, giving powers of self-governance to the people so as to enhance their participation in the exercise of the powers of the State and in making decisions affecting them, recognising the right of communities to manage their own affairs and to further their development, protecting and promoting the interests and rights of minorities and marginalised communities, and ensuring equitable sharing of national and local resources;

1. Urges the ACP and EU states to promote decentralisation as a way of improving development, creating new ***and more equal wealth for local communities in urban and rural areas, ensuring better living conditions, such as (better) supply of water and food sovereignty, implementing universal and free public services, such as sanitation, education and health care***, promoting democratic and accountable ***and more transparent*** exercise of power, fostering national unity by recognising diversity, giving powers of self-governance to the people so as to enhance their participation in the exercise of the powers of the State and in making decisions affecting them, recognising the right of communities to manage their own affairs and to further their development, protecting and promoting the interests and rights of minorities and marginalised communities, and ensuring equitable sharing of national and local resources;

**Amendment 28**  
**Carlos Zorrinho**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Motion for a resolution*

1. Urges the ACP and EU states to promote decentralisation as a way of improving development, creating new wealth at local level, promoting democratic and accountable exercise of power, fostering national unity by recognising diversity, giving powers of self-governance to the people so as to enhance their participation in the exercise of the powers of the State and in making decisions affecting them, recognising the right of communities to manage their own affairs and to further their development, protecting and promoting the interests and rights of minorities and marginalised communities, and ensuring equitable sharing of national and local resources;

*Amendment*

1. Urges the ACP and EU states to promote decentralisation as a way of improving development, creating new wealth at local **and regional** level, promoting democratic and accountable exercise of power, fostering national unity by recognising diversity, giving powers of self-governance to the people so as to enhance their participation in the exercise of the powers of the State and in making decisions affecting them, recognising the right of communities to manage their own affairs and to further their development, protecting and promoting the interests and rights of minorities and marginalised communities, and ensuring equitable sharing of national and local resources;

Or. fr

**Amendment 29**  
**Francesc Gambús**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Motion for a resolution*

Urges the ACP **and** EU states to promote decentralisation as a way of improving development, creating new wealth at local level, promoting democratic and accountable exercise of power, fostering national unity by recognising diversity, giving powers of self-governance to the

*Amendment*

Urges the ACP **states and the** EU to promote decentralisation as a way of improving development, creating new wealth at local level, promoting democratic and accountable exercise of power, fostering national unity by recognising diversity, giving powers of self-governance

people so as to enhance their participation in the exercise of the powers of the State and in making decisions affecting them, recognising the right of communities to manage their own affairs and to further their development, protecting and promoting the interests and rights of minorities and marginalised communities, and ensuring equitable sharing of national and local resources;

to the people so as to enhance their participation in the exercise of the powers of the State and in making decisions affecting them, recognising the right of communities to manage their own affairs and to further their development, protecting and promoting the interests and rights of minorities and marginalised communities, and ensuring equitable sharing of national and local resources;

Or. en

**Amendment 30**  
**Isabella Adinolfi, Ignazio Corrao**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***1a. Strongly believes that decentralisation and participatory governance at local level should be designed to maximise social justice in order to make sure that all socio-economic inequalities are effectively addressed in the decision-making processes;***

Or. en

**Amendment 31**  
**Michèle Rivasi, Maria Heubuch, Bodil Valero**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***1a. Stresses that the new guidelines set out in the Commission's communication on local authorities and on recognising their role as state actors represent a major step forward for the European Union's***

*development agenda; underlines the need for these new guidelines to be translated into the effective implementation of European cooperation, in particular for the 11th European Development Fund (EDF);*

Or. en

**Amendment 32**  
**Cécile Kashetu Kyenge**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Motion for a resolution*

2. Recalls that the decentralisation process contributes to the improvement of participatory governance **by** programmes and policy coordination at sub-national level;

*Amendment*

2. Recalls that decentralisation process contributes to the improvement of participatory governance **through strengthening ownership, multi-stakeholder and multi-actor dialogues, and** programmes and policy coordination at the sub-national level;

Or. en

**Amendment 33**  
**Isabella Adinolfi, Ignazio Corrao**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**2a. Points out that local governance based on participatory mechanisms must involve community-based organisations (CBOs) and NGOs as equal partners, with the aim of enhancing all measures aimed at ensuring the highest level of human rights and environmental protection, as well as addressing the gap between the priorities of the most disadvantaged and**

*vulnerable groups and the institutions;*

Or. en

**Amendment 34**  
**Isabella Adinolfi, Ignazio Corrao**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Motion for a resolution*

3. Calls on the ACP and EU states, in cooperation with ACP regional integration bodies, to promote a comprehensive approach to decentralisation, and to strengthen the role of *the non-state actors* to influence and monitor decentralisation reform processes;

*Amendment*

3. Calls on the ACP and EU states, in cooperation with ACP regional integration bodies, to promote a comprehensive approach to decentralisation, and to strengthen the role of *local communities, community-based organisations (CBOs) and NGOs* to influence and monitor decentralisation reform processes;

Or. en

**Amendment 35**  
**Neena Gill**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Motion for a resolution*

3. Calls on the ACP and EU states, in cooperation with ACP regional integration bodies, to promote a comprehensive approach to decentralisation, and to strengthen the role of the non-state actors to influence and monitor decentralisation reform processes;

*Amendment*

3. Calls on the ACP and EU states, in cooperation with ACP regional integration bodies, to promote a comprehensive approach to decentralisation, and to strengthen the role of the non-state actors to influence and monitor decentralisation reform processes; *calls on the EU and the ACP states to set up mechanisms for regular dialogue with CSOs to this effect;*

Or. en

**Amendment 36**  
**Neena Gill**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***3a. Calls on the EU and ACP states to promote decentralised cooperation as a way of implementing the development framework post 2015; to this end, calls on the Commission to make decentralisation a key funding sector for its external aid financing instruments; calls on EU Member States to accord an appropriate role in their development programmes to decentralisation and to coordinate their activities with those of the Commission, other Member States and ACP Member States and regional organisations;***

Or. en

**Amendment 37**  
**Michèle Rivasi, Maria Heubuch, Bodil Valero**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***4a. Recognises that coordination structures between local authorities play an essential role in terms of providing technical and methodological support for the development of local capacities by facilitating the exchange of know-how in order to support the decentralisation process and the provision of basic services; considers that they are also a suitable forum for political dialogue and for making the voice of local authorities heard at all levels of government;***

Or. en

**Amendment 38**  
**Neena Gill**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5**

*Motion for a resolution*

5. ***Underlines the importance of the promotion of multi-stakeholder dialogue in strengthening*** the participation of local cultures, indigenous peoples and minorities;

*Amendment*

5. ***Urges the EU and ACP states to take steps to strengthen*** the participation of local cultures, indigenous peoples and minorities, ***including by strengthening the capacity of these groups to participate in local and regional development and investment planning***;

Or. en

**Amendment 39**  
**Julie Ward**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5**

*Motion for a resolution*

5. Underlines the importance of the promotion of multi-stakeholder dialogue, in strengthening the participation of local cultures, indigenous peoples and minorities;

*Amendment*

5. Underlines the importance of the promotion of multi-stakeholder dialogue ***and civil society participation*** in strengthening the participation of local cultures, indigenous peoples and minorities;

Or. en

**Amendment 40**  
**Carlos Zorrinho, Sabine Lösing**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5**



*Motion for a resolution*

5. Underlines the importance of the promotion of multi-stakeholder dialogue in strengthening the participation of local cultures, indigenous peoples and minorities;

*Amendment*

5. Underlines the importance of the promotion of multi-stakeholder dialogue in strengthening the participation of **women**, local cultures, indigenous peoples and minorities;

Or. fr

**Amendment 41**  
**Cécile Kashetu Kyenge**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5**

*Motion for a resolution*

5. Underlines the importance of the promotion of multi-stakeholder dialogue in strengthening the participation of local cultures, indigenous peoples and minorities;

*Amendment*

5. Underlines the importance of the promotion of multi-stakeholder dialogue in strengthening the participation of local cultures, indigenous peoples and minorities, **and encourages the creation of local consultation platforms for policy-making process;**

Or. en

**Amendment 42**  
**Cécile Kashetu Kyenge**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**5a. Stresses the need to secure the broad involvement of civil society organisations, local authorities and national authorities, in order to ensure correct, transparent and accountable governance;**

Or. en

**Amendment 43**  
**Francesc Gambús**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***5a. Stresses the urgent need to implement transparency laws based on international standards; emphasises that these regulations should be accompanied by other legislative modifications, to commit to progress towards democracy;***

Or. en

**Amendment 44**  
**Sabine Lösing**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

6. Stresses that an effective decentralisation process requires public-sector reforms, such as the transfer of power, functions, and resources, as well as the pluralism of political actors, and the active participation ***of citizens*** directly and through their representatives in participatory planning and budgeting;

6. Stresses that an effective decentralisation process requires public-sector reforms, such as the transfer of power, functions, and resources, as well as the pluralism of political actors, and the ***possibility of*** active participation ***for all sectors of society, regardless of cultural and socio-economic background,*** directly and through their representatives in participatory planning and budgeting;

Or. en

**Amendment 45**  
**Francesc Gambús**

**Motion for a resolution**

## Paragraph 6 a (new)

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**6a. Urges the competent authorities to adopt measures to promote a stronger justice administration which, together with the tax agencies, should have mechanisms to fight corruption (sufficient funding, anti-fraud mechanisms and authorities, etc.);**

Or. en

## Amendment 46 Sabine Lösing

### Motion for a resolution Paragraph 7

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

7. Recognises the need to create modalities for enhancing public participation through civic education to build the capacity of **all citizens** on *their* rights and obligations in good governance;

7. Recognises the need to create modalities for enhancing public participation through **free and universal education, including civic education, to build the capacity of the entire population** on *its* rights and obligations in good governance;

Or. en

## Amendment 47 Neena Gill

### Motion for a resolution Paragraph 7

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

7. **Recognises** the need to create modalities for enhancing public participation through civic education to build the capacity of all citizens on their rights and obligations in good governance;

7. **Underscores** the need to create modalities for enhancing public participation through civic education to build the capacity of all citizens on their rights and obligations in good governance;

*calls for the establishment of partnership arrangements between local authorities in EU Member States and ACP Member States in areas such as training and human capacity, providing technical and methodological support for the development of local capacities and facilitating the exchange of know-how;*

Or. en

**Amendment 48**  
**Julie Ward**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 7**

*Motion for a resolution*

7. Recognises the need to create modalities for enhancing public participation through civic education to build the capacity of all citizens on their rights and obligations in good governance;

*Amendment*

7. Recognises the need to create modalities for enhancing public participation through civic education to build the capacity of all citizens on their rights and obligations in good governance; *insists on the importance of life-long learning, formal, non-formal, and informal citizenship education, and inter-cultural dialogue, in giving citizens the tools to participate in local governance, and in building a vibrant civil society sector;*

Or. en

**Amendment 49**  
**Cécile Kashetu Kyenge**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 7 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*7a. Recalls that the freedom of speech and the freedom of media must be ensured to enable free, fair and open public*

*participation in local governance by all citizens, regardless of their communities and groups;*

Or. en

**Amendment 50**  
**Cécile Kashetu Kyenge**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 7 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***7b. Promotes the holding of regular, transparent, free and fair elections to institutionalise the legitimate authority of representative local bodies, as well as the democratic change of authorities, and to ensure a better implementation of grassroots democracy;***

Or. en

**Amendment 51**  
**Carlos Zorrinho**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

8. Urges national authorities to ensure an equitable transfer of their national budget resources to decentralised units, sub-regions, towns and municipalities; stresses, to this end, that greater support should be given to strengthening the financial and budgetary capacities of decentralised units so that they can provide high-quality public services, guarantee equality of opportunity and build social cohesion;

8. Urges national authorities to ensure an equitable transfer of their national budget resources to decentralised units, sub-regions, towns and municipalities; stresses, to this end, that greater support should be given to strengthening the ***capacity for the good management of public assets and the*** financial and budgetary capacities of decentralised units so that they can provide high-quality public services, guarantee equality of opportunity and build social cohesion;

**Amendment 52**  
**Neena Gill**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8**

*Motion for a resolution*

8. Urges national authorities to ensure an equitable transfer of their national budget resources to decentralised units, sub-regions, towns and municipalities; stresses, to this end, that greater support should be given to strengthening the financial and budgetary capacities of decentralised units so that they can provide high-quality public services, guarantee equality of opportunity and build social cohesion;

*Amendment*

8. Urges national authorities to ensure an equitable transfer of their national budget resources to decentralised units, sub-regions, towns and municipalities; stresses, to this end, that greater support should be given to strengthening the financial and budgetary capacities of decentralised units so that they can provide high-quality public services, guarantee equality of opportunity and build social cohesion; ***calls on the Commission to encourage the mobilisation of innovative sources of financing for decentralised cooperation, including loan-grant blending instruments tailored to the specific needs of decentralised units;***

Or. en

**Amendment 53**  
**Michèle Rivasi, Maria Heubuch, Bodil Valero**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8**

*Motion for a resolution*

8. Urges national authorities to ensure an equitable transfer of their national budget resources to decentralised units, sub-regions, towns and municipalities; stresses, to this end, that greater support should be given to strengthening the financial and budgetary capacities of decentralised units

*Amendment*

8. Urges national authorities to ensure an equitable transfer of their national budget resources to decentralised units, sub-regions, towns and municipalities; stresses, to this end, that greater support should be given to strengthening the financial and budgetary capacities of decentralised units

so that they can provide high-quality public services, guarantee equality of opportunity and build social cohesion;

so that they can provide high-quality public services, guarantee equality of opportunity and build social cohesion; ***considers it essential that some European budgetary assistance be allocated to funding local authorities;***

Or. en

#### **Amendment 54**

**Michèle Rivasi, Maria Heubuch, Bodil Valero**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 8 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***8a. Stresses the paramount importance of focussing more closely on harnessing tax resources at both national and local level in developing countries; welcomes the gradual introduction of local finance observatories; considers that these observatories deserve greater support from the European Union;***

Or. en

#### **Amendment 55**

**Neena Gill**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 9**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

9. Stresses that decentralisation should be an effective means of fighting corruption at all levels, ***but that in the absence of good governance it may*** result in corruption, including tax evasion and illicit financial flows;

9. Stresses that decentralisation should be an effective means of fighting corruption at all levels, ***including corruption originating from multinational companies; urges the EU and ACP states and regional bodies to prioritise the identification of governance weaknesses that may cause decentralisation to*** result

in corruption, including tax evasion and illicit financial flows, **and to take effective measures to prevent negative consequences;**

Or. en

**Amendment 56**  
**Sabine Lösing**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 9**

*Motion for a resolution*

9. Stresses that decentralisation should be an effective means of fighting corruption at all levels, but that in the absence of good governance it may result in corruption, including tax evasion and illicit financial flows;

*Amendment*

9. Stresses that decentralisation should be an effective means of fighting corruption at all levels, but that in the absence of good governance it may result in corruption, including tax evasion and illicit financial flows; **calls therefore for adequate support of monitoring capacities and the strengthening of the rule of law in order to counter these severe problems;**

Or. en

**Amendment 57**  
**Julie Ward**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 10**

*Motion for a resolution*

10. Underlines the importance of promoting decentralisation in order to address issues such as waste management and urban poverty, reducing inequalities, empowering citizens, innovative infrastructure design, service provision, land management, reducing risks of natural disasters and energy use, etc.;

*Amendment*

10. Underlines the importance of promoting decentralisation in order to address issues such as waste management and urban poverty, **tackling social exclusion**, reducing inequalities, empowering citizens, **fighting gender inequality**, innovative infrastructure design, service provision, land management, reducing risks of natural



disasters and energy use, etc.;

Or. en

**Amendment 58**  
**Neena Gill**  
**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 10 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***10a. Welcomes the mobilisation and commitment of ACP and EU cities in the preparations for the Habitat III United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development;***

Or. en

**Amendment 59**  
**Neena Gill**  
**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 10 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***10b. Underscores that climate change and environmental degradation threaten poverty reduction and constitute a major challenge for local authorities, as they affect local communities in the first instance; calls on the EU and ACP states and regional bodies to ensure that decentralised units are fully involved in the implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement;***

Or. en

**Amendment 60**  
**Sabine Lösing**

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**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 12**

*Motion for a resolution*

12. Recognises the irrelevance of a uniform model of decentralisation for all countries, and calls for respect for cultures and traditions and the inherent inventiveness of people;

*Amendment*

12. Recognises the irrelevance of a uniform model of decentralisation for all countries, and calls for respect for cultures and traditions and the inherent inventiveness of people; ***stresses at the same time that this cannot be a justification for questioning the universality of human rights and that human rights and the rights of women, minorities and marginalised groups should be protected under all circumstances;***

Or. en

**Amendment 61**  
**Cécile Kashetu Kyenge**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 13**

*Motion for a resolution*

13. Stresses the importance of promoting good governance at local level by promoting the principles of accountability ***and the rule of law;***

*Amendment*

13. Stresses the importance of promoting good governance at local level by promoting the principles of accountability, ***transparency, participation and responsiveness, and by ensuring the rule of law and the respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms;***

Or. en

**Amendment 62**  
**Julie Ward**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 13 a new**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***13a. Highlights the need for incorporation of ICT into local governance wherever possible, and for undertaking initiatives to promote e-literacy and access to technology and the internet;***

Or. en

**Amendment 63**  
**Neena Gill**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 13 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***13a. Recognises the crucial role of local authorities in fighting radicalisation and terrorism; calls on the EU and ACP states and regional bodies to ensure that local authorities are enabled to play a central role in promoting integration between communities and preventing radicalisation or other forms of marginalisation; calls for the establishment of a mechanism that allows for the exchange of know-how in this field between EU and ACP Member States;***

Or. en

**Amendment 64**  
**Julie Ward**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 14**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

14. Underlines the crucial role of local

14. Underlines the crucial role of local

governance in the context of post-conflict reconciliation;

governance in the context of post-conflict reconciliation, *as well as community cohesion and peace-building, in order to avoid the escalation of disagreement;*

Or. en

**Amendment 65**  
**Cécile Kashetu Kyenge**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 14**

*Motion for a resolution*

14. Underlines the crucial role of local governance in the context of post-conflict reconciliation;

*Amendment*

14. Underlines the crucial role of local governance in the context of post-conflict reconciliation, *as local authorities are the first enabler in re-establishing the presence of the state at local level and responding more effectively to local conditions, and in preventing conflict by managing inter-group tensions, increasing representation and participation, and improving service delivery;*

Or. en

**Amendment 66**  
**Cécile Kashetu Kyenge**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15**

*Motion for a resolution*

*15. Stresses the importance of including women, young people and people with disabilities in the political and administrative decision-making process at all levels of governance, especially at the local level; calls for the implementation of policies of parity in favour of women;*

*Amendment*

*deleted*

**Amendment 67**  
**Julie Ward**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15**

*Motion for a resolution*

15. Stresses the importance of including women, young people and people with disabilities, in the political and administrative decision-making process at all levels of governance, especially at the local level; calls for the implementation of policies of parity in favour of women;

*Amendment*

15. Stresses the importance of including women, young people and people with disabilities, ***those facing poverty and social exclusion, and people from marginalised communities*** in the political and administrative decision-making process at all levels of governance, especially at the local level; calls for the implementation of policies of parity in favour of women ***in all areas of decision-making***;

**Amendment 68**  
**Sabine Lösing**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15**

*Motion for a resolution*

15. Stresses the importance of including women, young people, people with disabilities in the political and administrative decision-making process at all levels of governance, especially at the local level; calls for the implementation of policies of parity in favour of women;

*Amendment*

15. Stresses the importance of including women, young people, people with disabilities ***and all persons regardless of their cultural and socio-economic backgrounds*** in the political and administrative decision-making process at all levels of governance, especially at the local level; calls for the implementation of policies of parity in favour of women;

**Amendment 69**  
**Julie Ward**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***15a. Insists that decentralisation must be an opportunity to tackle gender inequalities and to increase the representation and visibility of women in decision-making in the political and economic spheres;***

Or. en

**Amendment 70**  
**Francesc Gambús**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***15a. Stresses the need for a cost/benefit analysis of entities and public enterprises to evaluate the contribution made to society, not only in economic terms but also from a social point of view;***

Or. en

**Amendment 71**  
**Cécile Kashetu Kyenge**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***15a. Calls for the enhancement of women's participation in local***

*governance by focusing on building their capacity to aspire to, attain and perform in local government offices; calls also for efforts to encourage women's groups to engage in local government, and for the promotion of an enabling environment for gender-sensitivity and the responsiveness of local authorities to women's needs and concerns;*

Or. en

**Amendment 72**  
**Julie Ward**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*15b. Considers that decentralisation must enable and facilitate participation in local governance by young people, who must be represented in decision-making;*

Or. en

**Amendment 73**  
**Francesc Gambús**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*15b. Urges the competent authorities to eliminate any duplication in state administration and to avoid overlapping competences between local or regional government;*

Or. en

**Amendment 74**  
**Cécile Kashetu Kyenge**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***15b. Stresses the importance of including young people and the most vulnerable in the political and administrative decision-making process at all levels of governance, especially at local level;***

Or. en

**Amendment 75**  
**Francesc Gambús**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***15c. Stresses the need to strengthen e-administration and channels resulting from new technologies in order to create more transparent administration, thus preventing all forms of malpractice, facilitating access for citizens and ensuring accountability;***

Or. en

**Amendment 76**  
**Cécile Kashetu Kyenge**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***15c. Encourages the establishment of partnership arrangements between local***



*authorities in ACP countries and EU Member States in areas such as training, human capacity and the exchange of know-how in order to create greater benefits;*

Or. en

**Amendment 77**  
**Francesc Gambús**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*15d. Stresses the need to ensure the full recognition, validity and effectiveness of documents presented in official minority languages or tribal languages widely spoken in a given territory in all administrative procedures;*

Or. en

**Amendment 78**  
**Neena Gill**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 16**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

16. Calls for enhanced cooperation between ACP and EU states and ACP regional organisations such as the AU, CARICOM and the PIF in establishing and strengthening the capacity of oversight mechanisms over resources devolved to decentralised units to combat corruption and stem wastage;

16. Calls for enhanced cooperation between ACP and EU states and ACP regional organisations such as the AU, CARICOM and the PIF in establishing and strengthening the capacity of oversight mechanisms over resources devolved to decentralised units to combat corruption and stem wastage; *stresses that international cooperation to tackle illicit financial flows should be stepped up to ensure a level playing field in the area of*

*taxation of local and international companies;*

Or. en

**Amendment 79**

**Michèle Rivasi, Maria Heubuch, Bodil Valero**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 16 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***16a. Stresses the importance of establishing, as part of ACP-EU cooperation, a genuine political dialogue among local authorities that would make it possible to assess current progress, difficulties and prospects for improving the effectiveness of assistance at local level;***

Or. en